





Vocation & Formation Newsletter

Winter 2009-2010

IN THIS ISSUE

Videos

NCYC

Formation Update

Zambia Mission Trip

Send Us Your Questions and/or Prayer Requests

Serving Youth in 32 Countries Around the World



New Videos on Website, Youtube and Facebook

Three new videos on Community Life, Prayer and Mission have been developed and posted online. You can access the videos on our homepage, on Youtube and also on Facebook. We invite you to view these videos in order to get a better understanding of our life in community.

The videos were produced by Creo Productions out of Grand Rapids, MI. All footage took place at our formation community in Syracuse, NY.

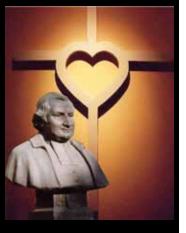












The Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart

Charism of the Founders

"Look at the Savior in his crib... reflect on him in his mortal life; glean from him everything that you are to imitate as the religious men that you are, and have a care to practice well everything He came to teach us."

Br. Polycarp, Second Founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, in a letter to a brother on Dec. 24, 1858

Brothers of the Sacred Heart at NCYC

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart Vocation Team was among the many exhibitors at the National Catholic Youth Conference held in Kansas City which boasted record attendance. More than 22,500 teenagers accompanied by youth ministers and chaperones from dioceses around the country participated in the three-day event. It was high energy and lots of fun to meet so many enthusiastic young men and women.







Try one of these great discernment opportunities

Volunteer/Discernment Program Discernment Retreats

Live in Discernment (week, month, semester) Mission Trips (International and Domestic) Regular Spritual Direction "Come and See" days and weekends



LANDMARK STUDY ON U.S. CATHOLIC VOCATIONS REVEALS DRAMATIC CHANGES

New members bring increased ethnic, cultural diversity, strong desire for communal living, prayer, and Catholic identity

Study surveyed 4,000 in training or final vows in U.S. religious communities since 1993

Chicago, Aug. 11, 2009—The demographic composition and preferred lifestyle of religious communities in the U.S. are undergoing dramatic changes according to a first-of-its-kind survey of newer members.

Experience of God

Our Rule #177

The foremost goal of religious formation is to lead the person to an increasingly more intimate experience of God.

This can be done only if the apostolic dimension of our life is put into proper perspective.

We strive above all to integrate prayer and action.

Kevin Piper to enter Novitiate in January

Kevin Piper's request to begin the novitiate in January 2010 has been approved. Congratulations, Kevin, and welcome to our Institute. With the beginning of the novitiate, Kevin becomes an official member of the Institute.

Kevin will make his novitiate in Syracuse, New York, with Br. Daniel St. Jacques serving as his novice director. As part of the novitiate, Kevin will also be participating in the Inter-community Novitiate Program in Ossining, New York. This program is sponsored by Region 2 of the Religious Formation Conference and consists of three three-day seminars with novices of other communities each semester. These seminars are on special topics related to the novitiate and led by noted presenters for each topic.

In the late afternoon of January 9, 2010 Kevin will formally be accepted into the novitiate with a liturgy at the Province Office in New Orleans.







From Candidate to Postulant: A quick year in review

"I am first and foremost blessed to be part of such an incredible order. When I first came to Syracuse I was a bit nervous because I never would have imagined myself living in New York. I was welcomed into the Syracuse community with open arms and immediately felt at home."

"In my individual formation meetings, I was nervous, but my formation director really made me feel comfortable. I thoroughly enjoyed formation. I am enjoying it so much other people can see how happy I am."

"I also have had the opportunity to do some travelling in the New York Province and New England Province having the chance to meet more Brothers. The Brothers have welcomed me and it really makes me feel good about joining."

"With this first year behind me, I am looking forward to what my postulancy will bring and then my novitiate. I thank God for the blessings he is continuing to give me."



Kevin

Mission Trip to Philippines planned for June 2010

A mission trip to work with homeless children in Davao City, Philippines is scheduled for the first three weeks in June. Interested young men should contact us by clicking here. More information to come.

Summer 2009 Mission Trip to Zambia Serves Youth

This past June six young men (Robert Reichert, Chris Groh, Will McSweeney, Kyle Jackson, Nico Camero and Carl Musemeche) joined the brothers on a mission trip to St. Francis Secondary School in Zambia. While at the school projects included painting and repairs of the school chapel, repairing the main water line and some tutoring at night study periods.

Joining the group this year were the President and Principal of Brother Martin, John Devlin and Greg Rando, and Assistant Principal of Catholic High, Jason Hanks. Greg Rando's wife Bonnie also made the trip to this south central country in Africa.

Along with the work at St. Francis, the group also visited Br. Robert Shitima School. This new school built within the last five years is primarily for the street children of Kabwe, a town located one hour from the capital of Zambia.

The group would like to thank all those who made this trip possible through gifts of money and prayers. Mission work, especially to poor youth, has been an essential part of the brothers work since our founding in 1821. God Bless all who help us continue this tradition.



Contact A Vocation Director

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Next Discernment Retreats

In the South When: Dec. 18-20, 2009

Where: Rosaryville Spirit Life Center in

Ponchatoula, LA

Who: Men with a restless and

searching heart

Cost: Only your time

In the North When: March 26-28, 2010

Where: Carmel Retreat Center in

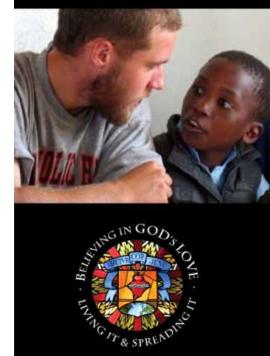
Mahwah, NJ

"Search Your Heart" Retreat is:

- •Sponsored by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart Vocation Office
- •A fresh, different atmosphere away from home, school, or job
- •An experience in community living in a prayerful atmosphere
- Meeting with other young men who are experiencing a restless heart
- •Sharing with a spiritual director how you see yourself, your prayer, your dreams
- •Encountering the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your life every day!

<u>Click here to download Flyer and Application</u> <u>or just fill out the contact form on the website</u>





www.brothersalfehasscrudheart.org





Click here to fill out our contact form for more information about our community