

The Yearly Record
of the
Congregation
of the
Priests of St. Basil
of Toronto

The Basilian Annals 2015

Volume 13, Number 2



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Greetings from the Superior General and from the Editor of the Annals

Dear Confrères and Basilian Lay Associates,

“Basilians live together a life of faith, that is, a life of dependence on Christ our Lord present to us in the Gospel, in the Church, in each other and in those whom we serve.” (*Basilian Way of Life*, 33)

Our life of faith as Basilians is what follows in this edition of the ***Basilian Annals 2015***. We add one more year to the narrative of our sacred history; we share with each other the joys and sorrows of the past twelve months. As I wrote in my report to Congregation in June of 2015, “In pointing towards Christ we fulfill our call as religious priests to be signs, or witnesses.” As you read these pages take heart from the witness Basilians are giving to Christ. I thank all who contributed articles to the ***BASILIAN ANNALS***; I thank Father Jack Hanna CSB who prepared this edition. God bless all of you; I wish you peace.

Fraternally, in Christ,

George Smith, CSB
Superior General



Dear Brother Basilians and Basilian Lay Associates, Apreciados Hermanos, Chers Confrères,

In 1822, our ten founders saw a task to be done and they began to do it. In 2015 The Congregation of St. Basil has lived the consecrated life and has offered another year of ministry to the People of God; that ministry is recorded in the ***BASILIAN ANNALS 2015***. I thank the many contributors and I thank the Basilians who served as proofreaders: Kevin Kirley, Jim Carruthers, Marvin LaBute, and Owen Lee.

I hope that you enjoy looking through this digital edition of the ***BASILIAN ANNALS 2015***. J'espère que vous apprécierez la lecture des ***ANNALES BASILIENS 2015***. Espero que Uds. disfruten la lectura de los ***ANALES BASILIANOS 2015***.

In the Lord's peace,

Jack Hanna, CSB
Secretary / Treasurer General

Please pray for our generous donors - 2015

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Carl Louis Belisch, CSB

50 years ordained

I am very grateful to Almighty God and to all of you, my confrères, for my years as a Basilian and my 50 years of ministry in the priesthood. The Congregation has blessed me with several different apostolates during this time: I had wonderful time as a high school teacher, I served as Director of Vocations, I spent several years as a member of the General Council and now I am a retired priest. Of course I am not retired from ministry because I still celebrate the Eucharist at convents and parishes in the Houston area. Each summer I spend some time in Dallas in a parish where I have been going for the past few years and I enjoy that very much.



I was privileged to teach at Aquinas for nine years; then I enjoyed four years of teaching at Catholic Central. Being at both of those schools was a wonderful experience. When Charlie Christopher was retiring as Director of Vocations, I requested to be considered for that position and I was chosen by the General Council for that role. During that time we had a large number of Associates; Dick Allard and Ron Schwenzer shared the responsibility for the Associate members of the Congregation. After five years of travelling, I decided that was enough for me.

I went to Albuquerque and St. Pius High School as the Chaplain and was there for six good years. Then I came back home to Houston and to St. Thomas High School as an English teacher. Shortly after the school year began, I was elected to the General Council as the Regional Representative for the Western USA. That role took me out of the classroom and back into travelling again. I was among the last of the Regional Representatives because the Chapter of 1997 moved us to a new form of administrative governance. I remained at St. Thomas High School and taught English and Latin and Theology at St. Thomas until retirement from teaching. My life has been an enjoyable combination of preaching and teaching with some administrative work interspersed. I have enjoyed all of these roles (not so much the travel but I did enjoy everything else) and I am most grateful for the generosity of the Congregation and the care and support of so many confrères.

Now I reside at Dillon House in Houston with a fine community of men; all of us are different but all of us share in the blessing of being Basilians.

Let us pray for one another and let us pray for the many ministries of the Basilian Fathers. Let us pray, too, in a special way, for more vocations so that we can continue preach and to teach "Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge" to generations yet to come.



Alphonse De Valk, CSB

50 Years Ordained

I arrived by airplane in Montreal, Canada from Holland in May 1951 at 19 years of age. I did what all immigrants do: look for jobs. For the next ten years I worked on a farm, in a textile factory, measuring cow hides, for Chartered Accountants, took classes at SMC and U of T, and wrote an MA thesis on "Bismarck and the Church". Then the Lord surprised me and whispered that I should look into being a priest. I did, and here I am today, 50 years later.



I entered the Basilian Novitiate in August 1962 at the age of 29 and St. Basil's Seminary in August 1963. They were exciting days but also confusing because of the turmoil created by Vatican II (1962-1965). The Basilians were hit hard. According to Father Robert Scollard, CSB, over 100 priests left the Congregation during the twenty years between 1962 and 1982. As for Scholastics, my guess is that between 400 and 500 Basilians left the Congregation. I seem to have been little touched by the unrest. The previous ten years, living with my two brothers, cooking, shopping, and cleaning made the seminary seem a bit of paradise. I was ordained in December 1965 and was very happy; I still am.

The Congregation sent me to Saskatoon, SK, to teach history at St. Thomas More College, a Basilian Institution in the University of Saskatoon. I taught there for 12 years, with a break between 1967 and 1969. I spent that time in Toronto to pass my PhD comprehensives in History at the U of T; the second year I intended to use for my PhD thesis on "Hitler and the Church, 1933-1945." It was never written.

In 1969, 24 years after the war ceased, Germany was still shell-shocked after the terrible blood-letting. The country was still in ruins, there were millions of war widows, and total confusion about everything. I returned to Saskatoon in September 1969 with empty hands. I decided to change subjects from Hitler to abortion, which was the new threat in Canada having been legalized in 1969. In 1974 the Montreal based Palm Publishers published my "Morality and Law in Canadian Politics – The Abortion Controversy." Later on all of this appeared providential. God pushed me in this direction.

In 1978 I was appointed me Principal of St. Joseph College in Edmonton. At that time we taught only a few courses; however with much prayer, some hard work and luck, we raised \$250,000.00 from the other Basilians in Alberta, received many duplicate books from St. Basil's College, hired teachers from other religious orders, and got new Catholic courses approved because the Faculty of Religion had 80 courses but none of them were Catholic.

When my term as Principal was up in 1983 the Superior General let me choose my own work. I picked Canada's Pro Life Movement. While living in a Basilian House for the next 28 years, I discovered a new joyful family who kept fighting for the protection of human lives.

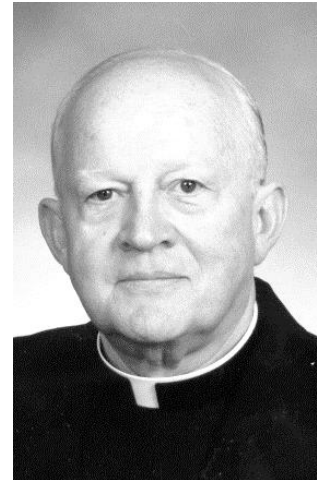
Father Larry Faye, CSB acquainted me with the Marian Movement of Priests (MPP) in 1988; he was the director in Canada. It held weekly "cenacles" (meetings) with Holy Mass in the evening and tea or coffee and cookies afterward. This work was at the instigation of Our Lady. Her cenacles spread all over the world. 50 years of Basilian Priesthood. Deo gratias!

Donald Francis Finlay, CSB

50 years ordained

As I was thinking about 50 years of Basilian priesthood, I returned again and again to the thought of gratitude:

I express gratitude to my parents for the gift of life and faith; gratitude to my brother John and his wife Dale and their family for 50 years of love and support; gratitude to my teachers, the Ladies of Loretto and the Basilian Fathers, and in a special way to David Bauer, Fred Cahill, William Conway and John Mullins for nurturing my vocation.



I studied with the Basilian at St. Michael's High School, Assumption University and St. Basil's seminary. All of these moments were enriching and fulfilling. I found my niche in the Congregation as a librarian; I first became interested in this work when I was 13 years old and worked at the Toronto Public Library that was near my home. When I first began Theology at St. Basil's Seminary, I was appointed to assist John Stapleton in the Seminary Library. During the summers between each year of Theology, I began my formal training in Library Science at Rosary College in River Forest, IL. I was encouraged in my studies by Robert Scollard; I am very grateful to have been able to serve the Congregation in this way.

I am thankful to my confreres and colleagues at the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies and the University of St. Michael's College during my service there. I was Librarian of the Institute and later, chief Librarian of USMC on the retirement of Bernie Black. At the same time I was Librarian, I served first as superior of the Institute House and later of the Basilian community at USMC. I want to express my gratitude to the Basilian General Council for choosing me to be the first director of the Retirement Committee, now known as the Committee for Healthy Aging and Elder Care.

One of the achievements of this committee was the establishment of a retirement community at 95 St. Joseph St. for independent living for Basilians; it was named after Frank Orsini. The establishment of Orsini House reminded Basilians that there is life and priestly ministry after retirement.

I express my gratitude to my confreres and, finally and most importantly, I express my gratitude to Almighty God. I have been fulfilled in my professional life and, in an even more profound way, I have been blessed to minister as a Basilian priest. I celebrated the noonday Mass at St. Basil's Church for 25 years, I have witnessed marriages of former students, I have baptized their children and I have presided at funerals for many of my family and friends. God has indeed been good to me.

Bernard John Pinsonneault, CSB

50 years ordained

The occasion of my First Vows was on September. 12, 1956, on the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary. At Sacred Heart Parish, Rockwood, at my request, the new Knights of Columbus council was named Holy Name of Mary Council.

Ordination was at Assumption Parish, Windsor on December 11, 1965. My Great uncle, Adolph, first bishop of London, used the beginnings of this church structure as his seat. It was at Assumption that my secondary and college education were provided.



Continued education, in part, consisted of: masters in Religious Education, St Thomas. Houston, D.Min , in spiritual counseling from the Theological Foundation out of Notre Dame, Indiana, continued Biblical studies at St Mary's, San Antonio, hospital chaplaincy certification, Shumpert Hospital Shreveport, LA.,

My time as spiritual director at the John Paul II Catholic Bible School of spirituality in Radway Alberta, afforded me the rewarding opportunity to assist and observe the young come to the Lord during their stay of nine months. The same was true during my ministry at Ephphatha House in Stoney Plain, Alberta where I served as director of the Presentation Lay Community. There we enjoyed Eucharistic Adoration 24/7 with each member in private adoration for two hours daily, along with prayer support of Divine office, spiritual reading, rosary, etc. That experience was the impetus for the implementation of perpetual Adoration at Sacred Heart Rockwood which is now in its twelfth year.

Enjoyment was rich as pastor of the Spanish community in Richmond Texas where there was also the added experience of assisting the poor of our nation while acting as chairmen of child welfare, and later, director of the Rural Rental Welfare Housing program for Fort Bend County.

The Fostering of both Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Sunday has been the highlights of my priestly ministry.

My spiritual guide has become: Belief in the Most Holy Eucharist, Mother Mary as my Mother, and obedience to the teachings of Holy Mother Church. Much of my spiritual life has, since 1968 been influenced by the Charismatic movement, and since 1991, by the Marian Movement of Priests. I am in deep appreciation to the confreres of the Basilian Fathers of Toronto. Peace to all.



Jay Francis Walsh, CSB

50 Years Ordained

I thank God that I'm able to celebrate the gift of 50 years as a Priest in the Congregation of the Basilian Fathers. Faith assures me that my vocation was not a reward for goodness or talents, but a gift from God. At age 20, I was moving in the direction of being a salesman of fishing-tackle (a true professional fisherman) but I felt more strongly the attraction to be a "fisher of people." I remember receiving a warm reception from Father E.P. McGee, CSB who was then Superior of Aquinas Institute. I was also encouraged to enter the Basilian community by my former teacher and good friend, Father Joe O'Reilly, who responded to my concerns of being a priest-teacher of only average intelligence: "Son, did you ever hear of the grace of God? If I could make it, you can too!"



So I praise and give thanks to God for the opportunity to have taught for 6 years at my Alma Mater, Aquinas Institute, and for the opportunity to move into the parish ministry in 1970. It was then that I was first assigned to St. Anne's Parish in Houston for 4 years, then I served as assistant and Pastor in a number of Basilian parishes in Canada and the U.S. But in 2002, I happily returned to St. Anne's.

A number of confreres and parishioners gathered last August 30, to help me celebrate my 80th birthday. I received many birthday cards. My favorite one described ways Elvis Presley and I are alike, including: Elvis and I were both born in 1935; early in life, Elvis discovered Gospel music and I discovered the Gospel; both are at home in Graceland; and my favorite was that Elvis got in trouble with his hips and I have trouble with my hips (having had two hip replacements).

What a gift it's been for the past 50 years to have served as a Basilian Priest: to have the privilege to administer the Sacraments, especially to speak *in persona Christi* the words of transubstantiation; to be present at the most significant events in parishioners' lives: Baptism and marriage and death; for the privilege to bring some spiritual strength and healing to people who are ill and in need of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Sick.

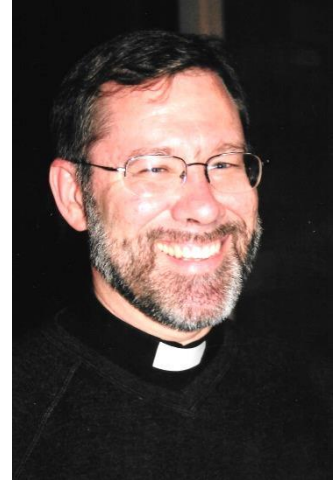
I recently invited several young men to accompany me to the local seminary to have dinner and listen to a talk by Cardinal DiNardo and discuss possible vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life. Among the challenging things the Cardinal said was, "An elderly nun gave the best vocation talk I ever heard. She said, 'I'm 80 years old and I'm going to die soon. So I need someone to take my place!'" This 80 year old Basilian Priest will be saying the same thing to young men: I don't know the day or the hour, but I'll be going on ahead relatively soon; and Christ will be calling someone to take my place!

I'm hopeful about vocations to the Basilian and Diocesan Priesthood in the days to come; we've had several vocations from the Houston area in recent years and, God willing, there'll be others to come during this Year of Mercy and beyond.

Mark Ross Gazin, CSB

25 years ordained

I was baptized in 1958 on the Feast of St. Matthew at St. Cyprian's Church in Long Beach, California. There seems to have been some confusion before my ordination; no one could find my baptismal certificate. Who thinks about these details after completing a four-year M.Div. at the Toronto School of Theology and a two-year practicum with the Basilian community at St. Mark's College in Vancouver? I recall my June 29th ordination at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Vancouver as time of joy and faith for my family, friends, the Basilians and the local Archdiocese. As I reflect on that time, I realize how little I knew and how great were my aspirations. "You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy." (Psalm 16:11)



My priestly journey has been one of adventure. Initially I was attracted to the Benedictines. However, my wanderlust and intellectual curiosity drew me to the Basilians. Instead of a single disciplined sojourn, I have followed the Lord's call to seek knowledge and goodness in various Basilian ways of service. The sacrifice of the priesthood is one that I have grown into these past 25 years. As a Basilian, I love sharing what I have learned with students and parishioners through preaching and teaching. I've always been an avid reader, and when I was Director of Campus Ministry, I joined the UST alumni in 1999 by completing an MA in spirituality and moral theology. The opening of the Chapel of St. Basil in 1997 was a proud moment for me, but I felt a greater fatherly pride in the students with whom I worked as I watched them take on auspicious roles of responsibility.

My empathy and desire for healing led me to parishes in New Mexico, Owen Sound and Toronto where I learned from the wisdom of older Basilian confreres. My appointment to Edmonton helped me better integrate poverty and simplicity, which prepared me for the difficult task of helping my aging parents in Vancouver.

My profound curiosity about God's creation has never wavered, but my preaching is less theoretical and more integrated with life experience. As I continue this priestly adventure, I find myself wondering at and meditating more and more on the writings of various saints in the Office of Readings.

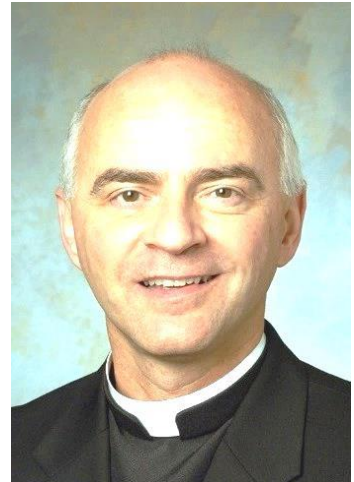
My vision of priesthood has always been about trying to understand and imitate God's selfless love for His people (and myself) in the way that God knows and loves his Son. This silver anniversary year has made me profoundly grateful and I wonder what adventures await me over the next 25 years.



Donald Joseph Lococo, CSB

25 years ordained

Twenty-five years ago I was ordained in St. Ann's Church in Niagara Falls Ontario. Since then I have served the church as a vowed religious. In that time there were joys and sorrows, successes and failures. I have practiced the discipline of the vows with the help of God's grace and I have somewhat succeeded. I dedicated twenty-two years of my priesthood to the higher education teaching apostolate, although periodically the community diverted me into parish ministry, for which I was not called. I have endeavoured to lead a scholarly life but tempered it with the pursuit of music, landscaped architecture, carpentry, photography, painting, and cooking. I have pursued excellence in all these endeavours but I recognize my creaturely limitations, my human weaknesses, and the strictures of time. In the spirit of St. Gregory of Nyssa I have striven eternally towards what I cannot achieve in this life without God's help.



I will continue to fight the good fight. I was ordained at 37. Since then the congregation has changed radically. I am not sure if I will celebrate the next jubilee. There is longevity in my family. If I do see gold, I expect the congregation will have changed even more radically. Life is change and all things that have a beginning and end. That end ultimately is the Trinity, the model of Basilian community life (BWL 31), where the Father and Son will embrace us in the infinite love of their Holy Spirit.

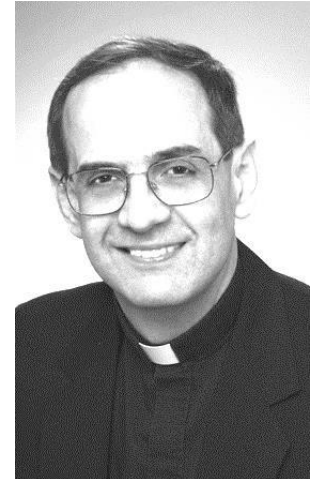


Walter Michael Werbylo, CSB

25 years ordained

I celebrated twenty five years as a Basilian priest in 2015. I give thanks to God for the gift of being a priest. Our Lord has richly blessed me and I see my call to the priesthood as a call to help others to be similarly blessed.

Among God's many blessings along the way to ordination were: my parents raising all of their children in the faith, our Lord drawing me back to himself and his Church in graduate school after I had abandoned him for a number of years, and my Basilian formation which included the novitiate year in Sugar Land, Texas, and theology studies in Toronto. I was ordained in my family's parish in Lorain, Ohio; Bishop A. James Quinn, Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland ordained me, and I was very blessed by the kindness of the numerous Basilians who were present for the ordination and for my first Mass.



Jesus came into the world to bring salvation from sin, and he calls some of his disciples to the priesthood so that they would help to continue his saving work. One important aspect of my own priesthood has been the teaching apostolate, whereby the Church and the Basilian Fathers continue the extensive teaching which Jesus did in his own earthly life. I would say that I have been especially called to the teaching apostolate during three periods of my priesthood: during six years of further studies in Scripture in Rome as preparation, during eight years of teaching Scripture to undergraduates at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, and during eight years of teaching Scripture to diocesan seminarians doing their theological studies at St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto. In my teaching apostolate, therefore, the priestly work of helping people to encounter Jesus Christ has been very much concerned with helping them to encounter him in Sacred Scripture.

A second important aspect of my priesthood has been the work which is the typical work which Jesus asks of priests in sending them into that vineyard with is the local parish. For me, that work was primarily during one year at St. Theresa's Church in Sugar Land, Texas, and during two years at St. Basil's Church in Toronto, serving in both parishes as an associate pastor. But I also worked in parish ministry during my years of Scripture studies and of teaching, especially by helping out with Sunday Masses and with confessions.

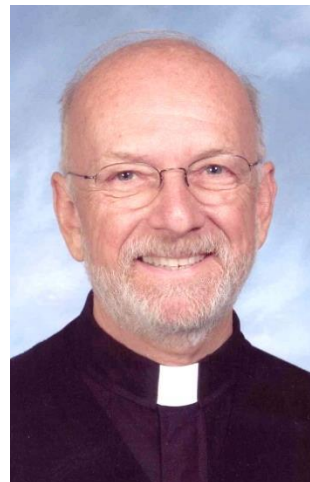
Christ showed his love by the saving work of his earthly life, and then by sending priests to continue his presence in the world. I have been greatly blessed to be one of those priests, an *alter Christus*, called to help people on their pilgrimage toward their heavenly end.



Philip Anthony Acquaro, CSB

50 years professed

I was born in 1940 into an immigrant family from Sicily. Both grandfathers were attracted by Henry Ford's promise of five dollars a day and we made our home in Detroit. After graduation from high school I entered University of Detroit. I knew I had wanted to become a teacher. During junior year I met with my spiritual director who was a family friend named Monsignor Stitt. He had been educated by the Basilians at Assumption University. I told him I wanted not only to be a priest but I also I wanted to be a teacher. I told him perhaps I should consider the Jesuits. Surprisingly he said, "Absolutely not. You must meet the Basilians. They are just like the Jesuits but with a heart!"



So I visited Catholic Central HS and spent a few hours talking to Father Kehoe; he promptly gave me the application for the novitiate. I entered the Pontiac novitiate with about 20 other high school graduates of which I was the oldest. Father Jimmy Collins, Father George Beaune and Father Willie P. McGee made up the staff.

I graduated from the University of Windsor and later I went to Saint Basil's Seminary where I finished my studies for priesthood. It was there that I met Marty Dimnik who helped me discover my Sicilian-Byzantine roots. I went to Detroit Catholic Central to teach Biology and General Science. Later I served a five year term there as principal.

I went to Rome on sabbatical and became interested in Canon Law. I received my JCL from Catholic University in Washington DC. During this time my father had died so I asked Ken Decker if I could be assigned to Phoenix, AZ and help care for my elderly mother along with my sister. I joined the Chancery staff in the Tribunal and I also served at a very small Byzantine Catholic mission in Gilbert, AZ.

After 12 years of service, I retired at 67 years of age. I was assigned to Dillon House and eventually became the superior of the new Dillon House. With great assistance from Al Sinasac, Ron Schwenzer, Tim Scott, some BLA's, and some members of Saint Anne's parish, we finished the project under budget. Now Dillon House is a beautiful and comfortable residence for our retired members.

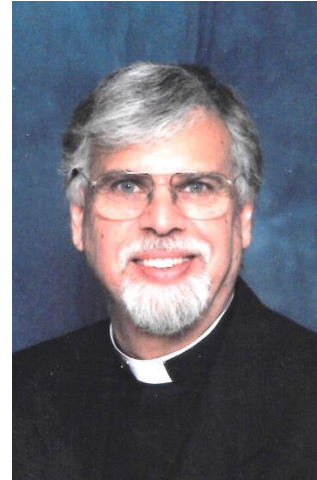
Looking back at the past 50 years as a Basilian, I am grateful for many things. This past year I underwent five surgeries and spent eight months unable to walk. I was supported by regular visits by George Smith assuring me of prayers and hearing Jack Hanna say, "Concentrate on getting well and not on the cost." Bob Klem, Roy Oggero, Paul O'Connor, Carl Belisch, BLAs like Mary Murphy, John McCarthy, Roy Mendoza, Robert Preston, Peggy Dwyer and so many others also offered prayers and encouragement.

I have many happy memories, especially of the years at CC. I especially recall Jim Enright, Ned Donohoe, and John Menner. We prayed together, laughed together and supported each other. I am so grateful for being a part of this group of men, these "Basilians with a heart"! I have indeed been blest.

Edward James Baenziger, CSB

50 years professed

I remember when Father Bob Fischette, CSB said I should do literature and not science at St. John Fisher College. It was January 1965, I think. Why not, since I loved reading? Little did I know how wondrous being a Basilian could be! Sent to France, an opportunity for enlarging all aspects of life, not the least of which was spiritual, I started learning some serious science in the realm of mushrooms (mycology) with Père Felix Pouzol, who also taught me the finer points of French. I entered a world of literature undreamt of, and gained oh so many friends!



