



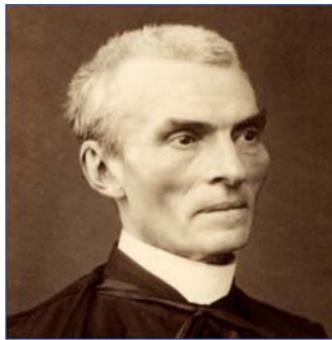
CONNECTIONS

Celebrating Our Eucharistic Partnership in the Eymardian Family

JULY 27, 2019

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 7

Celebrating the Apostle of the Eucharist



Saint Peter Julian Eymard
Transitus: August 1, 1868 • Feast: August 2

“We are inspired by the teachings and example of Saint Peter Julian Eymard, ‘outstanding Apostle of the Eucharist.’ He responded to the needs of the people of his time by proclaiming God’s love manifested in a special way in Christ’s gift in the Eucharist. He encouraged the faithful to share, as associated members, in the charism and the mission of the religious Congregations he founded.”

Rule of Life for Associates, 3

Subscribing to the Province Newsletter “Bread Broken & Shared”

It has come to my attention recently that many of the readers of *Connections* do not receive the quarterly Province Newsletter *Bread Broken & Shared*. In addition to regular columns by our Provincial, Father Anthony Schueller, SSS, and our Vocation Director, Father Anthony Marshall, SSS, there are articles about the ministries and religious of the Province of Saint Ann as well as our Associates of the Blessed Sacrament and the Life in the Eucharist teams.

If you want to read this newsletter, you can go to the website www.blessedsacrament.com to find it. Click on “About,” and the link is at the bottom of the list. Or you can contact Susan Work at the Provincial Office (440.442.6311 or susandwork@yahoo.com) and give her your mailing address for a hard copy.

Jim Brown

Around the Province

WINTER SPRINGS, FLORIDA

In early 2017, the Associates of the Blessed Sacrament at Saint Stephen Church in Winter Springs, Florida, got involved in a program managed by Catholic Charities of Central Florida called “Pathways to Care (PTC).”

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CENTER FOR
EUCHARISTIC EVANGELIZING
CLEVELAND, OHIO

A Ministry of the
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Around the Province (*Continued*)

“Pathways to Care” was founded by their pastor, Father John Bluet, over 15 years ago. It serves homeless veterans, men and women. On the weekend of June 21-22 past, a group of associates and candidates currently in formation at Saint Stephen’s updated two rooms in the Step 2 Section of PTC. Since the beginning of their involvement in the PTC project, they have donated \$2,000 in materials and approximately 625 volunteer hours in completing 31 resident rooms and now the first of ten Step 2 rooms. Step 2 residents have jobs outside of the facility and learn how to safely manage their chronic conditions in order to secure permanent housing.

Seven of the 15 people who participated in the weekend project are in the group photo below, including from left to right: Rob Aboud, Beth King, Rosalie Beckman, Kim Bean, Esther Calle, Arsenio Calle, and Mary Horne. All are associates or candidates.



Diana McGinty

HOLIDAY, FLORIDA

For the second June in a row (28-29), a retreat was held in Holiday, led by Ivonne and Rick Hernandez, Laura Worhacz, and Father Bill Fickel, SSS. This year it was entitled *Your Heart’s Desire Eucharistic Healing Retreat*. Forty-one people attended including 15 who are Associates of the Blessed Sacrament or candidates to become associates (picture below).

Talks were spread throughout the retreat with periods of silence, group discussion, meals, and music. Adoration was available throughout Friday night into Saturday morning. The sacrament of reconciliation was available on Saturday.

The last hour of the retreat was a Eucharistic Healing service. Father Bill gave a beautiful talk asking us to keep our attention on the Blessed Sacrament. It was a powerful holy hour; tears were shed from so many carrying so much. Those who were in attendance will keep in their hearts all that was witnessed. The gift of coming together for the weekend was with us as we were sent forth empowered by the Eucharist. There was healing, peace, and a bond of friendship nurtured.



Laura Worhacz

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Around the Province (*Continued*)

NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

Last year, we reported on a project at Saint Philip Church in Norwalk that involved the associates there. For decades, the parish has provided a Food Pantry for the community. About 100 families from the area visit the pantry each Friday morning. Associate and parish staff member Betty Hunter suggested a special place for the children who come to the pantry with their parents. They named it the “Saint Peter Julian Eymard Children’s Corner.”