My continued studies in French and (privately) Botany brought me back to France for a doctorate, because of the generosity of my community and its commitment to our professional development. Teaching has always been my passion and the priesthood my greatest gift: I was able to serve in ministry to students and to the French-speaking Catholic community in Houston. I enjoyed working at the University of Saint Thomas with engaged and dedicated confreres and colleagues in all fields. Preaching the Good News always brought me great joy.

I now find myself as a bridge between the languages and scientific study in two departments, Modern and Classical Language and Biology, in genetics of all things. In October 2015 I became the president of the Semiotic Society of America, where we study the action of signs in theological, linguistic and scientific areas. In December, 2015 I was installed as president of the Houston Orchid Society. I still serve the archdiocese of Galveston-Houston in the French-speaking community parish of 'St-Basile'.

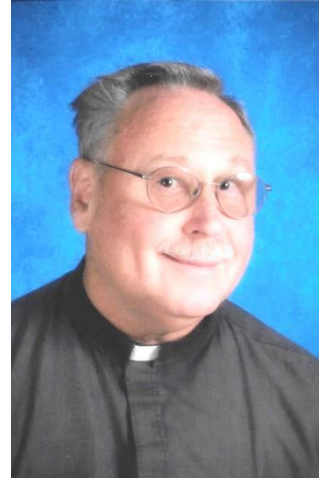
From Pontiac to Rochester, from Annonay to Houston, to Mexico (many times), El Salvador, Singapore, Yaoundé in Cameroon, Quito in Ecuador and Cali and Bogotá in Colombia, and most recently Johannesburg in South Africa, I have never ceased to be grateful to my brother Basilians who pushed, prodded, cajoled and challenged me. Thank you Basilian Fathers! Merci!



James Francis Blocher, CSB

50 years professed

My association with the Basilian Fathers began when I entered St. Anne's School in Houston as a member of St. Anne's Parish staffed by the Basilian Fathers. My first pastor there was Father John Glavin, CSB and the subsequent pastor was Father Lawrence J. Lacey, CSB. Father Lacey was very friendly and I remember him because I was an altar boy and I had a lot of contact with him. The other priest at St. Anne's who had a lot of influence on me was Father Frank Monaghan, CSB who was a young priest at that time and used to work with the altar boys. Among the altar boys was Bert Edmundson who also entered the Basilian Novitiate in 1964.



After St. Anne's School I went to St. Thomas High School where my three older brothers had gone and I was influenced greatly by Father James F. Wilson, CSB who was my freshman home room teacher and who taught me Spanish for three years. While at St. Thomas my sense of a vocation to the Basilians developed and in my senior year Father Jim Jordan, CSB asked me if I had been thinking about a vocation to the priesthood. I answered that I had been considering it and he later came to my home and showed a short movie to my parents and me about the novitiate in Pontiac, MI and talked to us about the process of joining the Basilians. My parents were supportive of the idea and I left for the novitiate in Erindale, ON, Canada in August of 1964.

I arrived in Toronto and was greeted at the seminary door by Father Gordon Kennedy, CSB who arranged for my transportation to the novitiate. I arrived there on August 14, 1964 to begin my novitiate year under the guidance of Father Anthony Lococo, CSB, Father Rudy Diemer, CSB and Father Ted McClain, CSB. There were 22 novices that year and I was the only American and Texan but by the grace of God I made it through the year and became friends with most of the novices. From my class there were 17 novices professed and I believe only 5 of us were ordained. Of those ordained only Jim McConica, CSB and myself remain Basilians.

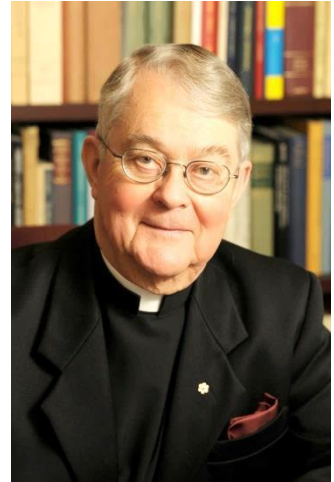
The Basilian Fathers have provided me with many opportunities for studies, including obtaining a certification as an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor. The Basilian Fathers have taken care of my many needs during these years and I am now retired at the Dillon House in Houston. I have some health problems but I still work part time at the Metropolitan Tribunal and help out with Sunday Masses occasionally.



James Kelsey McConica, CSB

50 years professed

I met the Basilians when I was teaching at the University of Saskatchewan in the 1960's. They were prominent on the Saskatoon campus both academically and socially and, once received into the Church, I came to know them much better. The men at STM were an interesting bunch who seemed to enjoy one another's company and were entertaining to be with: Bernie Black, Bob Finn, Bob Montague, Tom Stokes, Basil Sullivan, Frank Burns, all under the benign leadership of Joe O'Donnell, whom the Drama Department at the U of S would dearly have liked to co-opt. Bernie was my mentor in the early days of being a Catholic; Bob Montague would have preached at my first Mass, but he was taken in the very spring of my ordination year.



As a group, those Basilians struck me for two outstanding qualities: their confident pragmatism, and their non-clerical culture – both personally and collectively. They were real people in the real world, and at the same time, they were unmistakably loyal and close to the living Church in its mission. Moreover, their prestige in Canadian academic circles was clear and unambiguous. When I came to the big decision that I must add a commitment to the priesthood to my academic vocation, there was no other group to consider. I tried: at the end of my first year in St. Basil's Seminary, I spent four months of research in Oxford and lived there with a well-known community of like apostolate to see if I was being persuaded only by familiarity and convenience to hold my strong preference for the Basilians. At the end of the summer I fled back to St. Basil's Seminary as in a return to the world of reality.

It was exactly that. It is my experience that our Congregation is a strong, fraternal home. Historically, it has found it possible to accommodate a spectrum of personal choices – my own among them – with understanding and support, all up to a point, of course. In return it asks for loyalty and responsibility. I haven't found a better option yet!



Cardinal Flahiff Centre – Toronto – Curial Office Staff



Ms. Carolina Klapp



Ms. Elizabeth Contreras



Ms. Amanda Parcher



Ms. Rosalin Gabriel

Carolina Klapp was born in Santiago, Chile and serves as the Congregational Financial Officer. She has been employed by the Basilians for 7 years. She works closely with the Treasurer General to manage the general finances of the Congregation. She provides a monthly report of the financial performance of the General Treasury and prepares the yearly budget and insures compliance with regulatory agencies.

Elizabeth Contreras is from Palmira, Valle, a small city not too far from Cali, Colombia. She has been working for the Basilian Fathers since January 2006. Her responsibilities include assisting the financial officer and performing the day to day financial operations for the Congregation. These include accounting, account payables, general ledger and bank reconciliations, audits and taxation.

Amanda Parcher is a lifelong Torontonion and she has worked at the Flahiff Centre for 4 years. She assists with the Administrative Human Resources within the Cardinal Flahiff Centre and she is also responsible for the accounting of the building costs. Amanda is also involved in the day to day operations of the Curial Office.

Rosalin Gabriel comes from St. Vincent, a small island near Barbados. She is beginning her 9th year in the Curial Office. She is the receptionist and secretary and her duties are varied; she answers the phone and greets visiting Basilians and guests, she oversees Basilian mailings, and does many office tasks. Recently she has begun reconciling the investment portfolios, a task that she is finding very interesting.



Cynthia Watson, a Toronto native, is the assistant to the Superior General and the Congregational Secretary; she has held this position since 2013. She supports the Superior General in his day-to-day administrative duties, including managing his complex schedule. One of her most important roles is recording the Minutes of the General Council Meetings. She also assists the Secretary General with various projects such as the Basilian Directory and the Basilian Newsletters.

Ms. Cynthia Watson

The Basilian Fathers Archives

Toronto, ON

James Farge, CSB – Director of the Archives

Michelle Sawyers – Congregational Archivist

Michelle reflects on her work in the Archives: 2015 was another busy year in the General Archives of the Basilian Fathers. This year I have been working to update the records in the archives catalogue database so that they are more consistent and closer to the Rules for Archival Description that we use in Canada. They will more searchable and new descriptions will be easier to add.

There were many research questions throughout the year from internal and external inquirers. Some of the topics researched included Father David Bauer, Father John Murphy and the Out of the Cold Program, St. Mary's Seminary in La Porte, Texas, Holy Rosary Parish in Toronto, and the Richmond Hill Novitiate.

I worked with the Activation Department of the Cardinal Flahiff centre on some of their projects this year. I helped Cristian De La Fuente create framed collages of youthful photos of each of the Fathers in residence at the CFBC. For many of the Fathers this was easy because they attended Basilian schools, the yearbooks of which are in the archives' collection. For others I had to write to high schools and public libraries to find yearbook photos. I was most proud of my detective skills when I found photos of Father Swan in the Cowichan Valley, British Columbia Archives from the 1930s. I also supplied photos for the Remembrance Day video and collaborated with Jillian Kaster Miller on communications projects.

I was able to take advantage of some wonderful learning opportunities this year. In May I attended the Archives Association of Ontario conference in London, and in September I attended the Catholic Archivist Group conference in Saskatoon. Both were wonderful opportunities to network with other professionals and hear about their ideas, innovations, and solutions to common problems. In November I started weekly Spanish lessons so that I will be able to make sense of any Spanish documents that come my way, and to communicate with Spanish speaking Basilians.



There are many amazing stories to read about and discover in the archives, and that makes my time here enjoyable. I love sharing what I have learned, and I love hearing from the people who have actually lived through these episodes in the Basilian past.

For example, here is Father Jim Carruthers, CSB when he was cheering the mighty Assumption Raiders on to victory. First-hand accounts really make stories come alive, so please feel free to drop in, call or email any time.

archives@basilian.org



Archivist Michelle Sawyers displays the chalice of Père Charles Vincent, CSB (1828-1890) along with other treasures in the Basilian Archives. Père Vincent came to Canada from Annonay as a Scholastic and was ordained in Toronto by Bishop Charbonnel in 1853.

Basilian Communications

Jillian Kaster Miller, Coordinator

Since I stepped into the new Communications Coordinator role in June, I have been warmly welcomed by the Basilian community. I first became familiar with the Basilians when I worked at St. Michael's College School for four years as the Communications Assistant. I continue to experience the same Basilian hospitality at the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre.

The Communication Office was established to increase communication among the Basilians Fathers and their community. To accomplish this, I update the website (Basilian.org) with stories that highlight the Basilian Way of Life. These stories are documented through video and photos and shared on our social media channels. To receive these updates, consider following the Basilians on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheBasilians) and Twitter (twitter.com/TheBasilians).



Also new to the website is a series titled 'Meet a Basilian', which profiles Basilians representing many facets of Basilian life. In the profiles they talk about their childhood, how they knew they were being called, what led them to the Congregation, and the joy they receive through their Basilian work. The hope is someone who feels they may be called to join the priesthood can relate to one of the many different paths to becoming a Basilian.

Over the past months, visitors to the Basilian website (Basilian.org) may have noticed the site looks a little different. The colour scheme and background image were changed to correspond with the artwork for the new vocation ads. The homepage rotates through the top stories on the website to give the page a dynamic feel and lets users know that the site is maintained and to check back often for more updates.

Although humility may prevent some Basilians from sharing their achievements, my communications counterparts at the Basilian apostolates are eager to share stories of the great work Basilians are doing in their ministry of education and evangelization. These stories are brought together each month in the Basilian e-Bulletin, the Congregation's monthly e-newsletter.

As this role continues to grow, I'm excited for future opportunities to facilitate communication within the Basilian Congregation. I would love to hear from you and can be reached at jillian@basilian.org or 416-925-4368 ext. 239.



Basilian Office for Peace and Justice

Robert Holmes CSB, Director

A short summary of the various Gospel Peacemaking activities undertaken this year is given in the report from Frassati House, so here I will describe one of the more important aspects of this ministry. During our annual Peace and Justice Pilgrimage to the Holy Land we visit not only the holy places where Jesus was born, taught, died and rose, we visit the holy people – the peacemakers – in this troubled holy land.

Here are some of the peacemakers the pilgrims met in December of 2015.

Chaska Katz is a young Jewish Israeli woman heartsick at how the Israeli administrative laws are systematically squeezing the Palestinians out of their homes in East Jerusalem. She took our pilgrims on a tour of East Jerusalem showing us the wall, the demolished homes, the crumbling infrastructure and the many newly built and fully serviced Jewish settlements. Many of her tours are for Israelis.

Amos Givirtz an Israeli Jew born on a Kibbutz, who works to defend the rights of the Palestinian Bedouins of the Negev, Israeli citizens, who are being ethnically cleansed from their villages as new Jewish settlements are established in the Negev. Amos took us to Al-Arakib – a village which has been demolished 90 times since 2010 but where they keep coming back and erecting homes of 2X4s and tarps. Existence is Resistance!

Yigal Elkonan and Aisha Al-Kateef (*photo at the right*) are members of the Family Circle – families, both Israeli and Palestinian, who have lost a family member to the conflict. Aisha lost her brother shot at a checkpoint and Yigal his sister in a suicide bombing. They speak together often, especially to school children, of their grief, anger, sadness and hard won determination to do what they can to end the violence by helping Israelis and Palestinians to hear each other's narratives. We listened in tears.



Malek Abualfailat is the Director of the Auja Eco-Center in the Jordan Valley. Palestinians now have control of only 6% of the Jordan Valley. Controlling the water was the method for pushing the Palestinians off the land. Deep wells were sunk near the many springs and the water directed to the numerous Israeli settlements and plantations. Palestinian plantations dried up. The Eco-Center develops and teaches how to use and reuse the available water.

Sami Awad is the founder of Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem. He is a Christian Palestinian working to build trust in the Holy Land. He is seeking ways to help each side hear the narrative of the other. He has been to Auschwitz and is well aware of the Jewish narrative and has now helped form a group of Jews and Palestinians seeking ways to further openness to each other's stories.

**The next Basilian Peace and Justice Pilgrimage to the
Holy Land is 5-19 July 2016.
Walk with us!**

Maison St-Joseph – Collège Sacré-Cœur

Annonay, France

L'Année 2015 fut encore bien rude pour la petite communauté basilienne française avec le décès au mois de juin, le 8, du Père René ROBERT, CSB, presque 90 ans, qui était un peu notre patriarche. Ayant été 27 ans directeur du Collège Sacré-Cœur à ANNONAY, celui qui a lancé de grands travaux et multiplié les liens avec la Direction de l'Enseignement Catholique d'Ardèche dont il fut un moteur. Même après sa retraite de l'enseignement et de la direction en 1983, René était resté très actif dans diverses aumôneries et continuait d'accompagner beaucoup de personnes en direction spirituelle. Même si la maladie de Parkinson avait beaucoup affaibli René depuis une dizaine d'années et l'avait contraint à s'installer à "Mon Foyer" cette fois comme pensionnaire retraité pour la dernière étape de sa vie où jusqu'à ses derniers mois il a gardé l'essentiel de sa lucidité, son départ laisse un grand vide et c'est une part de l'histoire des Basiliens de France (le temps de la réunion en 1955 des deux communautés basiliennes de Toronto et de Viviers et en 1956). Ce qui a permis d'accueillir dans les années 1955 -1990 un certain nombre de jeunes confrères basiliens nord-américains, venus enseigner surtout l'anglais à nos élèves. Sous la responsabilité du Père ROBERT le collège est passé de à peine 200 élèves à plus de 500 (il en compte 723 en cette année scolaire 2015-2016). Notre confrère René repose dans le petit cimetière basilien à côté du collège et de la maison St-Joseph.

Avec la mort de René, les effectifs de la communauté basilienne en France sont tombés à seulement trois! Certes, deux autres basiliens vivent sur le sol français à Paris, mais ne sont pas rattachés canoniquement à notre Maison St-Joseph. Le Père Joseph HUNT, CSB, est depuis plusieurs années au service de la paroisse Notre-Dame de Clignancourt. A désormais 70 ans, malgré quelques ennuis de santé cette année, Joe est maintenant bien rétabli et remplit toujours avec zèle son ministère de prêtre. Il aime ce travail paroissial. Joe "descend" de temps en temps dans le Sud, passe nous voir, vient revoir des familles d'élèves qu'il a connues du temps où il était professeur au collège Sacré-Cœur. Plus récemment, notre jeune confrère Warren Roger SCHMIDT, CSB - parfaitement francophone - est arrivé lui aussi sur Paris pour poursuivre ses études supérieures. Il loge dans le 6ème arrondissement, le fameux quartier latin.

Notre nouveau "doyen" est le Père Michel DEGLENE CSB qui deviendra octogénaire le 6 juin 2016. L'année a été dure pour Michel, avec le décès de son frère aîné Gérard en janvier 2015 après de très longs mois d'hospitalisation à domicile. Michel garde des liens très étroits avec sa belle-sœur Jeanine et avec sa sœur, Marie-Jo. Mais Michel a dû peu à peu laisser le ministère qu'il accomplissait depuis 2005 sur la paroisse Ste-Claire car cela lui devenait trop difficile à gérer. Michel n'a gardé que l'aumônerie de la maison de retraite protestante de Montalivet, tout près de chez nous, lien avec l'équipe d'aumônerie. Sinon, Michel, tant qu'il peut conduire, garde le souci des courses dans les grandes surfaces commerciales, de l'approvisionnement de la maison, du suivi du matériel, la gestion de notre parc et l'accompagnement de notre employée à tout faire, Mme Françoise SALIQUE. Mais Michel trouve le temps bien long surtout lorsque les journées hivernales sont très courtes. Michel essaie bien d'apprivoiser... quelques lapins semi-sauvages qui ont élu domicile dans notre parc, mais la "communication" n'est pas toujours très évidente avec ces créatures un peu fantasques du Bon Dieu!

Père François MORFIN CSB, qui atteindra ses 70 ans en juin 2016, est le 2ème confrère attaché à notre maison St-Joseph, mais dans les faits François vit à AUBENAS depuis trois ans à la villa Ste-Marthe, à 120 km d'ANNONAY, ancienne résidence des prêtres âgés du diocèse de Viviers, reprise dans un ensemble de maisons de l'Institut St-Joseph. La messe y est célébrée chaque jour à la chapelle par un

des prêtres qui peut encore l'assurer. L'avantage pour François est de résider à quelques centaines de mètres de la médiathèque qu'il fréquente beaucoup et où il peut envoyer ou lire ses mails. La présence de 30 locataires, sans compter le personnel, permet à François de rencontrer beaucoup de gens au cours d'une journée et de nouer maintes relations, malgré ses difficultés d'élocution surtout lorsqu'il fatigue. Je rencontre François dans les grands événements diocésains qu'en principe il ne manque pas, lorsque je "descends" le voir à Aubenas ou lorsque lui-même "monte" sur Annonay. Avant Noël, François a été hospitalisé quelques jours à Aubenas pour quelques examens médicaux qui n'ont rien révélé de trop inquiétant.

Le 3ème à vivre à la Maison St-Joseph n'est autre que moi-même, Père Bernard BUISSON CSB, qui vais sur mes 67 ans (en avril 2016). Eh oui, on ne se fait pas jeune, même si je reste en France "le benjamin"! En 2015, j'ai commencé une nouvelle vie comme "curé in solidum" sur la paroisse St-Christophe-les-Annonay. Nous sommes 3 prêtres au service de la paroisse. Je reste en même temps "prêtre auxiliaire" sur la paroisse Ste-Claire (23 000 habitants). Le week-end, j'ai le plus souvent une messe le samedi soir et deux le dimanche matin. Je célèbre quelques messes en semaine. J'accompagne pas mal la catéchèse du primaire, un peu aussi les 8 écoles catholiques maternelles et primaires sur St-Christophe et participe à tous les conseils de la paroisse. J'accompagne spirituellement aussi 3 équipes et j'assure toujours - depuis 35 ans! - l'accompagnement du centre de préparation au mariage du secteur. Mais, j'aime bien ce nouveau travail paroissial qui me change des 35 ans d'enseignement au collège et de copies à corriger. Tant que Dieu me donne la santé, l'enthousiasme, l'envie de rencontrer des gens et d'essayer d'annoncer l'Evangile!



Quelques mots du collège Sacré-Cœur qui frise les 150 ans d'existence sur sa colline. Son directeur laïc (le 3ème déjà), Michaël BOUVIER, son épouse Yolande, et un professeur, Jean-Nicolas BECHETOILLE, ont participé en juillet dernier à la rencontre des collèges basilien à TORONTO et ont ainsi pu tisser des liens humains plus étroits avec chacun des directeurs. Ils sont revenus enchantés de ce temps-fort et encore plus imprégnés de ce que veut dire être un établissement

d'enseignement sous tutelle basilienne, même si les réalités juridiques, financières, pastorales, humaines, matérielles sont bien différentes entre le Canada, les Etats-Unis, la Colombie et la France.

Le reste de l'été, Michaël BOUVIER a supervisé la suite des grands travaux: réfection totale de la façade Sud et la réalisation d'une nouvelle salle des profs au rez-de-chaussée. Il devrait y avoir encore d'autres travaux l'été prochain! Coté pédagogique, tout est excellent: un taux de réussite une nouvelle fois de 100% au diplôme national du Brevet pour nos anciens 3èmes: 167 admis sur 167, dont 20 mentions Très Bien, 34 mentions Bien, 63 mentions Assez Bien, les meilleurs résultats du département de l'Ardèche. Nous sommes pour ainsi dire déjà prêts pour l'appliquer avec notre touche d'originalité dans les parcours personnalisés et l'accompagnement des élèves en difficultés que nous proposons.

C'est un peu plus compliqué pour le maintien de la dimension chrétienne, mais un noyau de personnes très engagées y veille autour de Claudine MAURIN, notre animatrice en pastorale scolaire, du directeur et de moi-même comme prêtre accompagnateur. Le grain semé par des générations de Pères Basiliens, de prêtres diocésains, de Frères des Ecoles Chrésiennes, de laïcs chrétiens très motivés continue de germer, de grandir et de mûrir. Faisons confiance à l'Esprit-Saint! Des jours meilleurs viendront, nous l'espérons pour poursuivre la mission basilienne même sans plus aucun Basilien sur place!

Père Bernard BUISSON, CSB
Recteur Local à ANNONAY (Ardèche)

The Year 2015 was a difficult one for the small French Basilian community with the death in June, 8, Father René ROBERT, almost 90 years old, our “patriarch.” He served 27 years at the Collège Sacré-Cœur à ANNONAY, and he launched major operations and increased links with the Directorate of Catholic Education in the Ardèche, of which he was a great motivator. Even after his retirement from teaching and management in 1983, René had remained very active in various chaplaincies and continued to assist many people in spiritual direction. Parkinson's disease had much weakened René over past ten years and he was forced to retire to “Mon Foyer” for the last stage of his life where until his last months he was fairly lucid. His departure leaves a great void and he was a part of the history of Basilians in France (the time of the reunion in 1955 of the two Basilian communities in Toronto and Viviers in 1956). This allowed the school to host a number of young North American Basilians, who came mainly to teach English to our students. Under the responsibility of Father ROBERT the college has gone from barely 200 students to more than 500 (723 during the school year 2015 – 2016). Our colleague René is buried in the small cemetery next to the Basilian College and Maison St-Joseph.

With the death of René, the size of the Basilian community in France fell to just three members. While two other Basilian live on French soil in Paris, they are not attached to our house canonically. Father Joseph HUNT, CSB, has for several years been serving the parish of Notre-Dame de Clignancourt in the 18th district of Paris. He is 70 years old now, and despite some health problems this year, Joe is now well restored and still performs his priestly ministry. He loves this parish work. Joe comes down from time to time to the South to see us or just to see families of students he has known from the time he was a teacher at Sacred Heart College. More recently, our young colleague Warren Roger Schmidt – speaking perfect French – arrived also in Paris to pursue higher education. He is living in the 6th arrondissement, the famous Latin Quarter.

Our new “dean” is Father Michel DEGLENE CSB who will become octogenarian 6 June 2016. The year was tough for Michel, with the death of his elder brother Gérard in January 2015 after months of home hospice care. Michel keeps a very close relationship with his sister-in-law Jeanine and his sister, Marie-Jo. But Michel had gradually left the ministry he performed since 2005 on the St. Clair Parish because it was becoming too much to handle. Michel has retained only the chaplaincy at the secular retirement home Montalivet, close to our home, helping with the ecumenical chaplaincy. Otherwise, Michel, as he can still drive, continues to do the shopping and supplying household needs, monitoring our equipment, and supporting Françoise Salic, our “do-everything-employee” who has been with us for over 20 years now. But Michel finds the time passes slowly especially when the winter days are very short. Michel tries to tame some semi-wild rabbits that live in our park, but his “communication” is not always very clear with these eccentric creatures that God created!

Father François MORFIN CSB, who will reach his 70th birthday in June 2016, is the second confrère attached to Maison St-Joseph. In fact François has been living in AUBENAS for three years at the Villa Ste-Marthe, 120 km ANNONAY. It is a former residence of the elderly priests of the diocese of Viviers, included in a group of houses of the St. Joseph Institute. Mass is celebrated daily in the chapel by priests who are still mobile. The advantage for François has been to live a few hundred meters from the cyber café that many frequent and where he can send or read emails. The presence of 30 residents allows François to meet many people in a day and time to build relationships, despite his speech difficulties especially when he is tired. I meet François in major diocesan events when I go down to see him in Aubenas or when he comes to Annonay. Before Christmas, Francis was hospitalized a few days in Aubenas for some medical examinations; they revealed nothing too disturbing.

The 3rd to live at Maison St-Joseph is myself, Father Bernard Buisson CSB, who will be 67 years of age in April 2016. Yes, we are not young, even if I do remain the youngest in France! In 2015, I started a new life as “priest in solidum” of the parish of St-Christophe-les-Annonay (17,000 inhabitants). I am at the same time “auxiliary priest” of the St. Clair Parish (23 000 inhabitants). On weekends, I usually celebrate a Mass on Saturday evening and two on Sunday morning. I celebrate some Masses on weekdays. I am available to help with the catechesis of young children, at 8 nursery and primary Catholic schools and participate in all the parish councils. I also am a spiritual director to 3 parish groups and for 35 years I have served with the wedding preparation. I like this new parish work that provides a change for me after 35 years of teaching in the school and grading papers. As long as God gives me health, the enthusiasm, the desire to meet people and try to preach the gospel I will continue!



Some words about Collège Sacré-Cœur à ANNONAY; it is about to celebrate 150-years on its hill. The lay Director (the third already), Michael Bouvier, his wife Yolande, and a teacher, Jean-Nicolas Bechtoille, participated last July in a meeting of Basilian schools in Toronto ON and were able to develop closer human links with

other teachers and administrators. They returned delighted after this meeting, stronger and more steeped in what it means to be an educational institution in the Basilian tradition, even if the legal realities, financial, pastoral, material are different between Canada, the USA, Colombia and France.

The rest of the summer, Michael Bouvier oversaw the result of great work already undertaken the previous year: total reconstruction of the south façade and the construction of a new staff room. Everything is going well in the school: we have a very high success rate and other schools, both Catholic and secular, are jealous of our results which are the best of the Ardèche department. We are ready to apply our original touch in personalized courses and support struggling students who come to us. It's a little more complicated for us to maintain the Christian dimension of education, but a core of very committed people are working with Claudine Maurin, our school pastoral director and myself, nurturing the seed sown by generations of Basilian Fathers, diocesan priests, Christian Brothers, and highly motivated Christian lay people. These seeds continue to germinate, grow and mature. Let us trust the Holy Spirit! Better days will come and we hope to continue the Basilian Mission even without any Basilian here!

Père Bernard BUISSON, CSB
Recteur Local à ANNONAY (Ardèche)

Anglin House

Toronto, ON

Resident members of Anglin House are Claude Arnold, Bob Crooker, Martin Dimnik, Michael Fallona, Brian Higgins, John Hurley, Howard Keon, Ed Kline, Owen Lee, Ken O'Keefe, Wallace Platt, Peter Swan, Vincent Thompson, and John Wilson. In December we were joined by two members of the fondly remembered Henry Carr Farm, Alphonse de Valk and Thomas McReavy. Joseph Walsh is the superior and Daniel Callam serves as the assistant superior.

Associated members are Leo Burns, Charles Principe, Denis Rowan, and Gordon Walker. Leo Burns reports that he is currently residing at Davenhill seniors residence, 877 Yonge Street (just north of Davenport,) Toronto and is occasionally welcomed to Anglin house by his superior and classmate Joe Walsh. In 2015 Leo celebrated his sixty-second anniversary as a Basilian and fifty-first anniversary as a Basilian priest. Charles Principe lives in his apartment, which is associated with Baycrest residences on Bathurst Street, just south of Highway 401. Denis Rowan and Gordon Walker live in the same long care residence at the Houses of Providence in Scarborough.



The central moment of the day is the Eucharist concelebrated by members of Anglin and Orsini houses in the fourth floor chapel of the Cardinal Flahiff Center. St. Joseph and Loretto sisters, Basilian Lay Associates, and other guests are often in attendance. *(In the photos above, Ray Jackson leads the celebration of the Eucharist; Michael Fallona serves faithfully as the community sacristan.)*

On First Friday retreat days, there is exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the smaller Anglin House chapel followed by an oral presentation in the larger chapel. Among the presenters in 2015 were Norm Tanck and then Tim Scott speaking on different aspects of the Year of Religious Life; Bob Holmes on justice and peace; Jim Carruthers and George Smith separately about the Congregation of St. Basil; Bill Irwin on the Old Testament; David Mulrone, the new president of St. Michael's College, who explained the new structures he has introduced there; Leo Reilly, who reprised a paper he had delivered in Winnipeg on Marshall McLuhan as a realist philosopher; Kevin Kirley, who told amusingly edifying tales of the Basilian founding fathers at Annonay; and Tom Rosica and four assistant Salt and Light Television producers, who kept us informed first-hand about the recent Synod on the Family.

2015 saw the deaths in Anglin House of Norman Fitzpatrick, Chris Iredale, and Ken Decker. Jack Wilson, the oldest of all Basilian Fathers, and then Peter Swan (number two) celebrated their ninety-sixth

birthdays. Howie Keon celebrated his ninety-fifth birthday honoured by two massive balloons, shaped as a nine and a five, that floated for weeks over his head in the refectory. Brian Higgins had a football field named for him at St. Mary's College in Sault Ste. Marie.



Anglin House Nonagenarians

Seated: Vince Thompson (93), Peter Swan (96; May 21, 1919), Howie Keon (95)

Standing: Tom McReavy (90), Bob Crooker (90), Wally Platt (90), Jack Wilson (96; January 22, 1919)

These Basilians have given 447 years of priestly ministry to the Church and to the Congregation.

Wally Platt celebrated his 65 anniversary of ordination in 2015.

Doctor Peter Barreca visits Anglin House every second Wednesday. Nursing is under the capable and loving direction of Irina Kompaneets and seventeen assistants. There are approximately ten other staff members for housekeeping, chiropody, plant maintenance, and security. Physiotherapy sessions are provided three times weekly by Kanika Saxena. Recreational activities are planned weekly, including parties, often with musical entertainment, for St. Patrick's Day, Octoberfest, Halloween, and Christmas. Day visits are organized as well to Centre Island, St. Lawrence Market, Ripley's Aquarium, the Royal Ontario Museum and Henry Carr Farm. Among the movies screened in the downstairs refectory have been silent classics (*The Gold Rush* and *City Lights*) and more recent Oscar contenders (*Boyhood* and *Selma*). A capacious aquarium, home to two dozen many-coloured small fish, has been installed in the (now quieter) community room.

The candidates of the three main federal parties presented their platforms to us in early September. On October 19 Anglin house was one of the polling stations for the national election.

Howie Keon and Owen Lee were both interviewed in 2015 and included in the "Meet a Basilian" section on the Congregation of St. Basil website.

On Remembrance Day, Howie Keon CSB received a special recognition from the Canadian Government for his service in World War II. Captain Rev. David Clark, a chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces, made the presentation.



Activities, excursions and celebrations are part of the life in Anglin House and in Orsini House. St. Patrick's Day is celebrated with gusto by everyone. Here John Reddy CSB (Superior of Orsini House) and Owen Lee CSB of Anglin House join in an Irish song.



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Windsor, ON

2015 saw an entirely new community begin at Assumption Parish in Windsor. Maurice Restivo, Jim Stenberg and Kevin Mannara arrived at the rectory in the summer, and Matthew Durham joined the community in November. Other Basilians in Windsor are associated with Assumption Parish. Some, including George Beaune, Ken McKernan and Tunney Hathaway are in care facilities. (George Beaune passed away on Jan 10, 2016 after a short stay at Windsor Hospice. Ken is at Sunrise, while Tunney is at Devonshire.) The former members of O'Connor House are, as of this date, appealing the suppression of their house, and have a fairly casual connection with the members living at the rectory.

While the Basilians continue to live at the rectory near the original Assumption Church on Huron Church Road, liturgy is celebrated at the McEwan Campus of Assumption Parish at the Holy Name of Mary Church at 711 McEwan Avenue.

(To the left is the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the McEwan Campus.)



The year 2015 has been filled with growth and academic endeavours for Matthew Durham. In the research phase of his Doctor of Ministry thesis, he has been applying his studies in theology and leadership to ministry at The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County. Applying his research through presentation and engagement at the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario, Catholic Health Association of Ontario and the Centre for Clinical Ethics conferences, Matthew is dedicated to advocating for high quality hospice palliative care being available to all Ontarians. By engaging the local community in dialogue, Matthew is helping to keep hospice palliative care at the forefront, especially in light of the new physician assisted suicide and euthanasia legislation proposals.

Jim Stenberg began the year as Administrator of Holy Rosary Parish in Toronto. The principal challenge facing him was to facilitate the handover of the parish to the Archdiocese of Toronto after the resignation of Don Lococo. Since July, Jim has served as the parochial vicar of Assumption Parish and Rector of the Basilian Community there. In addition to his parish duties, he gives attention to the Basilians who are in assisted living facilities.

The year also brought a lot of moving for Kevin Mannara. Kevin began the year living at the Basilian Scholasticate in Houston while taking classes at St. Mary's Seminary. In March the scholastics went to California to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress. In April the Scholasticate moved locations. In June they participated in a 3-week Spanish intensive course in Costa Rica, followed by a week in Mexico for the first International Gathering of Basilian Scholastics. After returning to Houston, Kevin packed up and moved to his new assignment at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Windsor. In September his book ***That All May Be One: Consolidating Church buildings When Parishes Merge*** was published by Liturgy Training Publications. In October Kevin met with the other scholastics at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago for The Global Call of Religious Life Conference, and then in November Maurice Restivo and he attended the Matter Conference which was based on the book ***Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost, Making Church Matter***.



Maurice Restivo officially began his duties as the new pastor at Assumption Parish on May 1, although due to prior commitments he was away for most of the month, chaperoning a trip to Colombia with St. Joseph's College, and then as delegate at a conference. He arrived to stay at the end of the month, and Don McLeod left to return to Edmonton on June 4. Maurice is a member of the BNENE, and attended the conference in Toronto in July. He also has begun serving on the Basilian Volunteer Teaching Corps committee, and accepted a General Council request to serve on

the board at Cristo Rey High School in Detroit. In addition to parish and Basilian work, Maurice continues his involvement in recovery groups. He gave a day-long 12-step retreat for women in October, and in November a weekend Father Ed Dowling retreat for women at Manresa Retreat Center in Michigan.

(The Sunday worship center for Assumption Parish, Holy Name of Mary Church, is pictured above.)

Associated Members

Joe Quinn is co-director of Marie Rose Place, a retreat centre in Windsor, a member of the Service Team of Southwestern Ontario Contemplative Outreach, Centering Prayer facilitator, ministers at the Devonshire Seniors' Residence and is involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Paul McGill is chaplain for Campus Ministry at the University of Windsor. He celebrates Mass at Rosary chapel three times during the week, and on Sunday afternoons. He is also generous in helping out at Assumption Parish when needed.

Q Johnson enjoys an active retirement at Amica. He celebrates Mass for the residents on Wednesday mornings, and frequently celebrates the Sunday Mass at Devonshire Place. He has celebrated Mass at Guadalupe Parish and for the Assumption Alumni. Q reports that it has been 10 years since he was diagnosed with prostate cancer, and there has been no change in the last 5 years concerning the cancer or its treatment. He enjoys playing golf on the weekends. He continues to volunteer at Hospice in Windsor.

Frank Mizzi continues to be active as a counselor. Retirees Michael Brand and Bernard Pinsonneault are also associated with Assumption Parish. Bernard John Pinsonneault supplies pastoral ministry for the Blue Army of South Windsor, for the residences of Kensington Court where he resides, for several parishes in Detroit, and is called upon to provide annual regional celebrations for the Marian Movement of Priests and for Divine Mercy Sunday in Michigan and Ontario. He celebrated his fiftieth year of Ordination with his family in his home parish in Grand Haven Michigan.



The Curial Community

Toronto ON

The Curial community continues to reside in two small apartments near the Cardinal Flahiff Centre.

David Katulski serves as the rector of the Curial community and he continues his service as a chaplain in the Knights of Malta. He also works in collaboration with the staff of St. Joseph's College School as celebrant for both daily and special occasion Eucharists, assists with staff professional days, and offers retreats for the staff twice a year. 2015 marks the 25th year of David's service to St. Joseph's College School. He also continues his ministry to the Daughters of St. Mary of Leuca, leading monthly days of retreat for the sisters.



George Smith serves as vice president of the Canadian Conference of Religious (CRC), as chair of the board of directors of Canadian Religious Stewardship, and as a member of Becoming Neighbors, a collaborative ministry among religious to refugees and new immigrants. In addition to his ministry as Superior General, his time is increasingly taken up with the building of Presentation Manor and the redevelopment of the Cardinal Flahiff Centre. He anticipates these projects will occupy much of his time for the remaining years of his term on the General Council.

Associated Members

Joe Redican continues his active retirement from full time high school work. From January to October he worked as Campus Ministry at Detroit Cristo Rey High School. In October he was asked by the Superior General to accept an appointment as Superior of the Basilian Fathers of East Rochester in order to move the men to alternate accommodations and close up the operations of the house. In Detroit he lived and continued to help renovate Cristo Rey house which is next door to the school and in Toronto he lived in an apartment on Toronto Island where he is involved in community activities.

Thomas Rosica is in his thirteenth year as founding Chief Executive Officer of Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation. He completed a four-year term as President and Vice-chancellor of Assumption University in Windsor in June, 2015. In addition to his work at Salt and Light in Toronto, Tom has served, since February 2013, as English language media attaché to the Holy See Press Office at the Vatican. Tom worked on the Papal visit to Cuba and the United States in September, 2015 and was appointed by the Vatican to be English language media attaché to the Synod of Bishops on the Family.

Tom continues to serve as consultant to the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, and a member of the Communications Commission of the CCCB. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the University of St. Thomas in Houston Texas, the Board of Trustees of St. John Fisher College in Rochester New York, and the Board of the Gregorian Foundation of Jesuit Universities in Rome.

On May 9, 2015, Tom was awarded a *DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS HONORIS CAUSA* from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. On June 26, 2015, during the awards banquet of the Catholic Academy of Communication Professionals, Tom was awarded the **Clarion Award**. The award recognizes a significant contribution to Catholic communicators.

Frassati House

Toronto ON

At the beginning of 2015 the membership of Frassati House consisted of **Fathers Norm Tanck** (Rector), **Bob Holmes** and **Jack Hanna**. On July 1st, after the Basilians withdrew from Toronto's Holy Rosary Parish, **Father Doug Hilmer**, who was in residence there, moved to the Sackville Street community. **Father Neil Hibberd**, who lives in Avondale Retirement Residence, is associated with Frassati House.

Frassati House is located north of Queen St. East in the Corktown district of Old Toronto, just south of Regent Park in St. Paul's Basilica Parish.

Frassati House is a comfortable arrangement of two connected townhouses. There are nine bedrooms that now allow the Frassati House community to provide hospitality to Basilians, Lay Associates and others seeking a place to stay while visiting Toronto. There is a small chapel where the community celebrates Mass and Morning Prayer at 7:30 AM and Evening Prayer after dinner Monday through Friday. The Eucharist is celebrated on an altar of simple beauty made by Ken Decker, using a chalice and paten that belonged to H.B. Gardner; both were former residents of Frassati House.



For **Doug Hilmer**, the newest and youngest member of the Frassati House, 2015 was a year of transition and change.

While still living at Holy Rosary Parish he taught for the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) at St. Basil the Great High School and helped with weekend ministry at Holy Rosary Parish. After 123 years of ministry at Holy Rosary the Basilians withdrew at the end of June. During the summer of 2015 Doug moved to Frassati House and in the fall he returned to teaching for the TCDSB.

Since moving to Frassati House Doug has been a great asset to the care and maintenance of the residence. With the other members of the local community, Doug took his turn leading Morning and Evening Prayer, presiding and preaching at daily Mass and preparing the evening meal. Besides leaving Holy Rosary, another closing, that of Henry Carr Farm, was a difficult parting for Doug. The Farm has been an important part of his life from his first contact with the Basilians in 1975.

Jack Hanna continues his work in the Curial Office of the Basilian Fathers as Secretary/Treasurer General. In this capacity he oversaw the day-to-day running of the Cardinal Flahiff Centre. He and David Katulski began working on long range plans for the relocation of the Curial Office as the Flahiff Centre is redeveloped. Jack presided and preached occasionally at Masses in the Anglin House chapel.

During 2015 Jack accompanied the Superior General George Smith, on his visitation of the Basilian Novitiate in Tehuacán, México and in Santa Marta, Colombia and served as his translator. Jack also uses his translating skills with the Basilian Newsletters, Basilian Obituaries and Congregational notifications which he issues in Spanish, English and French.

Around Frassati House, Jack enjoyed taking his turn cooking and working in the yard when it is not covered in snow. In his off time Jack enjoyed driving around southern Ontario; in the fall he made a trip to Kingston where he took a boat tour of the 1000 Islands (and found out there are actually around 1,800 islands) and then he drove along the Rideau Canal exploring the locks.

As Basilian Coordinator for Peace and justice, **Bob Holmes** gave several presentations on Gospel Peacemaking in many schools, parishes and colleges and facilitated full day retreats in several high schools. He continued as the publisher of *Stirrings*, staff person to the Basilian Human Development Grants Committee and heads up the committee developing the Basilian Volunteer Teaching Corps. Networking has also been important for him, keeping Basilians connected to Pax Christi Toronto, KAIROS Canada, Catholics for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land, the Franciscan-founded Campaign Non-Violence and the Canadian Alternative Investment Cooperative.

He was on staff at Camp Micah developing youth leadership for peace and justice. Bob is also an active member of the Christian Peacemaker Teams and served for six weeks on the Palestine Team in the fall. Bob led a Basilian Peace and Justice Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in December. Along with the other members of the house, Bob took his turn presiding at Mass and leading prayer and cooking the dinner. He occasionally presided and preached at Eucharist with a small intentional Catholic community that had been meeting for over twenty years at St. Peter Church until the Paulists withdrew from their ministry there and the Archdiocese of Toronto appointed a diocesan pastor. Although meeting at a different location Bob still was able to treat the Frassati House community with freshly baked bread from the Harbord Bakery and/or Krispy Kreme doughnuts upon his return.

Norm Tanck is the Director of Associates in the Basilian Fathers Initial Formation Program and rector of Frassati House. He works with vocation discernment through discernment weekend retreats and Busy Students Retreats Sponsored by the Toronto Area Vocations Directors and the St. Joseph sisters. He is also spiritual director for several lay people in Toronto. In March 2015 Norm preached the annual retreat for the St. Thomas High School Basilians. In June he preached the pre-profession Novitiate Retreat for the two novices in Toronto and in July organized an Associate and Vocational Discernment Gathering in Houston for the Basilian associates and men considering religious life and priesthood. In September, he guided a Day of Reflection for the Superior General and his Council.

Norm occasionally presided and preached at Mass at Anglin House, St. Basil's Church, Holy Rosary Church and St. Paul's Basilica. In January he took Father Warren Schmidt's place at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Rochester while Warren spent time with the novices in Colombia. He also filled in at St. Kateri while Father Morgan Rice attended the November General Council meeting. Norm serves on the Boards of St. Michael's College School in Toronto and Assumption University in Windsor.

Neil Hibberd continued to enjoy the blessings of living at Avondale Retirement Residence in the Beaches area of Toronto, not far from Frassati House, to which he is attached, and where he dines regularly with the confreres, who invite him to share in their community. He attended Basilian Wakes, Funeral Masses and community celebrations at the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre, where he also visits with confreres in Orsini and Anglin Houses. Neil contributed thought provoking movie reviews to the Basilian social justice newsletter, *Stirrings*. Neil's weekend liturgical ministry, celebrating Mass, preaching homilies and retreats and hearing Confessions, generates energy, along with his visits with his three sisters, brother, 22 nephews/nieces, 50 great nephews/nieces and 22 great, great nephews/nieces.

Henry Carr Farm

Beeton ON

Henry Carr Farm was established in the late 1970's; Ed Ronan CSB had, for a number of years, used Judge Couture's property on the 9th line of Tecumseth to bring St. Michael's students to a farm and to teach them skills involved in building a house. It became obvious that if Ed Ronan's work with students was to continue, he had to purchase the land he was using. At that time, Henry Carr School was looking for a country property to accommodate students. Father Ronan asked that his project be incorporated into Henry Carr School. He and his artistic-manual arts program were a welcome addition to the Henry Carr School program. Later, Tom Mohan CSB was another driving force in developing the Henry Carr Farm. It was used as a place for retreats for urban youth as well as for parish groups for many years. Henry Carr Farm offered a pleasant community for the Basilians and offered ministry for many people in the area. Ms. Janice Hutchison served the Basilian Fathers faithfully as the manager of the Farm.

Over the years, with the aging of the Basilians at the Henry Carr Farm, ministry became more difficult and problematic. In 2014, the General Council decided that the Farm was not viable as a retirement home any longer. Fathers Alphonse de Valk, Tom McReavy, Gerry Dillon and Ray Jackson agreed to move to the Flahiff Centre in Toronto.

This move required sacrifice on the part of these four Basilians but, as Alphonse de Valk, the Superior of the Basilians at the Farm, put it in a meeting with David Katulski and Jack Hanna: "If that is what the General Council wants, that is what we will do."

God bless these four generous Basilians and God bless all the Basilians who have lived and ministered at Henry Carr Farm over the years.



Tom McReavy CSB, Gerry Dillon CSB, Ray Jackson CSB, Alphonse de Valk CSB

Holy Rosary Parish

Toronto ON



The Congregation of St. Basil saw an outpouring of support from the community on Thursday, June 18, 2015 as the Basilians concluded their ministry and administration of the Holy Rosary parish after 123 years of service. The occasion was marked by a special Mass, celebrated by Father George Smith CSB, Superior General.

Holy Rosary Church was founded in 1892 when the Basilians built a Novitiate near St. Clair Avenue, which was farmland at the time. In 1893, the Novitiate's chapel, The Chapel of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, was opened and was the parish church for all of northwest Toronto. The current church building, opened in 1927, was designed by

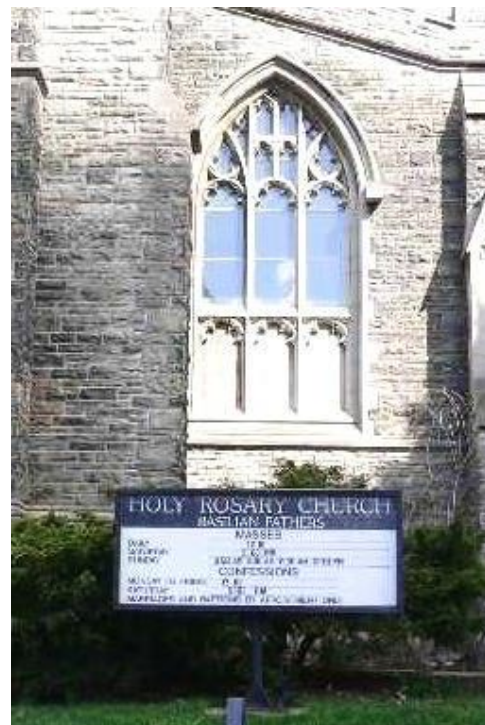
the renowned Toronto architect, Arthur W. Holmes, the grandfather of Bob Holmes CSB. Over the years, the parish has seen profound changes from its origins in a predominantly Irish farming community of the late 19th century to the multicultural urban parish of today.