With donated books from the local public library and others, they are able to provide books for children that they would otherwise not be exposed to. In a conversation recently, Betty told me how they have had so many moving experiences with the families who come to the pantry. One such story involved a Muslim woman from the community who came with her children. She was so touched by the experience of good will and charity; she then spread word of the parish’s service in her own community.

Over the past year, Betty was involved in an initial formation program for three candidates who will make their Promise Commitment at the Vigil Mass on Saturday, August 3.

In the picture below, we find Betty and one of the children with a Thomas the Train set they now have in the children’s area.



Jim Brown

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, OHIO

In the Spring of 2017, Father John Thomas Lane, SSS, the pastor of Saint Paschal Baylon Church, and Evamarie Mickol, the parish’s youth director, led a group from the Youth Ministry to put on a Life in the Eucharist program for students at Saint Michael Indian School on the Navajo reservation in Saint Michaels, Arizona. Last summer, they returned on a trip that involved painting rooms and building bunkbeds. Saint Paschal Baylon Associates of the Blessed Sacrament Christine and Tom Anderson accompanied them on the 2018 trip. Tom worked with eight students to prepare them for the ACT college admissions test. Dot Teso, president of SMIS, was so appreciative of the service Tom performed that she asked him to come back again.

Earlier this month, Chris and Tom enjoyed the privilege of travelling once again to Saint Michaels to help a new group of nine students — sophomores and juniors — prepare for the ACT test. The four-day clinic was preceded by the administration of a full ACT practice test, proctored by their high school counselor. During the clinic, the students reviewed their results, learned subject-specific strategies, and practiced content and timing skills. By the end of the week, the students were better equipped to continue their preparation for ACT test day. This was the second of what is planned to be a yearly summer activity on the school calendar. Each morning of the clinic, Chris helped the group get organized and started.

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Around the Province (*Continued*)

Coincidentally, Chris and Tom were ecstatic to run into a previous student at the local grocery store. She thanked them for helping her get into Arizona State University and place into a higher English class. She will be studying chemistry. They plan to go back again next summer.

Saint Katharine Drexel founded Saint Michael Indian School in 1902. The school held a special place in Bishop Donald Pelotte's heart. Bishop Pelotte, a professed religious of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, was the first Native American bishop in the United States.

Tom Anderson

A Historical Note

In a few days, we will celebrate Saint Peter Julian Eymard's feast day. It is a joy for all members of the Eymardian Family to share this "outstanding Apostle of the Eucharist" with the rest of our Church community. Those who read this newsletter have been learning about Saint Peyer Julian for many years. Whether you have been studying his life and work for 30 years or 30 months, you have undoubtedly formed an opinion of what he was like.

At the end of his very informative biography *Peter Julian Eymard*, Father André Guitton, SSS, asks, "What kind of man was he? What face can we give him? What memories about him did his contemporaries cherish?" (345).

Here are some quotes Father Guitton provides to feed our reflection during these days:

"Tall, thin-faced with high cheekbones that revealed an ascetic, but a man full of the gentleness and sensitivity of the Dauphins. In conversation, his voice was a bit dragging but kind, like that of a man who thinks while he speaks. He was serious, and yet always had an attractive smile on his face and in his eyes. I never saw him lose his temper, nor heard a sharp or hurting word to his confreres."

Marist Father Molino

"Every time I saw Father Eymard, I had the impression that he was a man of God, a visionary. He had a remarkable intuition. His words brought peace."

Mme. de Grandville

"I was always struck by his eyes, which I called the eyes of a saint: a profound look, calm and alive at the same time, and seemingly shining from a supernatural light. He seemed to be engrossed in another world, looking at an invisible person and almost speaking with him without, however, missing one word of what we were telling him or failing to answer everything with his usual clarity."

Mme. Charrat (née Carrel)

"Father detested pretense and affected ways. At the beginning of his adoration, all that he allowed himself was a profound bow on his prie-dieu as an act of living faith to honor our Lord. His eyes were fixed on the sacred host with a mixture of lively faith that sees, of respect which adores, and of confidence which abandons itself. He was looking at the Lord, and sensed that the Lord, living and present before him, was looking at him. He entrusted his life by means of this look; he gave his very self to the Savior who was attracting him and capturing his heart."

Father Albert Tesnière, SSS

Jim Brown