Jim Stenberg CSB was the last Basilian Administrator of Holy Rosary Parish. The changeover from Basilian administration to administration by the Archdiocese of Toronto was initiated by the Archdiocese. As one archdiocesan official remarked to Jim, "Parishes are what we do."

The Eucharist marking the end of Basilian ministry at Holy Rosary was concelebrated by Basilians from the General Council, Frassati House, Orsini House, St. Basil's Parish, St. Michael's College School and University of St. Michael's College House. Following the Mass, the Basilian Fathers joined members of the Holy Rosary parish community for a reception held in the Parish Hall.

Basilian Pastors and Administrators at Holy Rosary:

The Basilian Staff of the Novitiate (1892-1908), John Teefy, James Player, Vincent Murphy, Michael Oliver, Dan Forestell, William Roach, T. A. McDonald, Rudy Diemer, Vince Thompson, John Ruth, Tom Mailloux, George Sylvester, Patrick Parkin, Gerry Gregoire, Charlie Smith, Paul McGill, Gordon Kennedy, Dan Chui, Don Lococo, Jim Stenberg.



Orsini House

Toronto ON

In the early part of 2015 the Orsini House community was delighted to welcome Oscar Carbajal who came to Toronto to complete his novitiate under the direction of Jim Carruthers. Not too long afterwards we were delighted to welcome Eduardo Rivera who joined Oscar to complete his novitiate here. For the confreres at Orsini House and Anglin House it was a breath of fresh air to have young confreres in our midst. They settled easily into the local community and added greatly to our conversations and our prayer life.



Back row l – r: Don Finlay, Oscar Carbajal, Gerry Lalonde, Wilfrid Janisse, Jim Carruthers, Denis April, John Reddy
Front row l – r: Chris Iredale, Leo Reilly, Marty Dimnik, Marvin LaBute, Kevin Kirley, Jim McConica

There were a number of changes to the makeup of the local community during 2015. Chris Iredale moved to Anglin House early in the year; he went home to God in October. Gerry Lalonde moved back to his northern Ontario hometown of Capreol. John Malo moved into the community at the end of the school year. John continues to teach and serve as guidance counsellor to the grade 7 and 8 students at St. Michael's College School. Marty Dimnik moved to Anglin House in November. With the closure of Henry Carr Farm in December we welcomed Gerry Dillon and Ray Jackson to Orsini House. The community now numbers 14. We have four guest rooms and we have had a steady flow of guests.

One of the topics of discussion for the confreres at Orsini House this year is the plan to move to Presentation Manor in Scarborough in 2017. This collaboration among twelve religious congregations is a wise and responsible example of stewardship. The experience of living with non-Basilians during renovations at Orsini House some years ago is remembered with fondness by a number of confreres. Living in Scarborough will be an enormous change from living in the centre of the city. It will call us to a somewhat different form of community life. Change is always a bit unnerving but we face it with optimism and with trust in Divine Providence.

On December 11, 2015, Don Finlay celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination. In late August, he commemorated the event with Alphonse De Valk at a celebration of the Eucharist, presided by George

Smith and the homily preached by Dave Katulski. A reception for Basilians and Basilian Lay Associates of the Toronto area followed. Don continues to act as chaplain to the Toronto area Knights of Malta.

Oscar Carbajal García made his first profession of vows on July 17, 2015 in the Chapel of the Cardinal Flahiff Centre. David Katulski, Vicar General, received his vows along with Jim Carruthers, the Novice Master. A reception followed in the Dining Room of the Flahiff Centre.



At the request of the General Council Kevin Kirley wrote a sequel to his booklet *1922 Before and After* bringing it up to the General Chapter of 2014. He also gave the October 1st Friday talk in Anglin House: "Some Reflections on our Founders" which has been distributed to the Congregation via e-mail.

Leo Reilly published "Comparing the Realism of Etienne Gilson and Marshall McLuhan," has in publication "Beyond Logic" and "Marshall McLuhan as a Realist Philosopher," a paper given at a McLuhan Initiative gathering in Winnipeg. He is revising a text on realist philosophy.

Jim Carruthers helps out at St. Basil's Church, as do Wilfrid Janisse and John Reddy. Wilfrid is guest master for our local community. Denis April kindly makes himself available to drive confreres to doctors' appointments. Marvin LaBute still misses Windsor but has settled in well at Orsini House. Joe Walsh continues his ministry as superior of Anglin House. As we look back on 2015 we thank the Lord for his many blessings to us this year.

James McConica writes: The past year held two other-than-usual involvements for me, one in the spring, and the other during much of the summer and autumn. The first concerned my college in Oxford - Exeter College – which I entered as a freshman in 1951, when England and Europe were just staggering to their feet after World War II. This year, as a guest of the College celebrating its 800th anniversary of foundation (A.D.1314) I had a rare opportunity to revisit many memories, and to see again valued friends of long standing. Among them were a couple I first met in Saskatoon when they were newly married and were drawn to St Thomas More College at the invitation of Peter Swan, who recruited the husband to teach English at St Thomas More College. Their first child, a boy, was born in Saskatoon and became my first godson. The second event was really a series of involvements in the arrival of the new President of St Michael's College, David Mulroney, a graduate of SMC and Canada's former ambassador to China. In many conversations I came to appreciate what a stellar "find" he is for St Mike's, one as well with a deep, personal appreciation of the legacy of the Basilian Fathers and of our traditions. It was a great pleasure to welcome him as my successor but two!

Associated Members:

Joe Hunt reports from Paris that he is officially retired but still involved in parish ministry; he is happy being where he is. Gerry Lalonde reports from Capreol that he is "in a very good place geographically, mentally and spiritually. Ian Boyd continues his work with the Chesterton Institute and Cecil Zinger is still involved at St. Michael's College School.

Basilian Fathers of St. Alphonsus and St. Clare Edmonton, AB

Bob Kasun CSB writes: Dear Reader – You might be inclined to think that nothing exciting ever happens way up here in the northernmost city in the Basilian world. However, nothing could be further from the truth! First, there was the stunning, first-time ever landslide victory of the New Democratic Party in the recent provincial election. Yes, it's true. Hardly a Conservative is left standing in red-neck Alberta. Not only that, but the famous Edmonton Eskimos won the Canadian Football Championship in November, 2015. They came out of their igloos long enough to triumph in the final battle!

Still more exciting, for example, is the bee-hive of activity at the Basilian Fathers of St. Alphonsus and St. Clare's. Our house consists of Father Jack Gallagher CSB, Father Felix Roberge, a young priest of the Canadian Military Diocese and myself (Bob Kasun CSB). The only problem is that sometimes I just can't remember all the things that happen nor the problems that arise, but I do sleep well at night.

Jack Gallagher is busy directing the RCIA, the Marriage Preparation program and the Catholic Teachers' Society, a project of the BNENE. During the school year, on a regular basis, he gathers a group of teachers from the Catholic schools, who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and reflecting on their ministry and vocation as Catholic teachers and evangelizers. He is also engaged in scholarly writing. His book on "evangelization and culture" is nearly completed. And, currently, he is exploring the possibility of forming a Canadian Catholic "think-tank" for popular Catholic intellectuals, who would seek out ways to offer commentary on moral and social issues affecting the world today from a Catholic perspective. Fortunately, Jack safe-guards his cross-word-puzzle-time each day.



I continue to pastor two parishes (*St. Alphonsus Church to the far right and St. Clare Church on the left*) and strive continually to raise the consciousness of parishioners regarding the needs of the poor, many of whom are our close neighbours. Working with an organization called Greater Edmonton Alliance, a

grassroots empowerment group, we are striving to form a group of seniors from the parish for the purpose of surfacing local issues that cause problems for seniors. We are trying to empower them to take ownership of a problem and make positive win-win contributions toward the resolution of the problem. Right now, we are looking at problems pertaining to a bus-van transportation service for disabled adults. Also, our Saturday morning English classes for foreign workers continue to be a source of life for me, for the volunteer teachers and for the participants.

On a different note, in 2015, I decided to "hang up my chaps" and give up motorcycling for good. My sister is delighted. But, I've taken up a different kind of travelling. Last summer I got to England, France, Belgium and Holland – the trip of a lifetime. I hope to get back this summer. Jack caught the travel bug too. He happily motored to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Associated Members of Basilian Fathers of St. Alphonsus and St. Clare



Mark Gazin CSB: I am working at Star of the Sea parish community in White Rock, British Columbia. This past year has not been as intense at past years. At the end of 2014 my dad was released from four months in the hospital. Respecting our parents' wish to remain together, my siblings and I found a pleasant nursing care home for my mom and dad. I visit them each Sunday with Holy Communion and this is always a good visit. In addition to parental care, my work and life with two other priests have continued unabated in this active 3000 family diocesan parish of a school, hospital, three churches and a myriad of nursing homes. With a long-time friend, who was recently ordained a deacon, I made a pilgrimage to Rome, Florence, Assisi and Lake Albano in April for my 25th anniversary of ordination. The parish community here in White Rock was very generous in celebrating my June jubilee with Mass, a reception and a dinner with Archbishop Miller."

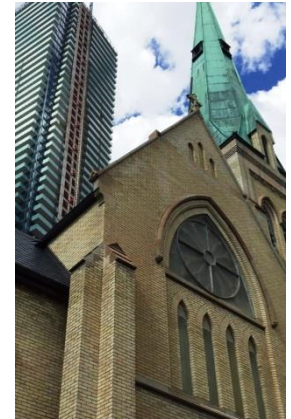


Clair Watrin CSB: I work at the "Way of Holiness" retreat house in the woods just west on Hinton, AB where I have been for the last five years. I am busier than I have ever been in my life but I enjoy the work and am greatly blessed to have the opportunity to have a part to play in leading others to come closer to God and advance in their faith and prayer life.



St. Basil's Collegiate Church in USMC Toronto, ON

Father Chris Valka, CSB is the 30th Basilian to lead the St. Basil's Parish Community; his reflections follow: I have to admit that there was a time in my life when I thought being a parish priest would be rather ... well, routine. Though there are undoubtedly parishes like this - St. Basil's is not one of them! This past year, the parish has seen a great amount of growth due to the population of condos in the area; the temporary closure of St. Michael's Cathedral due to renovations; and the sheer good work of the pastoral team. Sunday Mass attendance has increased by 58% in the last two years!



There are five full time staff and several contract employees. Many Basilians would know our long time Administrative Assistant, Mary Hopper; she retired at the end of the year and moved to Sudbury to be closer to family. The pastoral team revolves around what we know identify as the ministerial "pillars of the parish": Liturgy and Prayer, Community, Social Justice and Music. The emerging pillar is Young Family Ministries as there are more and more strollers present at Mass. A children's choir now



contributes once a month to the Noon Mass and the parish is building an Atrium as part of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program. I even decided to become certified as a Catechist, and have moved far out of my comfort zone as I learn how to develop the faith of children ages 0-6. The end of the year also brought another development in my life as I (and the parish) become the sponsors of a Syrian family of four. Though the changes are plenty, the people are a constant - they are wonderful, kind, faithful and so very generous. I am humbled to be their Pastor and how God works through me in ways I could not have imagined on my

own.

We are in the process of a rather hefty set of renovations, which are made possible only because of their generosity and patience. We began this past year by renovating the sanctuary, removing the many levels of floor and recovering marble floor that was covered and adding some more of our own. Even the red chairs have been recovered with a brown that matches the furniture. We also finished repointing the West and South Walls and cleaning the exterior of the church. Over the summer, St. Michael's College took the church and Odette Hall off the steam line supplied by U of T, which means that the church is now heated by natural gas powered fan coils. These fan coils also have the capability of air conditioning which is scheduled for next year. Lastly, we are about to begin a renovations of the entire lower level of the church, which will result in new meetings spaces, music practice rooms, a meditation space, a new kitchen, 11 additional washrooms and one shower.

Of course, should you find yourself in Toronto, know that you are welcome anytime to join in worship. St. Basil's Church always welcomes you.

The Basilian Fathers of St. Joseph's College

Edmonton, AB

The year 2015 brought some significant changes to the community at St. Joseph's College. In early June, **Don McLeod** returned from his temporary appointment as administrator of Our Lady of the Assumption parish, Windsor. In addition to his work at the College and Assumption, Don remains Director of Healthy Aging and Eldercare for the Congregation and serves on the Collegium of the University of St. Michael's College and as Chair of the Board of Governors of Assumption University.

Maurice Restivo was appointed Pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption parish, Windsor, and departed from Edmonton in early June. Maurice left a lasting impact on the local house and College community. People still speak of his homilies, ministry to students, teaching, pottery, cooking and support to individuals in recovery.

After seventeen years of service, **Brian Inglis** concluded his tenure as Pastor of Our Lady of the Foothills parish in Hinton. At the request of Archbishop Smith, Brian agreed to serve the Archdiocese as a spiritual director at St. Joseph's Seminary, Edmonton. Brian's experience and wisdom are greatly appreciated by the seminarians. His new appointment has also allowed him to participate more frequently in local community events and meals.



At the beginning of December, the Review Committee recommended **Terry Kersch** as President of St. Joseph's College for another five year term. During the past year, he strove to implement the College's new Identity and Mission Statement by initiating the process of developing a new strategic plan for the College. Also, to everyone's great relief, the new Women's

Residence opened on time and has forever changed the dynamics of the College for the better. (*The Residence is pictured above.*) In addition to his College responsibilities, Terry is also very active in Retrouvaille, serving on the international board of directors and as a program leader.

Glenn McDonald continues to serve as Chaplain of the College community, collaborating with Brittney White, the Director of Campus Ministry, and Theresa Robinson, Campus Minister, on a variety of programs. In his role as Chaplain, he spends a considerable amount of time offering pastoral services. In his spare time, he is Chair of the Basilian Finance Committee, and assists the Archdiocese of Edmonton's Year of Consecrated Life committee. Glenn was instrumental in bringing a Syrian refugee family to Edmonton; Glenn and the family overcame delays and bureaucratic hold-ups and the family is presently living in the Women's Residence.

Basilian Fathers of St. Michael's College School

Oriole Parkway, Toronto ON

The year of grace 2015 was another year of blessings for the Basilians of St. Michael's College School. Each of us has ministered in an important way to the school community and we are all grateful for the humbling opportunity.

Father Andrew Leung, CSB continued on as rector of the community and began the processes needed to take care of the physical house at 5 Oriole Parkway: inspecting and repairing of the foundation in particular. Father Leung also began his ministry as Director of Spiritual Life at St. Michael's College School (SMCS), and continued teaching physics.



Father Jefferson Thompson, CSB continued getting to know the SMCS community through breakfast meetings with the Grade 7 Homeroom parents, meeting with the first year parents, presenting an interactive vocation

talk with each grade 9 and grade 12 religion classes. Father Thompson also served the University of St. Michael's College on the collegium during the changes there, and began his term on the Gibbons/Daly Foundation.

Father John Malo, CSB moved to 95 St. Joseph Street and continues his ministry as Head of Pastoral Care 3 out of 5 days, teaching grade 9 religion as well as continuing as guidance counselor for the grade 7 and grade 8 community at SMCS.

Father Bill May, CSB was involved with the alumni theatre troupe (Dreamtheatre Productions) and brought Captain George Brackett, USN to life in the production of South Pacific. As well, he was the Moderator of the Student Prefects and taught two sections each of grade 9, 10, and 11 religion. He had a minor surgical procedure in late June which went well, Father May did not miss one day of his teaching ministry at SMCS for it (try as hard as he might).



The community continues living, ministering, praying together; after Evening Prayer they read a section of the Basilian Way of Life, a habit they gratefully embrace. Blessings to all; be assured of our prayers.



The Basilian Fathers of the University of St. Michael's College Toronto, ON

This was a year for changes at St. Michael's. The Collegium renewed its membership with Don McLeod, CSB, as chair at the helm. It appointed a new president, David Mulroney, the former Canadian ambassador to China, and a new Dean of the Faculty of Theology, James Ginther, formerly professor of medieval theology at the University of Leeds and St. Louis University.

T. Allan Smith remains superior of the house with Michael Lehman as first councillor and Chris Valka as second councillor. Mario D'Souza is the bursar. The 2016 expiration of the leases on the two houses, Windle and Phelan, in which we now live has led to discussions of Basilian community life and apostolate on the St. Michael's campus.

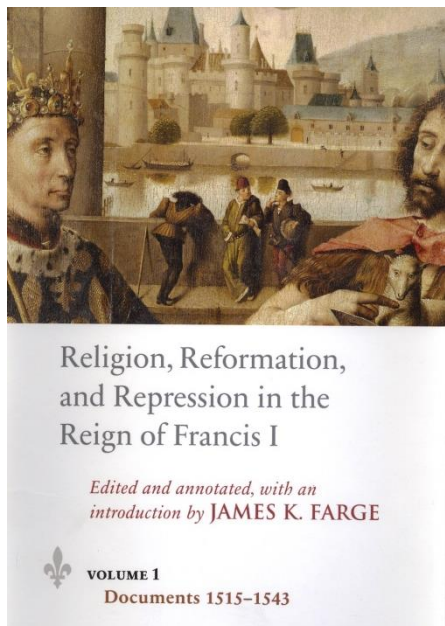
Daniel Callam continued as assistant to the superior of Anglin House. On weekdays he occasionally helps out at Saint Basil's Church and on weekends at Holy Rosary Church. Under the direction of Ian Boyd, he assists with the editing of *The Chesterton Review*, for which he writes film reviews and, from time to time, a book review. As well, he has donated time to a re-cataloguing project in the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies.

Mario D'Souza returned to full-time teaching at the Faculty of Theology after a profitable and productive sabbatical. He was elected as the Chair of the Board of Directors of St. Michael's College School. In November, he attended the World Congress on Catholic Education hosted by the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome. The Congress, which marked the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's document, *Gravissimum Educationis*, and the 25th anniversary of *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, had nearly two thousand delegates. Because of his work with the Basilian Network of Education and the New Evangelization (BNENE) Father D'Souza attended the section on schools, rather than universities. Father D'Souza continues to hold a Fellowship at York St. John University, York, England. He helped plan the Summer BNENE Conference, held at St. Michael's College School—10-12 July 2015. Archbishop J. Michael Miller CSB gave the opening address.

During the year he contributed two entries in the *Encyclopedia of Christian Education, Volume Two*, eds. Georg Thomas Kurian and Mark Lamport. Latham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2015, "Philosophy and Theology of Education," pp. 949-951, and "Philosophy of Education, Catholic," pp. 955-957. His book review of *Transforming Ourselves, Transforming the World: Justice in Jesuit Higher Education*, eds. Mary Beth Combs and Patricia Ruggiano Schmidt (New York: Fordham University Press, 2013) appeared in *Journal of Jesuit Studies*, 21 (2015): 170-173. He delivered an invited lecture on "The Human Person and Educational Research: Some Philosophical Thoughts" in the Research Seminar Series, York St. John University, UK Visiting Research Fellow, and in-service presentations: Congregation for Catholic Education. *Lay Catholics in Schools: Witnesses to Faith*. Faculty and Staff of St. Thomas High School, Houston; Catholic Central High School, Novi; and St. Michael's College School Toronto

James Farge is the Director of the General Archives of the Basilian Fathers – a largely supervisory position. He is a Fellow of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, where he serves as the Curator of Rare Books and Special Collections. He is secretary of the Institute's Board of Directors, is on its Finance Committee, and serves on the Manuscript Review Committee for the Institute's press. For the

seventeenth time he staffed the exhibition and sale of PIMS publications at the International Conference of Medieval Studies held at the University of Western Michigan each May. He continues to serve on the Editorial Board of the University of Toronto's *Collected Works of Erasmus* project, and is on the Comité de lecture of the *Revue d'histoire de l'Église de France*.



April 2015 saw the publication of Jim's latest book: *Religion, Reformation, and Repression in the Reign of King Francis I: Documents from the Parlement of Paris, 1515–1547*. The two-volume work was the fruit of over twelve years spent researching over 100,000 manuscript pages, selecting from them about 1200 documents that had to be transcribed, edited, and indexed. It was couriered to Paris in time to be exhibited at the colloquium "François Ier imaginaire" organized by the Société d'études françaises du seizième siècle," at which he delivered a paper entitled "François Ier: De la tolérance à la répression." He published introductory articles in two books: *Declarationes ad censuras Lutetiae*. Opera omnia Desiderii Erasmi Roterodami, vol. 9: 7 (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2015), pp. 1–20; and in *A Companion to the Theology of John Mair*, ed. John T. Slotemaker and Jeffrey C. Witt (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2015), pp. 13–24 and (with Ueli Zahne) a catalogue of Mair's work (pp. 376–389).

On a regular basis Jim presides at the Sunday Eucharist celebrated for the confreres of Anglin House and Orsini House. He serves as sacristan for the chapels in Brennan Hall and Phelan House of the local USMC Basilian community.

William Irwin continued teaching part-time at the Faculty of Theology, "Biblical Hebrew Poetry" in the spring and "Pentateuch: Exodus" in the fall. He delivered the John Meagher lecture in November on "Theology between Church and University: The Faculty of Theology at Sixty," to an audience of about sixty including the new President and the new Dean of Theology of St. Michael's and both the first Director of the Toronto School of Theology, Dr. Douglas Jay, and its present Director, Dr. Alan Hayes. His lecture was filmed by Jillian Kaster and subsequently broadcast on the Basilian web site. From time to time he says the Canadian Daily Mass on TV. His view of the world was significantly altered by a September cataract operation and who knows how his take on being and essence will change.

Michael Lehman is in full-time ministry with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. He is involved in Chaplaincy and Adult Faith Development with the 92,000 students and 10,000 employees of the system. Michael's ministry includes celebrating school Eucharists, Memorial Services, Reconciliation Services, classroom discussions and presentations, and staff support. He is called upon to facilitate retreats and days of reflection for staffs and students on various days and evenings. Michael's ministry takes him across the greater Toronto Area and is often called upon by other Catholic school boards for facilitation of retreats, Masses, and presentations as well. Mike is completing 15 seasons as Chaplain to the St. Michael's Buzzers Junior A hockey team based out of St. Michael's College School Arena. His pep talks and prayers before each game have become a favourite with players, coaches, and support staff. A regular season of 55 games plus playoffs see him in arenas from Buffalo to Kingston most weekends. In August Michael began weekend ministry at St. Basil's Parish where he celebrates Masses each weekend as well as assisting with reconciliation and RCIA. These ministries are very rewarding for

Mike and, while making for full and busy weeks and weekends, continue to be exciting and life-giving.

Allan Smith serves as local superior. He continues his duties as Registrar of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, and teaches two courses per year at the Faculty of Theology. Two of his doctoral students successfully defended their dissertations this past year. His article, "Sergii Bulgakov's 'Sofiologiia smerti'," is to appear in *Scottish Journal of Theology*; a second article, "Iosif of Volokolamsk and Serapion of Novgorod in Conflict," is being revised for publication. He completed translations of four works by Sergii Bulgakov: The Sophiology of Death; Chapters on Trinitarity; Hypostasis and Hypostaseity; and Judas Iscariot – Apostle-Betrayer. He gave a faculty seminar for the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Toronto, on the topic "Literary and Theological Aspects of Sergii Bulgakov's *Iuda Iskariot: Apostol-Predatel*."

Chris Valka is second councillor of the house but is reporting for the Annals in the section on St. Basil's Parish on page 36 of this edition of the ANNALS.

Walter Werbylo, associated with the Basilians of the University of St. Michael's College, is working and living at St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto, where he teaches New Testament courses and is one of six priests who serve as spiritual directors for the seminarians and who give various talks on matters concerning the spiritual life and priestly formation to the seminarians. Living at the seminary are eleven priests who work at full-time ministry in the seminary. There are forty four seminarians living in the seminary in either years 1 through 4 of theology or in the initial spiritual year, plus six seminarians doing their year of internship in a parish and coming to the seminary every month for two days of discussion and input regarding their pastoral work. Walter celebrated his 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in 2015.



The Basilian Fathers of East Rochester

Rochester, NY

For the Basilian Fathers of East Rochester, the year of 2015 began well. We had received Father Don Lococo and Father Tom Dugan as members of the local community, but the year was soon to be marked by mourning. We had been still grieving over the death of Father John Murray (2012) from a staph infection and over the death of Father Michael Cerretto (2014). Then Father Joe Mitrano fell on the stairs, struck his head, and never regained consciousness. Later, in July our beloved Superior and Chaplain of St. John Fisher College, the irreplaceable Father Joe Lanzalaco, died from a heart attack. A little more than a week later, Father Jack Lee also was struck down from a similar attack.

After these deaths, Father Leo Hetzler served as Superior, Father Don Lococo as Chaplain at the College, and Father Al Cylwicki as Head of Campus Ministry. Father Tom Dugan has been assisting with Hispanic ministry in the Diocese and has been warmly welcomed by the diocesan clergy. While we were still living on East Avenue, the community made suggestions to the Superior General regarding a new Superior. During the summer, Leo Hetzler celebrated his 60th anniversary of ordination.



We held our annual “At Home Reception” for our College’s Faculty and Staff and rejoiced in the inauguration of Gerry Rooney as the new President of St. John Fisher College. Father George Smith was the main speaker at the inauguration.

With him he brought word of the closure of our House and Community. Father Joe Redican was named as superior and given the task of moving the Basilians (Leo Hetzler, Al Cylwicki, Paul Broadhurst and Thomas Dugan) to the Retirement Residence at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse not too far from the East Avenue Residence. The Basilians of the East Rochester community are now associated with the Basilian Fathers of St. Kateri Tekakwitha parish in Irondequoit. We have many memories of the years of East Avenue; all our memories are happy ones.



The Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph at 150 French Road in Rochester NY 14618.

The Basilian Fathers of Las Cruces

Las Cruces, NM

Dave Klein, Ed Heidt and Sean Garrity comprise the Basilian Fathers of Las Cruces. Dave is the Rector and Ed is the President of the Corporation with Sean being the third member. Don Hyatt, David Sharp and Bishop Emeritus Ricardo Ramírez are associated with the Basilian Fathers of Las Cruces.



New Mexico Basilians: David Sharp, Don Hyatt, David Klein, Sean Garrity and Ed Heidt

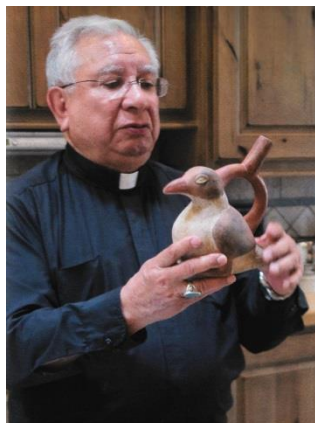
Dave Klein works three mornings a week at one of the local hospitals and has Sunday Mass at San Isidro parish and a monthly Mass at a nursing home.

Ed Heidt assists with the anointing of the sick at the Cathedral and at Saint Albert the Great Newman Center. He also helped his mother and sister publish and market his mom's memoirs and is working on his own for his 50th anniversary of profession in 2016.

Sean Garrity serves as Pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Church in Albuquerque. Sean lost two close family members within three months of each other, his mom and a brother-in-law, in the spring. Then at the end of the year he lost his good friend Father Art Roberts.

Don Hyatt lives in Monticello, New Mexico. He is still Chairman of the Sierra County Citizen's Review Board for Abused and Neglected Children. He has weekly Mass at the Veteran's Home and he also has Masses in Hillsboro and Monticello on a monthly basis. He attends bible study in T or C, and has weekly meditation groups in Monticello. He also is involved in a book club and a few other activities.

David Sharp continues his life and ministry in Wickenburg, Arizona, taking communion to the elderly and occasionally facilitating retreats.



Bishop Emeritus Ricardo Ramírez attended the beatification of Mons. Oscar Arnulfo Romero in El Salvador in May. He also completed a book entitled *Power from the Margins: The Emergence of the Latino in Church and Society*. Orbis Press will be publishing the book in 2016. Ricardo has been named as the "Postulator of the Cause" for the beatification of Sister Blandina Segale. Sister Blandina was a Sister of Charity of Cincinnati, who established the first schools, both Catholic and public, and the first hospitals in Colorado and New Mexico. She worked with early settlers and even reached out to outlaws like Billy the Kid. Ricardo presented her cause to the Congregation of the Canonization of Saints at the Vatican.

The Basilian Fathers of Novi

Novi, MI



The confreres of the Basilian Fathers of Novi continue to serve God's people of the Archdiocese of Detroit at Detroit Cristo Rey High School, St. Catherine of Siena Academy, and Detroit Catholic Central High School. In addition to these educational ministries, a number of confreres assist in pastoral roles in various local parishes.

John Huber continues his work in two significant positions: President of Catholic Central and Third Councilor on the General Council. It has been a challenge for him to balance the two

responsibilities. Catholic Central is

in the midst of a 10-million dollar capital campaign geared towards student safety, financial assistance to families of modest incomes, and teacher attraction and salary enhancement. John also serves as vice-chairman of the board of Detroit Cristo Rey High School, and is a weekend assistant at Saint Fabian's Parish in Farmington Hills. As Councilor he carries the portfolios for Mexico, Colombia and France, and oversees those confrères on graduate studies. Early in the year he attended the Latin American Committee Meeting in Sugar Land and the Formators meeting in Houston. In April he did the visitation of St. Kateri Parish in Rochester. In June he represented the Council at Father René Robert's funeral in Annonay, and then attended the Scholastic Gathering in Mexico City. In September he did an extraordinary visit of the Basilian Fathers of East Rochester. In November he visited San Basilio Parish and the Scholasticate in Medellin.

Dennis Noelke is Superior of the Local Community and Principal of Detroit Catholic Central. In addition to these responsibilities, he continues to serve on the Board of St. Michael's College School, Toronto, is board member of CRSIRP Insurance Ltd., Toronto, and the Cristo Rey Corporate Work Study Board, Detroit. On weekends when there are not school events, Dennis enjoys the opportunity to assist at a variety of local parishes. In his spare time, Dennis enjoys going to school events, cooking for the confreres, and visiting with his family.



In August the local community celebrated the incorporation of CC graduate, Sean Ajluni. Sean graduated in 2015 and is attending Franciscan University of Steubenville

Bill Riegel, while officially retired, Bill keeps an active schedule at Catholic Central and is part of the Campus Ministry Team and Guidance Department. Bill is particularly active assisting with student retreats, both the day retreats and Kairos weekend retreats. Bill stepped back into the classroom in the fall, substituting for a Theology teacher who was on a short-term medical leave. Bill is in his second term as a member of the Catholic Central High School Board. Bill was elected by the local community to serve as first counselor.



Dick Elmer is President Emeritus of Catholic Central and continues to assist as needed in the school's Advancement Office.

Additionally, he serves as Chaplain for St Catherine of Siena Academy (Girls' High School), is a team member to open a new Elementary/Secondary School for Special Needs Students. Dick is also on-call for weekend Masses at nearby churches. Dick serves the local community as second councilor. At the beginning of the new school year, tribute was given to Dick Elmer for his many efforts on behalf of Catholic Central over the years. Prior to the start of the first football game of the season, the Catholic Central stadium was dedicated as the Father Richard Elmer Stadium. In addition to those in attendance for the game, Dick was joined by many alumni and friends for the occasion.

Jim O'Neill continues in his roles as teacher of Biology at Catholic Central High School specializing in a freshman homeroom, raising salmon in the classroom for spring release, and tapping school maple trees for sap in the spring. His students all enjoy the taste of fresh maple syrup. He also serves as the school Chaplain and Moderator of Athletics. At the house, Jim keeps busy at maintaining the grounds, plowing snow in winter cutting lawns and trimming trees in the growing season and keeping up with maintenance around the house changing light bulbs and making minor repairs. In the summer, Jim disappears to the Canadian side of the border for a quiet couple of weeks on Pelee Island.

Ray Paramo spent the year working on the *Aluminator*, the Catholic Central Alumni magazine. Deftly scheduling between issues, he spent the early part of 2015 visiting old friends in Argentina including his largest friend, Aconcagua, the highest mountain in the western hemisphere. In the summer he was invited on a cruise to Iceland where he visited volcanoes, waterfalls and straddled the connection between North America and Europe. One month after returning he was struck by a cardiac episode that hospitalized him for a month. The local doctors had no idea what was going on until his nephew, a cardiologist in California, did the correct diagnosis at a distance.

John Wheeler, in his 7th year of retirement from teaching, continues to remain active. Part of his good health can be explained by the fact that he does a 2-hour work-out at the Livonia Rec Center three or four times a week. At the residence, he continues to provide the confreres with beer, soda and sundry snacks. While serving as weekend assistant at St Priscilla Church in Livonia, he also helps as needed in eight other surrounding parishes, assisting with reconciliation services, funerals, daily and weekend Masses, as well as a number of hospital and nursing home visits. He has continued serving as chaplain on various cruises, which he enjoys very much. At CC, he continues his longstanding involvement with the Alumni Glee Club, and the soccer teams. His support of the soccer program, which he helped initiate, goes back to 1979. John continues to volunteer as usher for both the Detroit Symphony and the Michigan Opera.

Basilian Scholasticate

Houston TX

Members: David Bittner (*Director of Scholastics*), Oscar Carbajal, Steven Huber, Eduardo Rivera, Richard Wahl

Community Life

As is true of all local houses, the community life of the Scholasticate revolves around our schedule of common prayer, Mass, and meals. This schedule (which is adjusted from time to time as needed) is punctuated by special events which give spice to our common life. This portion of our report will concentrate on these special events.

At the beginning of 2015, the community consisted of two priests (Dave Bittner and Richard Wahl) and two scholastics (Steven Huber and Kevin Mannara). Kevin moved to Windsor in July. Two new scholastics joined our community in late summer – Eduardo Rivera and Oscar Carbajal.

These personnel changes were normal and expected. While they did change the dynamic of our life together, a much larger (and for the most part unexpected) change began in early February, when we were informed by the university that one of our two houses (1124 Colquitt) would be one of three townhouses torn down in the early summer as part of necessary preparations for building the new Center for Science and Health Professions. In addition, the university needed the other townhouse (1132 Colquitt) for another program. Thus, we needed to find a new home for the Scholasticate and move there by the end of April. While we had known that that there was a very good chance that we would need to move during the summer of 2015, we did not expect to have to find a new place and move there during the semester. Fortunately, Kevin Storey worked with a real estate agent to find us two new townhouses – 3254 and 3258 Las Palmas Street (near West Alabama and Wesleyan). We moved there on Wednesday, April 22. (*The Scholasticate chapel is pictured at the right.*)



Most of our other special events were much less stressful. The Los Angeles Religious Education Congress took place at the Anaheim Convention Center March 13-15, 2015. Since these dates coincided with the final days of Spring Break at both the UST Main Campus and St. Mary's Seminary, the scholastics (Kevin Mannara and Steven Huber) and their director flew to southern California to attend this huge, but quite worthwhile event. We hope to be able to participate in the Congress in future years.

In order to prepare for the gathering of scholastics in Mexico City in late June, Kevin Mannara, Steven Huber, and Dave Bittner spent three weeks (June 1-19) studying Spanish at Personalized Spanish, a language immersion program in Tres Ríos, Costa Rica. Grammar studies and conversational practice at the school were supplemented by special cultural events at the school, as well as meals and daily life with our host families.

Our new-found facility with Spanish was put to good use during the Primer *Encuentro de Escolásticos* (First Gathering of Scholastics) in Mexico City and Tehuacán, June 24-28. It was a real privilege to get to

know our Mexican and Colombian confrères during these days together. At the end of the *Encuentro*, the scholastics met together at the Mexican Scholasticate in order to begin planning for the 2016 *Encuentro* in Colombia.

October 15-17 saw another gathering of scholastics when the four scholastics from Canada and the United States (Kevin from Windsor; Steven, Oscar, and Eduardo from Houston) and their director went to Catholic Theological Union in Chicago to participate in the conference "The Global Call of Religious Life Today" which was presented by the Center for the Study of Consecrated Life at CTU. All of us benefitted from the excellent presentations on Consecrated Life as well as the opportunity to meet men and women religious from various countries around the world.



From left to right:
Oscar Carbajal,
Eduardo Rivera,
Rich Wahl,
Steven Huber,
David Bittner

Our house Christmas Party took place on Sunday, December 20. We were joined by four guests for Evening Prayer, social and dinner -- one UST undergraduate student who is interested in possibly becoming a Basilian associate and three Vietnamese Redemptorist scholastics studying at St. Mary's Seminary.

Looking forward to 2016, we are looking forward to four major events. January 4-8, Joe Pilsner will preach our house retreat at the Cenacle in Houston on the theme of the spirituality of our patron, St. Basil the Great. February 26-28 will see us returning to Anaheim, California for the Los Angeles Religious Education Conference. In late June, we will head to Medellín, Colombia for the Segundo Encuentro de Escolásticos (Second Gathering of Scholastics). Finally, we hope to move to our new, permanent home some time during the summer.

Individual Members

Dave Bittner, the Director of Scholastics, continues to teach in the Theology Department at the University of St. Thomas. During the Spring Term, he taught one section of the first year course,

Introduction to Sacred Scripture, as well as a scripture course to permanent deacon candidates in the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas, via the distance education facilities at St. Mary's Seminary. During the Fall Term, he continued to teach the scripture course at UST, and added a section of the second year course on *The Teachings of the Catholic Church*. In addition to his teaching duties, he celebrates Masses at the UST Chapel of St. Basil and St. Anne's Church as needed. He also has been a member of the Board of Directors of St. Thomas High School since the summer; he serves on the Finance Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Dave was able to make three scuba diving trips in 2014: two to Hawaii (February and October), and a one-week LiveAboard dive trip aboard the *Maldives Aggressor* in July. He was one of four divers on the Maldives trip to complete all twenty-one of the possible dives, thus earning his second "Iron Diver" award. The highlight of that trip, however, was swimming with whale sharks (the largest fish in the sea) not once but twice – another critter checked off the scuba diving bucket list!

Oscar Carbajal writes: "After I completed my novitiate year under the direction of my two stupendous novice masters, Father Paul Walsh CSB, and Father Jim Carruthers CSB, I professed first vows on July 17, 2015 in the Cardinal Flahiff, Basilian Chapel, Toronto, Canada. In September, after a wonderful visit with my family and friends, I arrived at the Scholasticate in Houston and I began classes at the English Language School. It helped me to improve my English and I made many friends from all over the world. Now I am ready to start classes at Saint Mary's Seminary on January 19, 2016. I am so blessed with this exceptional community which is constantly sustained with affection, esteem and prayers by the confreres. All I can say together with the Psalmist is "How can I repay the Lord for all the good done for me?"



Steven Huber is in his second year of Theological Studies at St. Mary's Seminary. In addition to his studies, he continues his involvement in music ministry at the Chapel of St. Basil, the Youth Music Ministry at St. Anne's, and in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocesan Choir. In addition to providing the music for several Archdiocesan Liturgies, this year, the choir also gave a concert of Durufle's Requiem. Steven continues to enjoy attending Houston Symphony concerts, and is looking forward to becoming an uncle for the first time in 2016, as his brother and sister-in-law are expecting their first child.

Eduardo Rivera, professed first vows at the chapel of St. Basil at the University of St. Thomas on August 1, 2015. He then began his first year of theology at St. Mary's seminary and enjoys preparing a class of children for their first communion at St. Anne's parish.

Richard Wahl, continued in many responsibilities. He is the Assistant Director of Scholastics and House Bursar, Adjutant Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal, teaches Introduction to Canon Law at St. Mary Seminary in the Fall, and weekly Eucharist celebrant at St Basil Chapel at the University of St. Thomas, Holy Cross Chapel, and Incarnate Word Sisters' Mother House. In August, he enjoyed a week at the Beach House at Surfside. He was priest member of Engaged Encounters in August and September. He attended the Canon law Convention in October. In November, he led the BLA retreat with studies of *Misericordiae Vultus* and *Laudato Si*.

Dillon House

Houston, TX

Dillon House was never a just a “House.” It always has been a home to those living here. We presently have eleven: Phillip Acquaro, Carl Belisch, James Blocher, Wilfred Canning, William Frankenberger, Robert Klem, William Sheehan and Paul O’Conner our Superior. Living here as well are Patrick Braden, George Hosko and Janusz Ihnatowitz. Pat, George and Janusz will be leaving here at the completion of the new Residence at the University of St Thomas in late Summer 2016.

Associated with the Dillon House are James Gaunt, Roy Oggero and Joseph Roussel. They are residing at St. Dominic Villa to receive more medical supervision than we can provide at Dillon House. It is close enough from here to visit them frequently and they come here for special occasions.

If one were to describe the tone of Dillon House it would be one of conviviality and hospitality. Our dining room overlooking a lovely garden has one large table. Regarding conviviality one only has to be at lunch or dinner to hear lively discussions intermingled with wit. When disputes arise they are readily solved by one or

other at table who googles the solution from their I-Phone. We get our own breakfast. Lunch is served at noon six days a week and dinner five days a week at 5:30. Evening prayer is at 5:00 PM. Tuesday is reserved for our Community Mass at 4:45 followed with a collation



served from the kitchen. Every feast and holiday, birthdays and anniversaries are celebrated with great aplomb. In early December we had an open house on the occasion of Carl Belisch’s 50th anniversary of ordination. An estimated 80 persons, many former students were present. We also celebrated the 60th anniversary of Wilf Canning. Art Roberts too celebrated his 60th in June of this year.

A large dinner is prepared for Thanksgiving and the local houses are invited. The conferees from Dominic Villa are also present if they are able to come. A football pool for the NFL playoff is very popular. The recreation room has a very large TV on which we watch the game and it too draws members of other houses. And Easter morning begins with an egg hunt in which each egg contains a prize for the finder.



Pat Braden, born in 1924, is a senior member at Dillon House. His energy level is down somewhat but during 2015 he checked on the progress of the construction at the new Basilian Residence at 4019 Yoakum and kept the Dillon House community updated.

We have countless guests throughout the year both Basilian and lay. Our Basilian guests from Toronto keep us well abreast of Community affairs and Bill Sheehan has unparalleled access to Vatican affairs so between them we are well informed of goings-on in our Community and in Rome in these exciting times.



Community Mass in the Dillon House Chapel

A word must be said about the apostolic work the confreres do for the Diocese of Houston. Every priest has the occasion to serve various parishes and convents in the area and every day one or more of us go out to serve. During Advent and Lent many of us volunteer to hear Confessions.

Unfortunately during 2015 we lost three wonderful Basilians. Bob Ritz died at the age of 88 in February after a long illness. In November Bob Duggan, recently appointed here, died of a fall while visiting his family in Detroit. Bob was 80 years old. In December Art Roberts, residing at St. Dominic Villa passed away. Art was 88.

Wilfred Canning, a resident of Dillon House, a Houston native and a graduate of St. Thomas High School as well as a long-time Latin instructor there, celebrated his 60th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood in 2015.

"Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit."



Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church / Cameron House

Angleton / Rosharon, Texas

Members: David J. Zapalac (Pastor) and Juan Carlos Rojas Ramos (Parochial Vicar)

Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church/Cameron House experienced a major hail storm in April of 2015. Luckily, our insurance covered the cost of replacing the roof on the church, hall, and office buildings. In October we received the sad news that **Father Robert Duggan**, a former pastor of Most Holy Trinity had passed away. We received the news while we were having our annual Fall Festival. There were prayers said for him and a moment of silence was observed in his memory. A memorial Mass for **Father Duggan** was held later in October with **Father David Zapalac** presiding and **Deacon Rob Ward** delivering the homily.

Also in October, the parish was informed of the Basilian Fathers' decision to withdraw from the parish. Everyone was deeply saddened by this news due to our long history in Angleton. A farewell Mass and celebration of the Basilians' dedication to our parish is planned for June. In November, it was Most Holy Trinity's turn to host the Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving celebration with the many churches of different faiths in the area. The evening began with fellowship during a huge turkey dinner and ended with an ecumenical service of song and prayer. Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church continues to serve the Catholic Community of Angleton and has 1,440 registered families.



Father Juan Carlos Rojas Ramos CSB serves our Spanish speaking community as well as celebrating the Mass in English. He serves the Spanish Legion of Mary organization at our parish and makes calls and visits to our parishioners. He also helps out our neighboring parishes by celebrating Masses in Spanish. He enrolled in classes at the University of Houston this past semester. Everyone at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church is glad to have a young priest who is fluent in Spanish to serve our community.

Father David J. Zapalac CSB serves as pastor at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Angleton and as dean of the Southern Deanery of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. He is also a member of the Human Development Grants Committee.

St. Anne's Parish

Houston, TX

Al Sinasac: As Rector and Pastor, Al continues to shepherd the flock at St. Anne's with patience and pastoral care. He's continued the practice of inviting various parish groups to the rectory for socials to express appreciation for their service, including a group of male altar servers with the hope that they might consider becoming Basilians one day. At his invitation, several confreres from St. Thomas High School, The University of St. Thomas and Dillon House, are serving as celebrants at the many parish Masses and reconciliation services.



During the latter half of the year, Al has served as coordinator for a number of improvements to the Basilian Beach House in Surfside, Texas. These include substantial structural corrections, remodeling of the entire house, including improving the view of the beach and Galveston Bay. The Beach House improvements will be completed by January 1st, 2016, and we invite all Basilians to visit and enjoy our recreational home away from home. Now hanging in the Beach house is an Icon created by BLA Sylvia Salinas, entitled, "Mary, Star of the Sea."

(a picture of the Icon is seen at the left).

Finally, in his position as Pastor, Al led the parishioners in two very successful projects that built parish community and raised money for St. Anne's School and other educational programs: net proceeds from the Parish Gala was \$700,000.00 and the Parish Fiesta returned \$200,000; this was the best ever for both of these events !

Jay Walsh: Jay continues to serve as Parochial Vicar to the English speaking parishioners. This year, Jay turned 80 and celebrated his 50th anniversary of Basilian Priesthood which was celebrated by parishioners at a special Eucharist and parish reception. Jay praises the Lord that he's still enjoying good health, with the help of two hip replacements during the past 5 years. His ministries include serving with the RCIA program, the vocation committee, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the parish Altar Society. Golfing and fishing continue to be his favorite hobbies. Again, a popular item at the Parish Gala to raise money for school scholarships was to go fishing with Jay and receive casting instructions. This year the fresh water trip with him raised \$7,000.00.

Rene Espejel: René continues to serve the Hispanic Community of St. Anne's, which includes over forty percent of the community, with people coming to St. Anne's from many parts of Houston, including people who come from Mexico, Guatemala, Venezuela, Peru and Cuba among other countries. René leads the people in celebrating their various liturgical customs. Like Al and Jay, René tries to keep in relatively good physical condition by regular exercise.



St. Basil's Novitiate

Sugar Land, TX



One novice, Mr. Eduardo Rivera, was professed on August 1, 2015 at St. Basil's Chapel at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. Eduardo is from Houston and graduated from the University of St. Thomas in 2014. Eduardo spent the last month of his Novitiate in Toronto since there was another novice there, Mr. Oscar Carbajal Garcia from El Salvador, who could not get into the USA, under the direction of Father Jim Carruthers. (Mr. Omar Daniel Garza withdrew from the Novitiate.)

Pictured above: Vince Dulock CSB, George Smith CSB, Eduardo Rivera CSB and Bob Duggan CSB

Since there are no novices for 2015-2016 Father Vince Dulock took a sabbatical and spent three months in the Holy Land from September to December at Ecce Homo in the Old City of Jerusalem (one month) and two months at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute also in Jerusalem but in the newer part of Jerusalem outside the walls of the old City. The Tantur Institute is run by Notre Dame University in the United States.

There was also the tragic death of Father Bob Duggan this year who was associate Novice Director who had gone to Detroit, his hometown, in September, planning to return to Houston and retire at Dillon House. He fell in a tragic accident and broke his neck and was paralyzed from the neck down and could not speak. He went to the Lord shortly after the accident with his family surrounding him and loving him and mourning him in the hospital room.

The Congregation is considering moving the Novitiate so something has to be done to the 106th St. house, either selling it or repurposing it. There are six small rooms and two suites for priests and one guest room. Anyone having any ideas as to what can be done with this house can contact Father George Smith or Father Vince Dulock with your ideas. Vince will remain in the house until the end of the summer of 2016 to dispose of the books and furniture and / or repurpose the house as the case may be.



St. Joseph Mission Center Sugar Land TX

The St. Joseph Center is the business office for The Basilian Fathers Missions, located in Sugar Land, Texas. The center is where Father John L. Boscoe, CSB (Mission Procurator) presides over the day to day operations for the various ministries in Latin America. He is assisted by his Executive Assistant and Business Manager, Rosina Blanco, who joined the center this year after the sudden death of Al Ewer.



The center is located in the oldest sections of Sugar Land and has served for many years as a central headquarters and residence for the Basilian Priests working among the Hispanic community of South Texas. The principal work of St. Joseph Center continues to be the support of the Basilian Fathers working in Colombia and Mexico and their varied apostolic activities.

Rosina Blanco and John Boscoe, CSB

Basilians Associated with St. Joseph's Center

Jamie Abercrombie CSB is in residence at the Holy Rosary Church in Rosenberg. He celebrates the Eucharist on weekends and holy days at St. Wenceslas in Beasley, the mission community of Holy Rosary. He also helps with Masses at Holy Rosary on weekends and during the week. He is 77 years old and his health is still relatively good. When he is in Houston, he visits his Basilian brothers, especially at Dillon House and he makes frequent visits to Sugar Land.

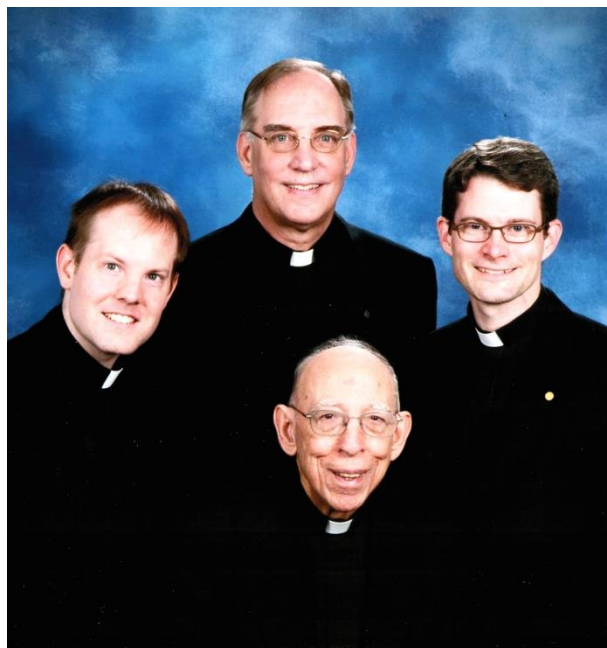
Tom Sepulveda, CSB ministers in Rio Grande City, TX at Immaculate Conception Church. During three and a half years at Immaculate Conception Parish, there have been three newly ordained Parochial Vicars. In June, Father Jesús Guadalupe Garza was ordained and appointed Assistant Pastor. Additionally, a seminarian studying at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston, was appointed to pastoral work at the parish during vacation periods. All of these men have been outstanding to both live and work with. The community is flourishing due to the ministry of many people. Tom is teaching at the local Catholic High School, San Juan Academy in Mission, TX. Tom was appointed by Bishop Flores as chaplain at South Texas College (STC), a junior college located in Rio Grande City.

Basilian Fathers of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Irondequoit, NY

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha is the largest parish in the Diocese of Rochester, in only its 5th year of existence as a parish.

Paul English CSB, pastor. Morgan Rice CSB, parochial vicar, Joe Trovato CSB, senior priest. Warren Schmidt CSB, intern / deacon, later ordained priest, he moved to Paris in October to pursue doctoral studies at the *Institut Catholique de Paris*.

You'll find the local community gathering on Monday afternoons for Weekly faith sharing, using the readings of the following Sunday. Lay Associate Jim Anderson frequently joins them. Members of the house continue to cook for one another. On January 2 we celebrated St. Basil's Day Mass with local Basilians, BLA and friends, followed by breakfast. On June 14 there was the "Other" St. Basil's day celebration at the Christ the King residence for local Basilians and BLA.



Paul English, is the pastor of Saint Kateri. In 2015, he spent his Friday afternoons and evenings visiting his mother until her death on March 15. Paul continued as member of Aquinas Institute Board (and executive committee and academic mission committee). He worked with Father Rafael Lopera, CSB in the preparation of Inaugural International Scholastic Gathering in Mexico City, and joined the group, directing the gathering along with Rafael.

In January, he took some vacation time in Mexico. In March he gave a day of Reflection for Diocese of Rochester Hispanic Ministry. On March 15 Paul's mother died. In April, Paul began training in a gym. Through May-September, he participated in the parish golf league. In June he was a facilitator of the Inaugural International Scholastic Gathering in Mexico.

This year, Paul was elected to Diocese of Rochester Presbyteral Council, representing the Religious priests in the diocese. On October 10, he preached at funeral of Bob Duggan. In December he gave a presentation to the Funeral Directors' Association re: "Catholic Funeral Rites and opportunities for eulogies." In November, he was named ordained coordinator of Rochester BLA. On December 16 Paul gave the St. Michael's Parish Advent Day of Reflection in Livonia, NY and on December 21 he gave the Peace of Christ Parish Advent Day of Reflection.



**Christ the King Church in St. Kateri Parish
Irondequoit, NY**

Morgan Rice continued to serve the Basilian Congregation as a member of the General Council, with the attendant meetings and visitations which had him on the road (or in the air) frequently. He is a member of the Rochester Muslim-Catholic Alliance. Morgan and his family traveled this year to the Galapagos Islands and had a fascinating and relaxing time. He continues to be an important presence to the children of Saint Kateri School with his morning visits.

**Paul English CSB,
Morgan Rice CSB,
and parishioners of
St. Kateri Parish
traveled to
Philadelphia for the
visit of Pope Francis
in September 2015**



Warren Schmidt wrote from Paris: “I give thanks to my confrères and to the people of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish for two blessed years there. In September 2015 I began doctoral studies at l'Institut Catholique de Paris, France, in liturgical and sacramental theology. My particular focus is on the pneumatic units of Catholic sacramental rituals: Where the Holy Spirit is invoked in our sacramental celebrations and the liturgical, historical, and ecumenical significance of these ritual units.”

Joseph Trovato continues to bear the title of the hardest-working Senior Priest in the Diocese of Rochester. He is a wise presence in the local community and in the parish. We are blessed with his pastoral ministry and participation in the celebration of the Eucharist and preaching, the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick, with frequent Baptisms and hospital and home visits. As a “senior priest” Joe does not have to participate in meetings. He really sets a fine example as a prayerful religious. Joe is faithful to his health regimen, taking frequent walks, maintaining his diet and balancing work with rest. He is a Knight of Columbus and plays regularly in the summer golf league.



St. Thomas High School

Houston, TX

Members: Robert Glass (Superior), Patrick Fulton, Albert Gaelens, James Murphy, Ronald Schwenzer, Kevin Storey and Mitch Dowalgo (arrived in August), Les Schaefer (in residence at St. Dominic's Center).



School enrollment at St. Thomas beginning in August totals 776 students with tuition at \$15,500. About 30% of the students receive some tuition assistance that is raised through a number of Fund raising activities during the year. This year the annual "Round Up" with a car raffle and Bazaar in March and the Annual Auction on November 7th raised record funds.

The biggest event in the 115 year history of St. Thomas High School is the purchase of the Houston Independent

School District's property on the north side of our Campus for \$55 Million dollars. Father Kevin Storey and many alumni worked hard for a full year to raise the money needed and the official signing of the purchase papers was on December 15, 2014. It will be at least another year before we actually get the full use of the property. Father Storey and alumni continue to raise funds for the renovations that will be necessary when St. Thomas takes over the property.

Robert Glass has been Superior since September 2010. He continues to be the Assistant Dean of Students. He is Chaplain to the Mothers Club and Tom's Moms. He is on the Board of Directors for the School, the Foundation Board for the Endowment and the Board of the Basilian Fathers of Texas. He offers the Friday Morning Mass at school and helps out at Incarnate Word Convent and the Cenacle Retreat House. He is active in the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher with the rank of Knight Commander.

Patrick Fulton is the Principal of St. Thomas High School and serves as first councilor for our local community and offers the Wednesday morning school Mass. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Regis School and Duchesne Academy, both Sacred Heart Network schools.

Albert Gaelens is retired from school activities but still keeps track of deceased St. Thomas Alumni and their relatives in the daily newspaper. He coordinates the Basilian assignments for parish Mass requests on Sundays and Incarnate Word Sisters Convent on 4 days a week and the Cenacle Sisters on the 2nd and 4th Monday every month. He is also available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesdays for the students at school during their lunch periods. Since he no longer drives, a representative from a parish and the convent provide the necessary transportation for his services.

James Murphy was the 1st councilor for our house community from January to August until he went to Boston College for Graduate Studies. While at St. Thomas, Jim was very much involved in various activities. He taught 10th grade Theology and assisted in Campus Ministry for various school retreats and offered the morning school Mass on Thursdays. As an assistant Drama Director, Jim helped stage the Spring Play and also served the Athletic Department as Chaplain and the announcer at sporting events. Jim is currently perfecting his Boston accent while studying Educational Leadership. His family and the Jesuits with whom he lives are quite happy to have him around. This year he has performed the National Anthem in front of 38,000 for a Houston Astros game and learned to sail on Boston Harbor.

Ronald Schwenzer is retired from ordinary school activities. He continues to head the project of building a new Basilian residence for the priests and scholastics on the site of the former Basilian residence on the University of St. Thomas campus. Completion of the project is expected in June of 2016. Ron celebrates Mass on Mondays in the school chapel and helps regularly with parish Masses and confessions at St. Anne's. He continues to trim the bushes on the school campus and looks after the backyard of our residence. He oversees the kitchen and does the grocery shopping for the house.



Kevin Storey continues to be the President of St. Thomas High School and also serves on the Basilian General Council. Furthermore, he is on the Board of Incarnate Word Academy and also was asked to be the chaplain for the Charity Guild of Catholic Women.

Father Kevin Storey CSB, President and Ms. Christine Westman, Assistant Principal, award diplomas at STHS.

Following the success Phase 1 of "4500 Forever Campaign" which raised \$54 million, Phase II was launched in 2015 for the remaining \$12 million. Kevin accepted the award for Campaign of the Year on behalf of St. Thomas High School from the Association Fundraising Professionals at their annual banquet.

A highlight of the year for Kevin was celebrating Mass along with Father Jim Murphy for Craig Biggio and his family prior to Craig's induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame in

Cooperstown on July 26. In addition, Kevin was recognized with Father Patrick Fulton by St. Ambrose Catholic School as honorees for their school gala.

Mitchell Dowalgo participated in the New Directions sabbatical program at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkley, California from January to June. Upon returning to Houston in August, he joined the staff of St. Thomas High School as the Director of Faith Formation and celebrates Mass on Tuesdays in the school chapel.



The Basilian Fathers at the University of St. Thomas Houston TX

The Basilians have been dispersed from our home to various places since September 2014. On January 29, 2015, Mike Buentello celebrated the Mass of St. Thomas Aquinas to an enthusiastic congregation; he continues to serve the Houston community as Campus Minister and Rector for the Basilians of UST;



Joseph Pilsner was Dean of Arts and Sciences until August, George Hosko continues in the Library and Ted Baenziger teaches courses in French. Pat Braden, President emeritus, continues to serve on the Board of Directors, while Janusz Ihnatowitz, a diocesan priest from Poland, enjoys retirement by celebrating Mass here every week; these two plus George Hosko, are living at Dillon House. Ted Baenziger continues as Secretary to the Senate and Faculty Council (sixth year), as well as curé of the Chapelle St-Thomas, our francophone community now in its 32nd year (164 catechism students; ten baptisms, a couple of weddings, and, for an historic first, Cardinal DiNardo coming to do 18 confirmations in May).

We had the visits of the Superior General, George Smith, who also serves on the Board of Directors of UST, as well as that of Bishop Ricardo Ramírez, CSB, emeritus of Las Cruces and Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB of Vancouver, president emeritus of UST. Other visitors include Jose Del Toro, Anthony Giampietro and Daniel Porter. Bill Frankenberger continues to help out for confessions every Friday.

August 1st was the first Profession of Vows by our alumnus Eduardo Rivera, and a truly joyous occasion. We now have three scholastics in seminary at St. Mary's; the other two are Steven Huber, who provides much appreciated vocal and liturgical service at UST, and Oscar Carbajal Garcia. At the University the pressure was on to raise the 45 million necessary to begin building the Health Professions and Science building, kitty-corner from our (new) house: the groundbreaking took place November 12. The campaign was hard-fought but successful thus far.

All too soon, classes resumed in August, and once again, Ted spoke to the Freshman about the Basilian founding of the University in 1947. Since 2011 he has been teaching in the Biology Department in the Genetics laboratory, using the orchid collection as a basis for scientific investigation; and UST has three papers already published on the matter. The weekend of October 1, in Pittsburgh, Ted was installed as President of Semiotic Society of America to serve one year. Their fall meeting will be in Florida; he is also the president and vice-president of two local Orchid Societies.



The new Basilian Residence and Basilian Scholasticate is taking shape on the UST Campus.

Are we healthy? More or less ... yes. Pat Braden is a nonagenarian, George Hosko has had a couple of hospital stays, and Mike Buentello had a fall in November that resulted in a knee operation. The other two seem OK, although Joe Pilsner is on leave until January 2016, when he takes up full-time teaching again and Ted Baenziger is officially retiring from full-time teaching in May of 2016. Our new residence should be ready for occupancy by the Scholastics, Dave Bittner, Dick Wahl, and by the UST Basilians in the late summer of 2016.



**St. Basil's
Chapel**

**University of
St. Thomas**

**Phillip Johnson,
architect**

Associated Member

Anthony Giampietro continues his work as the Director of Development for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. He is busy with his work in California but he is able to make occasional visits to Houston and to the Hartford CT area where his family resides.

His publications include: "The Church Can be a Great Ally" (http://www.catholic-sf.org/news_select.php&newsid=27&id=58007/printer_friendly.php?id=63300); "The Many Feasts of Christmas" (<http://www.catholic-sf.org/ns.php?newsid=7&id=63040>); review of *One Body: An Essay in Christian Sexual Ethics*, By Alexander Pruss (American Philosophical Quarterly, Winter 2015).



Los Padres Basilianos en México

02 de Enero, celebración de la Comunidad en el Santuario Guadalupano de la ciudad.

Iniciamos el año 2015 celebrando la fiesta de San Basilio en el Santuario Guadalupano de la ciudad de Tehuacán. El Escolasticado en la ciudad de México (Alejandro Romero CSB, Alberto Juárez CSB, Alejandro Estrada CSB y Antonio Ibáñez) El Noviciado en Tehuacán (Pablo Walsh CSB, Alberto Ferrara CSB, Tomás Dugan CSB, Javier de la Rosa CSB, Arturo Juan Jerónimo CSB y Oscar Carbajal CSB) y la casa Parroquial de San Lorenzo (Roberto Rojas CSB, Jess Owens CSB y Daniel Porter CSB) iniciamos este año con alegría y esperanza.

January 2, celebration of the community in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Tehuacán

We began 2015 celebrating the Feast of St. Basil in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Tehuacán. Present were the members of the Scholasticate community from Mexico City (Alejandro Romero CSB, Alberto Juarez CSB, Alejandro Estrada CSB, y Antonio Ibáñez); the Novitiate Community from Tehuacán ((Pablo Walsh CSB, Alberto Ferrara CSB, Tomás Dugan CSB, Javier de la Rosa CSB, Arturo Juan Jerónimo CSB y Oscar Carbajal CSB) and the parish community from San Lorenzo (Roberto Rojas CSB, Jess Owens CSB y Daniel Porter CSB). We began the year with joy and hope



Semana de Mayo, retiro Comunitario: dirigido por la hermana Laura Solano HCSSCCJM con la presencia de los padres Terry Kersch CSB y Juan Carlos Rojas CSB juntos con la comunidad Basiliana en México.

En la última semana de Mayo, culminamos el año pastoral y escolar con el retiro anual de la Comunidad en México. Como desde hace varios años nos reunimos en la casa de los Focolares en una villa llamada Maríapolis; el tópico del retiro fue el año de la Vida Consagrada.

Week-long retreat in May: Attended by Terry Kersch, CSB and Juan Carlos Rojas, CSB. The retreat was directed by Sister Laura Solano HCSSCCJM.

In the last week of May, we concluded the pastoral and academic year with the annual retreat of the Mexican Basilian Community. As we have done for the past several years, we came together in the Focolare House at a retreat center called Maríapolis; the theme of the retreat was the Year of Consecrated Life.

Junio, encuentro de Escolásticos en la ciudad de México

En la segunda semana del mes de Junio, la comunidad recibió a los hermanos escolásticos de Medellín y Houston. Durante algunos días contamos con la presencia de los padres del Consejo General (George Smith CSB, Kevin Storey CSB y John Huber CSB), los maestros de Escolásticos (David Bittner CSB, Óscar Gómez CSB y Alejandro Romero CSB)con la atinada dirección del encuentro de los padres: Rafael Lopera CSB y Pablo English CSB.

The meeting of the Basilian Scholastics in Mexico City in June

During the second week of June, the Mexican community welcomed the bother scholastics from Medellín and Houston. George Smith CSB, Kevin Storey CSB, and John Huber CSB of the General Council were also present along with the three Masters of Scholastics, David Bittner CSB,



Óscar Gómez CSB, and Alejandro Romero CSB. We were fortunate to have the insightful direction of Rafael Lopera CSB and Paul English CSB.

05 de Julio, celebración de despedida del P. Tomás Dugan CSB.

Un acontecimiento que ha marcado la presencia Basiliaria en México fue la despedida del p. Tomás Dugan CSB: *“Un hombre que tocó el manto de Jesús y luego ha dedicado su existencia a tocar la vida de incontables personas que lo recuerdan en la memoria entrañable del corazón. Lo recordaremos siempre caminando o en su bicicleta, saludando alegremente a la gente entre las calles –todavía- polvorientas de San Lorenzo, le recordaremos siempre visitando a los enfermos en su casa y en los hospitales, sanándolos –eso se cuenta- o ayudándolos a bien morir...”* (P. Roberto Rojas CSB)



July 5, the farewell celebration for Father Thomas Dugan CSB

An event that marked the end of an era in Mexico was the farewell celebrations for Father Tom Dugan CSB. Father Roberto Rojas CSB affirmed: *“This is a man who has touched the garment of Jesus and then has dedicated himself to touch the lives of innumerable persons who remember him in the intimate memory of their hearts. We will remember him always walking or riding his bike greeting everyone on his way on the still dusty streets of San Lorenzo. We will always remember him visiting the sick in their homes or in the hospitals, curing them – this is what is said – or at least helping them to have a peaceful death.”*

25 de Julio, Primera Profesión de dos hermanos: Javier y Arturo Juan

En la fiesta del apóstol Santiago, la comunidad celebró la primera profesión de Javier de la Rosa CSB y Arturo Juan Jerónimo CSB, con la presencia del P. George Smith CSB Superior General y la comunidad parroquial de san Lorenzo, nuestros hermanos profesaron los votos religiosos en el carisma de la Congregación de San Basilio.



July 25, the First Profession of our two brothers Javier and Arturo Juan

On the feast St. James the Apostle the Mexican community celebrated the first profession of Javier de la Rosa CSB and Arturo Juan Jerónimo CSB. We were honored by the presence of George Smith CSB, the Superior General of the Congregation. In the presence of the parish community of San Lorenzo, our two brothers professed their religious vows in the charism of the Congregation of St. Basil.

Agosto, inicio de la Casa de Discernimiento y el nuevo Escolasticado

La primera semana de Agosto dio inicio a la experiencia de la Casa de Discernimiento en lo que fue el Noviciado en San Lorenzo. Tres jóvenes candidatos iniciaron la experiencia: Pedro Robles (Tehuacán), Carlos Estrada (Toluca) y Cristián Villa (Xalapa). Cristian Villa falleció el 12 de Octubre después de regalarnos su presencia y alegría durante dos meses con nosotros. Y en el mes de Agosto, inició la casa del Escolasticado en una nueva dirección: Calle de Aljibe 107, cerca de las universidades en donde los escolásticos realizan sus estudios de Filosofía y Teología.

August, the beginning of the House of Discernment and the new Scholasticate

The first week of August the House of Discernment experience was begun in what had been the Novitiate in San Lorenzo. Three young candidates began the experience together: Pedro Robles (Tehuacán), Carlos Estrada (Toluca) and Cristián Villa (Xalapa). Christián died on October 12 after gifting us with his joyful presence for the two months he was with us. Also in August, the Scholasticate began in a new location: Calle de Aljibe 107, near the universities where the Scholastics are studying Philosophy and Theology.

Noviembre, Encuentro comunitario en la ciudad de Puebla.

Con entusiasmo por el nuevo año pastoral y escolar, la comunidad en México se reunió en la ciudad de Puebla para revisar y animar la vida común.

November, Community meeting in the city of Puebla.

With enthusiasm for the new academic and pastoral year, the Mexican community gathered in the city of Puebla to review and animate our life in common.



Los Padres Basilianos en Colombia



Seated, front, left to right: Andrés Timiná, Jheison Martínez, Wilmar Vargas, Erick Pinzón, Wilson Tovar

Standing, front: Javier Higuera, Sergio Gil, Edilson Belisario, Luis Alberto Giraldo, Carlos Rodríguez, Anderson Usuga, Eduard Padilla

Standing, back: Roberto Seguin, Pedro Mora, Rafael Lopera, Robert Barringer, Francisco Amico, Carlos Gutiérrez, Oscar Gómez

Cali – Parroquia Nuestra Señora de la Asunción; Instituto Nuestra Señora de la Asunción

The community in Cali is made up of two priests, Fathers Rafael Lopera and Francisco Amico and Scholastic Carlos Rodríguez. The candidates that arrive come to initiate a more profound understanding of community life of the Basilian Fathers. This year, 2015, 7 young men entered as candidates and on December 3, Jheison Martinez, Wilmar Vargas and Erick Pinzon were called to be postulants. These postulants will proceed to the Casa Annonay in Bogota in January 2016. Five new candidates have been accepted to report to Cali in January 2016.

Besides being a house of formation, the parish, which includes the Instituto Nuestra Señora de la Asunción [INSA], is the center of the apostolic activity of the Basilians. The parish is in the process of celebrating the Continental Mission: creating base communities, creating parish sectors and “*domus ecclesiae*”, administering in a particular way to the poor through the House of Mercy [soup kitchen], the Society of St Vincent de Paul and the House of Peace of the Missionaries of Charity of Calcutta. The Basilian sisters, Fabiola and Mercedes, continue to care for our chapel in the barrio Siete de Agosto with its catechetical programs, and at the same time operate a Center for the Promotion of Women. The Missionaries of Charity directed by Sister Noemi care for our chapel in the barrio Puerto Mallarino,

direct the catechetical program and other programs which are a part of the vision of the Missionaries of Charity. The parish youth group accompanied by our postulants have been great missionary disciples in our barrios.

INSA once again this year was named one of the finest schools in Cali and in all of Colombia. Of the 16,000 high schools in Colombia, INSA rates number 412 in the state exams. There are 700 students in the school from grades K – 11. INSA received an award of excellence from the Superintendent of Schools and the Mayor of the city of Cali. INSA continues to receive only children and their families that are from the poorest areas of the city. The help that INSA receives from the Congregation and other benefactors, including the backing of Paul Murphy and a good number of men who make up the association of former Basilians, is what permits INSA to continue from year to year. We have been blessed with an excellent, professional faculty and the curriculum prepares the students for university studies. Carlos Rodriguez, CSB assisted in the school as teacher of Christian life. The areas that we continue to emphasize in INSA are Catholic Christian Life, Art, Technology and Languages [English, French, Italian, Mandarin, and Latin]. The Basilians take pride in this Catholic school in the city of Cali.

La comunidad de Cali

La comunidad de Cali se compone de dos sacerdotes, P Rafael Lopera y P Francisco Amico el escolástico Carlos Rodríguez, y los candidatos que llegan para iniciar un año de conocimiento profundo de la vida comunitaria de la Congregación. Este año, 2015, 7 jóvenes entraron a la candidatura y el día 3 de diciembre, Jheison Martínez, Wilmar Vargas y Erick Pinzón fueron llamados al postulante. Estos postulantes pasarán a la Casa Annonay en Bogotá en enero 2016. Cinco nuevo candidatos se esperan en Cali y llegarán en enero del 2016. *(Basilianos cantando Salve Regina en la parroquia - Basilians singing the Salve Regina in the parish church in Cali)*



Además de ser una casa de formación, la parroquia, que incluye el Instituto Nuestra Señora de la Asunción [INSA] es el centro de la labor apostólico de los Basilianos. La parroquia está en proceso de celebrar la Misión Continental: renovando y creando comunidades de base, sectorizando la parroquia y formando “*domus ecclesiae*”; atendiendo en forma particular a los más necesitados por la Casa de la Misericordia [olla comunitaria], la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul, y la Casa de Cristo de la Paz de las Misioneras de la Caridad de la Madre Teresa. Las Hermanas Basilianas, Fabiola y Mercedes, se preocupan de la capilla en el barrio Siete de Agosto con sus programas de catequesis y a la vez dirigen el Centro de Promoción de la Mujer. Las Misioneras de la Caridad lideradas por la Hermana Noemi cuidan nuestra capilla en el Barrio Puerto Mallarino y dirigen el ancianato “*Hogar Cristo de la Paz*”, un centro para niños y varios programas que son parte de la visión de Las Misioneras de la Caridad. El grupo juvenil, acompañados por los candidatos Basilianos y el escolástico Carlos Rodríguez, han sido excelentes discípulos misioneros para nuestros barrios.

De nuevo este año 2015, INSA ha sido nombrado uno de los mejores colegios en Cali y en toda Colombia. De los 16.000 colegios en Colombia, INSA queda número 412 en los exámenes del estado. Hay 700 estudiantes matriculados en los grados Kinder hasta 11. INSA fue premiado por el Alcalde de

la ciudad y el Secretario de Educación por su excelencia. INSA se reconoce por recibir únicamente los estudiantes y sus familias que provienen de los barrios más necesitados de la ciudad. El ayuda que INSA recibe de la Congregación y de otros bienhechores, incluyendo el apoyo de Paul Murphy y el grupo de antiguos Basilianos, es lo que permita que INSA continúe año tras año. Carlos Rodríguez nos ayudó en el colegio como maestro de Vida Cristiana. Las materias que se enfatizan en INSA son Vida Cristiana Católica, Arte, Tecnología, e idiomas [Inglés, Francés, Italiano, Mandarín y Latín]. Los Basilianos nos sentimos con orgullo de promover este centro Católico en la ciudad de Cali.

Santa Marta – Saint Basil’s Novitiate

In the late afternoon of the first of January of 2015, Father Oscar Gomez, CSB accompanied by the seven postulants arrived in Santa Marta, a coastal city in northern Colombia, to begin their novitiate year. They travelled from the postulancy in Bogotá and were received into the novitiate by Father Francisco Amico, CSB, the regional superior in Colombia along with Father Bob Seguin, CSB who was to be their novice master.

We were providentially fortunate to have had the use of a hostel run by the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation. They were in the process of discerning what to do with the place when we came along looking for somewhere to have the novitiate. The house has a chapel – adequate rooms – a classroom and a community room as well as a dining room and large kitchen. A perfect setting for a novitiate!

The year began with an 8 day retreat in the novitiate house directed by the Novice Master. Father Warren Schmidt, CSB arrived on the 12th of January to accompany the novice master until such time as Father Robert Barringer, CSB, the assistant Novice Master arrived. After the retreat ended, we continued the daily rhythm of prayer and contemplation following the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius. Father Warren gave the novices a course on the sacraments. Father Robert Barringer, CSB, the assistant to the novice master, arrived in February and taught a course in early church history at the local seminary which the novices attended along with a course on St. Paul during the first academic semester. In the second semester we studied and practiced centering prayer. The novices continued to study the early church fathers and the letters of Saint Paul under Father Bob Barringer, CSB in a house course. The studies of the novices with the Master of Novices included the history of the community, the Basilian Way of Life, the Basilian Customs, community life and a study of the vows. In the second semester the novices did a limited amount of apostolic work – teaching catechism in the parish of the Candelaria, visiting the local prison, visiting a reformatory for drug addicts and a home for the elderly. On Sundays we celebrated the Eucharist in parishes in Cienega and in Taganga.

Some of the highlights of the year were the gathering of the novices from the US, Mexico and Colombia in our house in Santa Marta for a retreat directed by Father Rafael Lopera, CSB with the presence of Father Vince Dulock, CSB, the late Father Bob Duggan CSB and Father Alejandro Romero, CSB; celebrating Holy Week in the Parish of Our Lady of Carmen in Barrio Pescaito and in Taganga; celebrating the Christmas Novena with Mass and home visits in Taganga, participating in the Conference of Religious Communities of Santa Marta and in the Diocesan Assembly, the visit to the home of Gabriel García Márquez in Aracataca, the beginning of the Jubilee Year in the Dioceses, the culinary skills of Father Bob Barringer, CSB, the visits from the north of Father David Sharp, CSB, Father Tim Scott, CSB, Father George Smith, CSB, Father Jack Hanna, CSB, the visits of Father Francisco Amico, CSB and Father Oscar Gomez CSB and the visit of the parents of the novices.

In the course of the year two of the novices, Diego Duque and Andrés Leonardo Valencia left the novitiate. The five remaining novices Edilson Belisario Gómez Castañeda, Wilson Tovar Cabrera,

Anderson Fabián Usuga Giraldo, Luis Suárez Giraldo and Sergio David Gil Isaza were professed on the feast of St. Basil in the Chapel San Juan de Dios, a church adjacent to the novitiate. Father John Huber, CSB, together with the Regional Council of Colombia, received their vows.

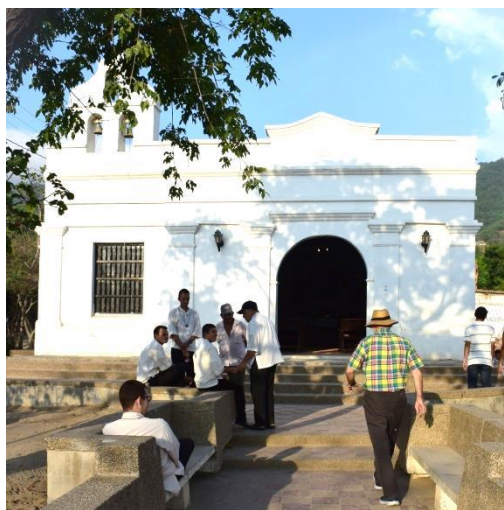
La comunidad de Santa Marta

En la tarde del primer del año de 2015, p. Oscar Gómez, CSB llegó con los siete postulantes a Santa Marta, una ciudad en la costa del norte de Colombia para empezar su año del noviciado. Vinieron del postulanteado en Bogotá y p. Francisco Amico, el Superior Regional de Colombia los recibieron en el noviciado en la presencia de p. Roberto Seguí, CSB, su Maestro de Novicios.

Por la providencia teníamos el uso de una casa de las Hermanas Dominicas de la Presentación. Ellas estaban en un proceso de discernimiento en cuanto al uso de la casa cuando llegamos buscando un lugar para el noviciado y para nuestra sorpresa nos ofrecieron su casa en alquiler por un año. La casa tiene una capilla, muchas habitaciones, una sala de clase y una sala comunitaria, un comedor y una cocina grande. Un entorno perfecto para un noviciado Basiliano!

Empezamos el año con un retiro de ocho días, dirigido por el Maestro de novicios, en la casa del noviciado. P. Roger (Warren) Schmidt, CSB llegó el 12 de enero para acompañar a p. Seguí, CSB hasta la llegada de p. Roberto Barringer, CSB, el asistente del noviciado. Después del retiro empezó el ritmo diario de oración y contemplación, siguiendo los ejercicios espirituales de San Ignacio designado por la vida corriente. En este tiempo p. Roger ofreció un curso sobre los sacramentos.

P. Roberto Barringer, CSB llegó como asistente al Maestro en febrero para enseñar un curso sobre la historia de la iglesia principiante en el seminario local y los novicios participaron en este curso y también en un curso de San Pablo ofrecido por un sacerdote diocesano. En el segundo semestre estudiamos y practicamos el método de oración centrante. P. Barringer, CSB ofreció un curso en casa



sobre las Cartas de San Pablo y los padres de la Iglesia. También con el Maestro de Novicios estudiaron la historia de la comunidad, la Forma de Vida Basiliana, Los Costumbres Basilianos, la vida en comunidad y los votos.

En el segundo semestre los novicios hizo su trabajo apostólico en una manera limitada – enseñando catecismo en la parroquia de la Candelaria, visitando los presos de Santa Marta, visitando una casa para la reforma de jóvenes adictos y una casa por los ancianos. Los domingos fuimos para la celebración de la eucaristía en Taganga y en Ciénega, dos pueblos cerca de Santa Marta. (*La capilla de San Francisco en Taganga se ve al lado – The chapel of San Francisco in Taganga is seen to the left.*)

Algunos momentos destacados en el año era la reunión de los novicios de los Estados Unidos y uno de los novicios de México que con los novicios de Colombia hicieron un retiro dirigido por p. Rafael Lopera CSB con la presencia de p. Vicente Dulock, CSB, p. Roberto Duggan CSB y p. Alejandro Romero, CSB; la celebración de la Semana Santa en la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora del Carmen en barrio Pescaíto y en

Taganga; la celebración de la novena navideña con la eucaristía y visitas a las casas en Taganga; participación en la CRC de Santa Marta y en la asamblea diocesana; la visita a la casa de Gabriel García Márquez en Aracataca; el inicio del año Jubilar de la Misericordia; las comidas y postres del chef, p. Barringer, CSB; las visitas de los Basilianos del Norte, p. David Sharp, CSB, p. Tim Scott, CSB, el superior general, p. George Smith, CSB, p. Jack Hanna, CSB y las visitas de p. Francisco Amico, CSB, p. Oscar Gómez, CSB y la visita de las familias de los novicios en la mitad del año.

Durante el año dos de los novicios salieron del programa, Diego Duque y Andrés Leonardo Valencia. Los cinco que quedaron, Edilson Belisario Gómez Castañeda, Wilson Tovar Cabrera, Anderson Fabián Usuga Giraldo, Luis Suarez Giraldo y Sergio David Gil Isaza tomaron sus primeros votos en la fiesta de San Basilio en la Capilla de San Juan de Dios, al lado del noviciado. P. John Huber, CSB, delegado del Superior General recibió sus votos.

MEDELLIN - Parroquia de San Basilio

The community in Medellin consists of Father Pedro Mora, Pastor; Father Oscar Gomez, Master of Scholastics and Deacon Carlos Gutierrez together with the scholastics Eduard Alberto Padilla, Nelson Andrés Timiná and Javier Higuera. The parish of St Basil, besides attending to the faith community of the barrios Olaya Herrera, Mirador de Calasanz and Colinas de Calasanz, is also the Scholasticate for the Congregation in Colombia. We began the year with the blessings of 6 scholastics, two priests and a deacon. During the year however, the scholastics Camilo Diaz and James Yáñez left the community and Carlos Rodríguez was transferred to our house in Cali.



The life of this local house revolves around service in the parish and formation of the scholastics. We pray together in the morning, at noon and at night, and we celebrate the Eucharist together daily. Father Pedro Mora, dedicates himself wholeheartedly to the administration of the parish, thus fulfilling his mission as pastor and spiritual director to the parish community. Father Oscar Fernando Gomez assists Father Pedro as assistant priest in the parish and is also the Master of Scholastics as well as taking part in the activities of the "new generations" of the CLAR (Latin American Religious Conference). Deacon Carlos Gutiérrez administers in matters of charity in the parish, together with the Ministers of the Eucharist, parish catechesis for first communions and the base communities. Our scholastics, Eduard, Andrés and Javier study theology at the Pontifical Bolivariana University. They participate in parish life as far as their studies permit.

The spiritual responsibilities of the parish are nourished principally through parish catechesis, the base communities, and lay ministries. We celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation with 80 young people this year together with 120 first communions after a catechesis of one year which included formation each month of the parents of those receiving the sacraments with excellent results. We accompany 10 base communities with approximately 15 persons in each community whose members are principally families. We have 8 Eucharistic ministers, 8 ministers of the Word, and 10 ministers of hospitality; all receive formation in order to serve appropriately in the parish community.

The social and educational aspects of the Congregation in the parish have great impact. We have a parish restaurant that attends to more than 150 needy persons; a sewing workshop, where many persons, in particular single mothers, have the opportunity to learn the art of sewing thus preparing them for possible employment. St Basil's Craft shop employs at risk youth, permitting them to learn a craft and stay occupied so as not to risk problems such as drug addiction. The medical center gives the opportunity to many to obtain medical attention since many of the residents of our barrios are "desplazados" or persons who have fled their homes because of violence and have no governmental social benefits. Finally, we proved an internet access point giving the inhabitants of our barrios the possibility of this service.

This year we were blessed with the pastoral visit of the bishops of our archdioceses, each of the three auxiliary bishops visited the parish on two different occasions including themselves in activities which were of great benefit to the community. The archbishop, Ricardo Tobón Restrepo also visited the parish community. These were special days as we felt ourselves to be in full communion with the diocesan church and also encouraged by them in the mission that we realize in the parish of St Basil.

La comunidad de Medellín

Miembros: Pedro Miguel Mora Medina (párroco) Oscar Fernando Gómez (maestro de escolásticos) Carlos Andrés Gutiérrez. Escolásticos: Eduard Alberto Padilla, Nelson Andrés Timina, Javier Higuera. La parroquia San Basilio, además de atender espiritualmente a la comunidad de fe de los barrios Olaya Herrera, Mirador de Calasanz y Colinas de Calasanz, es también la sede del escolasticado en Colombia. Iniciamos en año siendo una comunidad nutrida con 6 escolásticos, un diacono y dos sacerdotes, pero en el caminar del año perdimos dos escolásticos que pidieron dispensa de votos, ellos son Camilo Días y James Yáñez y el traslado de Carlos Rodríguez para la casa de la Asunción en Cali.

La vida de la casa se mueve entre el servicio a la parroquia y la formación de los escolásticos. Rezamos juntos en las mañanas, al medio día y en la noche, al igual que celebramos juntos todos los días la eucaristía. El padre Pedro Miguel Mora, con mucha dedicación se dedica a la administración de la parroquia, cumpliendo así su misión de párroco y dirigente espiritual de toda la comunidad. El padre Oscar Fernando Gómez, asiste al padre Pedro como vicario de la parroquia, y desempeña el papel de maestro de Escolásticos, además participa en actividades de nuevas generaciones de la CLAR (conferencia Latinoamericana de Religiosos). El diacono Carlos Gutiérrez, presta su servicio asistiendo a la caridad de la parroquia, con los ministros de la eucaristía, la catequesis de primera comunión y las comunidades eclesiales de base. Los escolásticos, Eduard, Andrés y Javier; asisten a la universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, donde adelantan sus estudios teológicos. Ellos participan enteramente de la vida parroquial, siempre y cuando lo permitan también sus responsabilidades académicas.

La responsabilidad espiritual de la parroquia se desarrolla mediante la catequesis, las comunidades eclesiales de Base y los ministerios laicales. Celebramos 80 confirmaciones este año y 120 primeras comuniones, en una catequesis que se realizó durante todo el año, la cual conto con una escuela de padre cada mes, con un muy buen resultado. Contamos con 10 comunidades eclesiales de Base, donde en promedio cada comunidad cuenta con 15 personas, este año viendo el éxito del sino de la familia, trabajamos temas con referencia a la familia, muy provechosos para las personas de la comunidad.

Contamos con 8 ministras de la eucaristía, 8 ministros de la palabra y 10 ministros de la casa; todos ellos reciben formación cristiana para el buen desempeño de su ministerio en la comunidad parroquial.



Youth Camp in St. Basil's Parish, Medellín
Taller Juvenil en la Parroquia de San Basilio, Medellín

La responsabilidad social y educativa de parte de la congregación en la parroquia tiene un gran impacto. Se cuenta Con un comedor parroquial que atiende a más de 150 personas necesitadas, un taller de confecciones, donde muchas personas, especialmente madres cabeza de familia tienen la oportunidad de aprender el arte de la costura y así conseguir fácilmente un empleo. El taller San Basilio atiende a jóvenes en riesgo, permitiéndole el aprendizaje de un arte y que a la vez estén ocupados, sacándolo a la vez de situaciones de riesgo como la drogadicción.

El centro médico permite que muchas personas tengan la posibilidad de tener el servicio de medicina y la revisión médica, teniendo en cuenta que muchos de los habitantes de nuestro barrio son desplazados por la violencia y no cuentan con seguridad social definida. Finalmente, la sala de internet que permite a las personas del barrio tener acceso sano a la internet. Este año contamos con la gracia de tener una visita pastoral de los obispos de la Arquidiócesis, cada uno de los tres obispos auxiliares pasaron por la parroquia en dos ocasiones para hacer actividades que hicieron mucho provecho espiritual en la comunidad. Y el arzobispo Ricardo Tobón Restrepo también estuvo en nuestra parroquia. Fueron días muy especiales, ya que nos sentimos en comunión plena con la Iglesia diocesana y respaldados por ellos en la misión que hacemos como congregación en la parroquia de San Basilio.



Houston Area Basilian Lay Associates

Philip Acquaro CSB and Mary Dusing, coordinators

2015 was a busy year for the Houston Area Basilian Lay Associates. We started the year with new leadership and had several occasions to celebrate during the year.



50th Anniversaries of Priesthood were celebrated in the Houston Area during the year 2015: Father Bob Duggan, Father James Gaunt, Father Leo Burns, Father Bob Holmes, and Father Joe Walsh, celebrated their anniversaries together in Angleton in March. Father Jay Walsh celebrated his anniversary in November at St. Anne's in Houston, and Father Carl Belisch celebrated his anniversary at Dillon House in December.

**Lay Associates gather with
Father Carl Belisch CSB**

Three individuals have been invited and accepted to participate in our Come and See Program. Our fall retreat was led by Father Richard Wahl. We discussed Pope Francis' *Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy* and Father Wahl led us in an overview of *Laudato Si*, the Pope's encyclical on the environment. We used some of the questions in the *Laudato Si* reader's guide to discuss these topics in small groups.

We finished off the year by helping to host the St. Anne's Boy Scouts Caroling at Dillon House, and then celebrated the Christmas season with a festive dinner for all Basilians and Lay Associates in the area at St. Anne's Church in St. Basil Hall.



The Toronto Area Basilian Lay Associates

Joseph Walsh CSB and Anastasia Oehlert, Coordinators

The Toronto Area Basilian Lay Associates currently have a total of 26 members and 3 in our first year Come and See Program. Our monthly gatherings begin with a Mass followed by community prayer, a guest speaker and, lastly, a discussion. We are grateful to Father Joe Walsh, our Ordained Coordinator, as well as to Basilian Fathers Morgan Rice, Chris Valka, Andrew Leung, John Reddy, James Farge, Marvin Labute, Michael Lehman, Wilfrid Janisse and others who have encouraged us in our spiritual growth.

We extend many thanks to Father John Reddy, CSB who was our speaker, celebrant and homilist for our Annual Recollection Day in May at the Flahiff Centre. Everyone involved enjoyed his reflection on "The Year of Mercy". On June 13 2015 the BLA hosted an Afternoon Tea for the Basilian Fathers for the celebration of St. Basil's Day. As always, Basilian Fathers from all houses were invited.

From September 11 through September 13, Father Morgan Rice, CSB gave us insightful talks on "The Year of Mercy" at our annual Mount Carmel Retreat in Niagara Falls. It was wonderful to have so many Toronto, Windsor and Rochester BLAs together. The Windsor and Toronto BLAs organized the retreat.

We celebrated the commitment of Nancy Strader and Maria Silva, the recommitment of Brenda Holz, Rose Legaspi, Natasha Pierre, Alisia Sabatini, Mary Rose Te and Alice Turner and three-year commitments of Sally Lianko, Alma Sternik and Anastasia Oehlert at St. Basil's Church at the 5:00 PM Mass on October 24th. Fathers Morgan Rice, CSB and Joe Walsh, CSB concelebrated the Mass. Afterward the BLAs and Fathers had a dinner together at a local restaurant.

On December 20 we celebrated the Feast of Presentation with the whole Basilian community at the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre. On December 12 some BLAs joined the community of St Basil's Parish

for their Annual Christmas Caroling for the Basilian Fathers at Anglin House.



Basilian Lay Associates continue to serve in a variety of ministries. It has been a privilege for us to be in association with the Congregation. We will continue to pray for all Basilian Priests, Scholastics and Novices, and for one another.

Front row: Sally Lianko, Alisia Sabatini, Rose Legaspi, Simone Minalabag, Maria Silva

Middle row: Alice Turner, Mary Rose Te, Nancy Strader, Anastasia Oehlert, Sharon McGhie, Arcangel Cruz

Third row: Father Joseph Walsh, CSB, Corazon Bueno, Father Morgan Rice, CSB

The Windsor Area Basilian Lay Associates

Paul McGill CSB and Anne Marie Handsor, coordinators

The Windsor Area BLA began 2015 with a joyful celebration with the Basilian Priests in Novi, MI. It was an evening of good company, great conversation and delicious food. Most of the BLA from Windsor were there. John and Angela D'Amore were able to join us; this is noteworthy as John celebrated his 95th birthday January 1st. In February we had a Memorial Mass for Father Dan Chui CSB. Shortly after, we lost Father John Callaghan CSB. He was an icon at Assumption Parish. We will miss these men.

In April Father Tom Rosica CSB hosted a delicious meal for the Lay Associates. Father Tom did all the cooking with the help of Father Jim Carruthers CSB. It was a wonderful evening for all. Four days later on April 29, 2015 the BLA helped the students from the Campus Ministry to put on a dinner to celebrate Basilian Father Paul McGill's 40th Anniversary of Ordination. Father Tom celebrated his 29th anniversary. It was touching to watch the students with Father Paul; they care for each other.

In June Father Paul and I went to Toronto for our annual BLA Committee meeting. The highlight of the meeting is having the opportunity to spend time with the Basilians in Anglin House. Mary Anne Seguin hosted an end of the summer get together at her home. Father Paul celebrated Mass outside at 2 PM. We then shared a delicious pot luck dinner. It was a wonderful event.

In September we had our Annual BLA Retreat which was hosted by Windsor. Father Morgan Rice was the Retreat Master. Father Morgan did an awesome job; he was practical and inspiring. At our evening social Father Morgan led us in line dancing. The weekend was a huge success.



From left: Father Jim Stenberg; Back: Ricardo Portillo; Father Maurice Restivo; Father Paul McGill; Andy Matos Front: Denise Callaghan; John D'Amore; Angela D'Amore; Mary Anne Seguin; Anne Marie Handsor; Rose Portillo; Tom Hebert

In October Father Duggan passed away and many of the BLA's attended his funeral in Detroit, Michigan at St. Anne's Parish. The following week we were invited by Father Matthew Durham to a Hospice Gala hosted by the Basilian Fathers. We said good bye to Father Don McLeod who was with us for almost a year. We were sad to see him leave. He

was replaced by three (3) people ☺. We are blessed and excited to have Father Maurice Restivo CSB and Father Jim Stenberg CSB along with Kevin Mannara CSB. Assumption Parish is doing very well with this new team. We are blessed.

On December 17th we had our monthly meeting at the Rectory. Anne Shore shared a talk on the Visitation. This was very uplifting as it was the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday Liturgy. Father Maurice had ornaments for each of us to place on the Christmas tree. What a beautiful way to include us in the Parish. We are thankful for our Parish team and continue to pray for all Basilians; to support them in any way we can and to continue trying to live out their Charisms – Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge. Who could ask for more?

The Rochester Area Basilian Lay Associates

Paul English CSB and Cathy Poirier, coordinators

Monica Penner completed the Come and See Program and made a request to become a Lay Associate. She was accepted and made her initial commitment as a Lay Associate on November 12. As of December 31, 2015, Rochester had 16 Lay Associates and 2 persons in the Come and See Program.



Front Row: Grace Ansini, Rose Ann Rosica, Father Tom Dugan, CSB
Middle Row: Larry Ansini, Maureen Bacchetta, Suzanne Grout, Vilma Goetting, Helen Lopuchowycz, Pam Knauf, Monica Penner
Back Row: Marsha Bovenzi, Cathy Poirier, Father Paul English, CSB, Tom Grout

The Lay Associates were shocked and deeply grieved at the sudden death of our Ordained Coordinator; Joe Lanzalaco CSB; on July 24. His presence, good council and easy humor are greatly missed. The Lay Associates and Come and See Inquirers greatly appreciated the Basilian Fathers of East Rochester inviting them to Evening Prayer/Mass, a social hour and dinner each fourth Thursday in January, February, March and October this year.

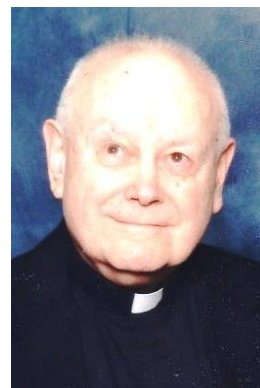
The Basilian Fathers of East Rochester hosted a celebration of the founding of the Congregation on Thursday, November 12, for the Rochester Basilian community. This evening was the last gathering of the Rochester Basilian community at their residence. Monica Penner made her initial commitment and ten Lay Associates renewed their commitments during the Mass.

Father Tim Scott, CSB, gave a Day of Reflection to the Lay Associates and Come and See Inquirers on Saturday, March 14. Cathy Poirier attended the Lay Associate Committee meeting in June with Suzanne and Tom Grout. Suzanne and Tom completed their second 3 year term as Lay Coordinators for the Rochester Area at the end of June. Cathy Poirier was appointed the new Lay Coordinator starting July 1. Vilma Goetting has the new unofficial position of Assistant Lay Coordinator. Paul English, CSB, has been appointed the Ordained Coordinator.

The Basilian Fathers of St. Kateri Parish hosted a Labor Day picnic to begin the Fall season. The Lay Associate meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from September, 2015, through June, 2016, with a different speaker each month. Seven Lay Associates from the Rochester Area attended the annual Lay Associate Retreat held at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario, on September 11 through 13 led by Morgan Rice, CSB. In December, the Lay Associates invited all the ordained Basilians in Rochester to join them for our annual Christmas party at a local restaurant. A delicious meal and much good conversations were shared by all.

Robert Gerard Ritz, CSB

July 30, 1924 – February 5, 2015



Father Bob Ritz, CSB entered eternal life on Wednesday, February 5 at St. Dominic's Center in Houston TX. He was 90 years old, he has been a Basilian for 70 years and a priest 63 years.

Bob Ritz was born in Rochester, NY. Bob graduated from the Aquinas Institute in 1942. He entered the Rochester Novitiate and made first profession in 1944. He received a BA from the University of St. Michael's College in 1947 and an MA in French from the same institution in 1954. He later continued graduate work in French at Université Laval. Bob was ordained by Cardinal McGuigan on June 29, 1951.

Bob was an excellent teacher of Foreign Language and he also was an energetic pastoral minister to the Hispanic community in what was then called the "Mexican Missions" in the outlying areas of Houston, TX. Bob was a life-long learner and he had many areas of interest. When Bob was living at Dillon House in Houston, he would walk over the UST campus for concerts, lectures and classes.

Bob Ritz had the following appointments during his Basilian ministry.

Rochester Novitiate	1943 – 1944
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto,	1944 – 1950
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto	1950 – 1952
Laval University, Québec	1952 – 1953
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Rosenberg	1953 – 1955
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Wharton	1955 – 1959
St. Anne's Church, Houston	1959 – 1960
University of St. Thomas, Houston	1960 – 1962
Collège Du Sacré Cœur, Annonay	1962 – 1963
Michael Power High School, Toronto	1963 – 1964
East Rochester Basilian Fathers, Rochester	1964 – 1965
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Wharton	1965 – 1967
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Rosenberg	1967 – 1968
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Wharton	1968 – 1968
Ste. Anne's Church, Detroit	1968 – 1971
Aquinas Institute, Rochester	1971 – 1982
St. Theresa's Church, Sugar Land	1982 – 1985
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Wharton	1985 – 1988
Basilian Fathers of Angleton	1988 – 1994
St. Theresa's Church, Sugar Land	1994 – 2001
Dillon House, Houston	2001 – 2012
St. Dominic Village, Houston	2012 – 2014

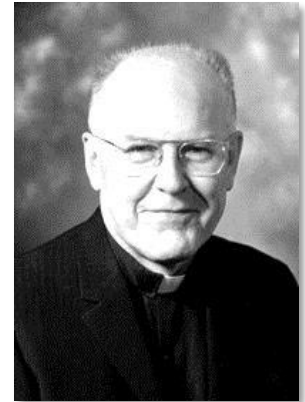
Bob lived happily in community and was ready to go where he was needed. When he applied to the Novitiate in 1943, he wrote: "I feel that I know the Basilians very well; I think that the possibility that I might one day be a Basilian priest is one of the motives that brought me to St. Michael's College in Toronto." Later, while Bob was working on his graduate French degree at Laval, he received a message from the General Council asking him to review his undergraduate Spanish. Bob was needed to go to the Texas Missions to replace a very ill Father Joe Dillon, CSB. Bob later recounted, "... it opened up a whole new field of ministry for me; it was one I had never anticipated."

The visitation for Father Robert Ritz, CSB was held at on Monday, February 9 at St. Anne's Church, Houston TX; Father Kevin Storey, CSB of the General Council led a short prayer service. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated that same evening; Father John Huber, CSB of the General Council preached and Father Paul O'Connor, CSB was the principal concelebrant. Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza concelebrated at the Eucharist. The interment was held the following day.

John Francis Callaghan, CSB

August 3, 1923 – February 4, 2015

John Callaghan, CSB entered eternal life on February 4, 2015. He was 91 years old; he had been a Basilian for 67 years and a priest for 60 years. John was born in Minto, Manitoba, the son of Dominic Francis Callaghan and Rose Ellen Dales Callaghan.



After graduation from high school, John worked at the Canadian Bank of Commerce. He then enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and served abroad during the II World War. Later John joined the Basilians and went to the Richmond Hill Novitiate where he professed first vows in 1947. He studied Theology at St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto. John completed his Arts Course at St. Michael's College, receiving a B.A. in Political Science and Economics, and later an M.A. in Economics from the University of Toronto. John was ordained in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, ON on June 29th, 1954 by James Cardinal McGuigan.

After ordination, John began what he considered his life's work – teaching Economics at Assumption University and later at the University of Windsor – until 1989. He officially retired that year, but continued to enthusiastically teach Economics part-time. Besides his teaching duties in Windsor, he was, for several years, the Moderator of Scholastics. There was a large number of scholastics in Windsor in those days and John carefully monitored their courses of studies. He was genuinely concerned for their formation and their progress.

Besides being Moderator of Scholastics, John later served as superior O'Connor House from 1989 until 1991. In the years that followed before his death, John became a vital part of the Assumption Parish community in Windsor. During the weekdays he served the Assumption community by leading Morning Prayer and celebrating the Eucharist as needed.

John had the following appointments during his years as a Basilian:

Richmond Hill Novitiate, ON	1946 – 1947
Holy Rosary Parish, Toronto, ON	1947 – 1948
St. Michael's College School, Toronto, ON	1948 – 1951
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto, ON	1951 – 1955
Laval University, Quebec City, QC	1955 – 1957
Assumption College, Windsor, ON	1957 – 1958
St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon, SK	1958 – 1960
Assumption University, Windsor, ON	1960 – 1962
Graduate Studies, Toronto, ON	1962 – 1963
Basilian Fathers at the University of Windsor (later O'Connor House)	1963 – 1991
Assumption Parish, Windsor ON	1991 – 2015

The wake service for Father John Callaghan, CSB was celebrated on the evening of Sunday, February 15, in Windsor, ON. Father Don McLeod, CSB, administrator of Assumption parish, presided. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, February 16 at Assumption Parish – McEwan Campus (formerly the Church of the Holy Name of Mary). Father George Smith, CSB, Superior General, presided and Father Joseph Quinn, CSB, preached. He said of John: "John knew that God loved him and in return John loved others. He had definitely put on the mind and heart of Christ. We must do the same."

Norman Joseph Paul Fitzpatrick, CSB

October 22, 1927 – February 17, 2015

Father Norm Fitzpatrick, CSB, died on Tuesday, February 17, 2015. He was 87 years old; he had been a Basilian for 63 years and served in priestly ministry for 59 years. Norman Joseph Fitzpatrick was born on 22 October, 1927, in Toronto, ON to Leo Francis Fitzpatrick and Anna McManamon.



In 1945 Norm entered the University of Toronto as a student at St. Michael's College, and in 1949 he graduated with a B.A. Norm nearly pursued a career in law at the University of Toronto, but, in 1950, he entered the Basilian Novitiate in Richmond Hill, ON and was professed in 1951. After his Theological Studies at St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto, Norm was ordained on June 29, 1955 by Bishop Francis Allen in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, ON.

Norm was a scholar and teacher; he received an MA in French from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1962. Norm spent most of his years of Basilian ministry at St. Michael's College School in Toronto, ON. He taught English, French, and Latin, and was principal from 1970 until 1986. Norm was a musician and he directed musical plays of high quality. St. Michael's College School honoured Norm with *The Order of St. Michael* for his work and love for St. Michael's College School.

When Norm left St. Michael's, he began a sabbatical and studied at the Pastoral Study Centre in Shrewsbury, England. Later Norm studied Theology at the American College of the Catholic University of Louvain / Leuven in Belgium. Norm later went on to become the Director of Education at Athol Murray College of Notre Dame in Wilcox, SK from 1989-1995. Following this ministry in the Prairies, Norm took a time of renewal at the Spirituality Center of Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles, CA.

As a Basilian, Norm had the following appointments:

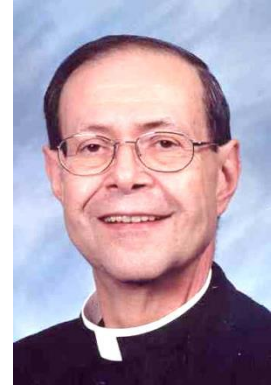
St. Basil's Novitiate (Richmond Hill, ON)	1950 - 1951
St. Basil's Seminary (Toronto, ON)	1951 - 1952
St. Michael's College School (Toronto, ON)	1952 - 1953
St. Basil's Seminary (Toronto)	1953 - 1956
St. Michael's College School (Toronto)	1956 - 1986
Sabbatical (England and Belgium)	1986 - 1989
Athol Murray College of Notre Dame (Wilcox, SK)	1989 - 1995
Renewal (Los Angeles, CA)	1995 - 1996
Basilian Fathers of St. Lucia (Saint Lucia, West Indies)	1997 - 1998
St. Michael's College School (Toronto, ON)	1998 - 2000
Soulerin House (Toronto, ON)	2000 - 2008
Anglin House (Toronto, ON)	2008 - 2015

"Norm had to deal with the complexity of the times he lived in, the complexity of St. Michael's College School and the complexity of his own life," said Jim Carruthers, CSB. "Norm once told me that the time when everything always made sense was around the table of the Eucharist. This says a lot about the man."

The wake service for Father Norman Fitzpatrick, CSB was celebrated in the chapel of the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre in Toronto on Friday, February 20; Joe Walsh, CSB, presided and Jim Carruthers, CSB, gave the eulogy. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the same chapel on Saturday, February 21; George Smith, CSB, Superior General, presided and Bill Irwin, CSB, preached. As he was concluding, Bill made reference to the passage in 2 Timothy: "Norm has fought the good fight, he has run the race, he has kept the faith. We pray that the Father give him now the crown of glory."

Joseph Francis Mitrano, CSB

September 22, 1940 – April 11, 2015



Father Joseph Mitrano, CSB, died on Saturday, April 11, 2015. He had been comatose because of a fall suffered a few weeks before. He was 74 years old; he had been a Basilian for 55 years and served in priestly ministry for 45 years. Joe Mitrano was born in Rochester, NY to Charles and Anna Mitrano.

Joe attended the Aquinas Institute in Rochester, NY. After graduation he applied to the Basilian Novitiate and went first to the Rochester Novitiate and then to the new Novitiate in Pontiac, MI; he was professed in 1959. Joe studied at the University of St. Michael's College and at St. John Fisher College; in 1963 he graduated with a BA from Fisher and then taught at Catholic Central in Detroit. After studying Theology at St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto, Joe was ordained to the priesthood on December, 13, 1969 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester, NY by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

Joe did graduate work in English and in Counselling at the University of Michigan and worked in both university and high school ministries. During Joe's time as Principal at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland, CA, Bud Paré, CSB wrote to him: "I am aware of the service you render not only to your school but to the Church and society. As I begin my last year as Superior General, I want to tell you about the gratitude and respect which the General Council feels in your regard."

Joe Mitrano was a good person but a complex person. He sometimes might have been seen to be overly critical of situations or people; some may have considered him negative or, at times, moody. However, Joe was devoted to his family and enjoyed being with them. Also, throughout his life as a Basilian, Joe used his expertise and talents for the good of others in many different areas of ministry: teacher, counselor, campus minister, high school principal, local superior, Dean of Students at John Fisher, and finally pastor. Leo Hetzler, CSB, who lived with Joe at the East Avenue House, wrote: "It was hard for us to lose a beloved confrere in an accident. To his confrères in the house where he lived Joe was a gentle, calming, and helpful friend."

Joe Mitrano had the following appointments during his years as a Basilian:

Rochester and Pontiac Novitiates	1958 - 1959
St. Basil's Seminary (studying at USMC, Toronto, ON)	1959 - 1960
Aquinas Institute (studying at St. John Fisher, Rochester, NY)	1960 - 1963
Catholic Central High School (Detroit, MI)	1963 - 1966
St. Basil's Seminary (Toronto, ON)	1966 - 1969
Catholic Central High School (Detroit, MI)	1969 - 1975
Graduate Studies, University of Michigan	1975 - 1976
Basilian Fathers of East Rochester, NY)	1976 - 1984
Graduate Studies, University of Michigan	1984 - 1985
Newman Centre (Toronto, ON)	1985 - 1986
Bishop O'Dowd High School (Oakland, CA)	1986 - 1992
Andrean High School (Merrillville, IN)	1992 - 1993
St. Anne (Houston, TX)	1993 - 1993
Pastoral Ministry (Diocese of Austin, TX)	1993 - 2007
Dillon House (Houston, TX)	2007 - 2012
Basilian Fathers of East Rochester, NY	2012 - 2015

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Church of Christ the King in St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Rochester NY on Thursday, April 16, 2015. George Smith, CSB, Superior General, presided and Joe Lanzalaco, CSB preached.

René Adrien Robert, CSB

July 7, 1925 – June 8, 2015



Père René Robert, CSB, died suddenly on June 8, 2015. He suffered a heart attack at the retirement home, “Mon Foyer” in Annonay, where he had lived for 10 years. He was 89 years old; he had been a Basilian for 69 years and served in priestly ministry for 66 years. René was born in Annonay, France to Marcel Robert and Rosine Lavert. He attended the *Petit Séminaire* of St. Charles in Annonay from 1936 until 1942. After his first year of Theology, he entered the Basilian Novitiate in Annonay and professed first vows in 1946. René was ordained on April 2, 1949 in Viviers, France, by Bishop Alfred Couderc.

René entered the Sorbonne and he graduated with his *Licence de lettres classiques* in 1952. In that same year he worked with Walter Principe, CSB and Michael Sheehan, CSB towards the reunion of the two branches of the Congregation, the Basilians of Viviers and the Basilians of Toronto, separated since 1922. The Decree of Reunion was promulgated in 1955. René taught at the Collège Privé du Sacré-Cœur beginning in the early 1950's, and was Directeur de Collège from 1956 until 1983. René oversaw the academic development of Sacré-Cœur, adding a new wing, recruiting a larger student body, beginning of the agricultural school, entering into the first contracts with the civil government, and the opening the future College St. Denis (later a high school). As the years of receiving boarders came to an end, René transformed that area into classrooms.

Kevin Kirley, CSB shared his memories of René: “A good teacher himself, Père René Robert skillfully combined the authority of the director of the Collège du Sacré-Cœur in Annonay with the paternal interest that he showed in each and every student in the school. Remarkable, too, was the guidance he offered to the members of his staff, clerics and laywomen and men alike. Here is a priest to be remembered and revered.”

In 1981 René was honoured with the prestigious *Ordre des Palmes Académiques* which is an Order of Chivalry of France for academics and cultural and educational figures, awarded for major contributions to French national education and culture. Père René Robert was a man who truly deserved this honor.

René Robert had the following appointments during his years as a Basilian:

College Privé du Sacré Cœur (Annonay, FR)	1952 - 1983
Maison Saint Joseph (Annonay, FR)	1983 – 2007
Mon Foyer (Annonay, FR)	2007 – 2015

Père Bernard Buisson, CSB, Superior of the French Basilians in Annonay, reminds us that René Robert was one of the wise elders of the Congregation: “*Père René Robert était jusqu'alors un des "doyens" de la communauté : 8ème par l'âge, le 11ème par la profession religieuse, le 3ème par l'ordination sacerdotale.* Bernard also reminds us that René served as chaplain at the Convent of the Good Shepherd, at the central hospital in Annonay, and at the retirement home “Mon Foyer.”

The funeral of Père René Robert was held on Saturday, June 13, 2015, at St. Francis Church in Annonay, followed by interment in the cemetery of the Basilian Fathers close beside the Sacred Heart College. John Huber, CSB, Basilian Third Councillor, represented the General Council. In his message at the funeral John recalled the qualities of this intelligent, composed, dedicated and holy Basilian: “*Moi personnellement j'ai de bons souvenirs d'un homme avec beaucoup de classe. Je me permets de me servir d'un mot anglais pour décrire ce grand homme: c'était un vrai 'gentleman' dans tous les sens. Pourtant il vivait simplement, bien qu'il ait été un homme très instruit, très calme, très déterminé dans son ministère, mais surtout un homme très saint.*”

Joseph Michael Lanzalaco, CSB

June 16, 1950 – July 24, 2015



Father Joe Lanzalaco, CSB, died suddenly on July 24, 2015. He suffered a heart attack at the East Avenue Basilian Residence in Rochester, New York. He was 65 years old; he had been a Basilian for 31 years and served in priestly ministry for 28 years. Joe was born in Rochester, NY to John Lanzalaco and Rose Tiano. He attended St. Boniface Elementary School and was an alumnus of Bishop Kearney High School where he graduated in 1969. Joe received an Associate Degree (majoring in Criminal Justice) from Monroe Community College, a B.A. in Philosophy from St. John Fisher College and his M.Div. from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto, ON.

In 1969, Joe enlisted in the U.S. Army and soon found himself in Vietnam. In 1971, after leaving the army, he returned to civilian life for six years, and then enlisted in the army again. As a teenager, Joe had abandoned his Catholic faith, but while stationed in Germany he began attending the chapel on base. He stated, "I decided to get out of the army and pursue the priesthood and it worked out quite well."

Joe met the Basilian Fathers while attending St. John Fisher College and joined the Basilian Associate Program in 1982. Following graduation, he entered the Basilian Novitiate in Detroit, MI and professed his First Vows on August 5, 1984 at St. Anne's Church. After one year at St. Basil's College in Toronto, Joe went to teach as a Scholastic at Andrean High School in Merrillville, IN. He then returned to Toronto to complete his studies. Joe was ordained to the Priesthood on September 19, 1987 at the Church of the Annunciation in Rochester, NY by Bishop Matthew Clark. He then served in various Basilian ministries.

Upon his return to Rochester in June 2000, he assisted at various parishes and served as Parochial Vicar at St. Thomas the Apostle in Irondequoit. In 2001, he returned to Fisher, his alma mater, as Director of Campus Ministry and was a member of the President's Cabinet. Joe served for many years as Superior and Rector of the Basilian Fathers of East Avenue. He was also the Ordained Coordinator of the Rochester Area Basilian Lay Associates. Joe was a model of unselfish service, a priest of prayer, a voracious reader, and a person with a sharp wit and sense of humor. He loved his family and was a dedicated son; he loved his Basilian brothers, his priesthood, the Church, and the Lord.

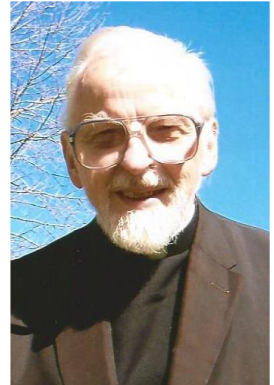
As a Basilian, Joe had the following appointments:

St. Basil's Novitiate at Ste. Anne (Detroit, MI)	1983 – 1984
St. Basil's College (Toronto, ON)	1984 – 1986
Andrean High School (Merrillville, IN)	1986
St. Basil's College (Toronto, ON)	1986 - 1987
St. Joseph's College (Edmonton, AB)	1987 – 1988
Andrean High School (Merrillville, IN)	1988 – 2000
St. John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)	2000 – 2015

The wake service for Father Joe Lanzalaco, CSB was held on Tuesday, July 28th in Rochester, NY. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at on Wednesday, July 29th at Christ the King Church in St. Kateri Parish. George Smith, CSB was the principal celebrant and Thomas Rosica, CSB preached; he said in his homily: "Teaching goodness, discipline and knowledge' was not an empty slogan emblazoned on walls or found in brochures: it was a way of life for Father Joe." There were over 35 priests concelebrating at the funeral; present were Bishop Salvatore Matano, Bishop of Rochester, and Bishop Emeritus Matthew H. Clark. Interment was in the Basilian plot at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery with military honors.

John Robert Lee, CSB

December 18, 1927 – August 2, 2015



Father John Lee, CSB, died suddenly on August 2, 2015 at the East Avenue Residence in Rochester, NY. He was 88 years old; he had been a Basilian for 69 years and served in priestly ministry for 59 years. John Lee was born in Detroit, MI to Edgar Lee and Mildred Grace Charbonneau. He was an alumnus of Catholic Central High School (graduated 1945). Jack (as he was called by friends and family) received a B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1951. Studies at the University of Detroit brought him a Secondary School Certificate for the State of Michigan in 1952. Jack also earned his STB from the University of St. Michael's College, an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, and his Ph.D. from the Pontifical Biblical Institute of Archeology of Jerusalem.

In 1945, Jack entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester, NY and made his first profession on August 15, 1946. Jack was ordained to the Priesthood on June 29, 1956 at St. Basil's Church, Toronto, by Cardinal McGuigan. Then Jack taught History, Religion, Latin, English and Social Studies at Catholic Central High School in Detroit, MI, the Aquinas Institute in Rochester, NY, and at Andrean High School in Merrillville, IN. In 1967, Jack was appointed to the University of Windsor where he spent four years teaching Sociology and Anthropology. He then pursued Graduate Studies in Archeology and Hebrew at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Jerusalem, Israel. Arriving at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY, in 1976 Jack taught History, Archaeology, Anthropology and Human Affairs. Jack was considered an expert in the fields of Anthropology and Archeology, conducting extensive research and serving as a student mentor. Jack's interests were diverse, if not eccentric; he was interested in cultures past and present. Those interests took him beyond the classroom to local digs in the Rochester area as well as places as far away as Jordan. In recent years he became associated-with a group interested in the preservation of the lighthouse at the mouth of the Genesee River; he was there every week.

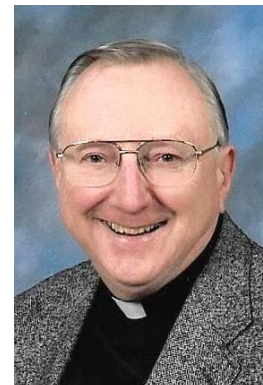
As a Basilian, Jack had the following appointments:

Rochester Novitiate (Rochester, NY)	1945 – 1946
Holy Rosary Seminary (Toronto, ON)	1946 – 1948
University of St. Michael's College (Toronto, ON)	1948 – 1951
Catholic Central High School (Detroit, MI)	1951 – 1952
Aquinas Institute (Rochester, NY)	1952 – 1953
St. Basil's Seminary (Toronto, ON)	1953 – 1957
Aquinas Institute (Rochester, NY)	1957 – 1958
Catholic Central High School (Detroit, MI)	1958 – 1960
Andrean High School (Merrillville, IN)	1960 – 1965
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)	1965 – 1967
Assumption University (Windsor, ON)	1967 – 1971
Pontifical Biblical Institute (Jerusalem, Israel)	1971 – 1976
St. John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)	1976 – 2006
East Avenue Basilian Residence	2006 – 2015

The wake service for Father Jack Lee, CSB was on Friday, August 7th in Rochester, NY; Don Lococo, CSB, presided. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, August 8th at Christ the King Church in St. Kateri Parish. Morgan Rice, CSB was the principal celebrant and homilist. At the conclusion of the Eucharist, the Most Rev. Salvatore Matano, Bishop of Rochester, led the Final Commendation. Interment was in the Basilian plot at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery; Joe Trovato, CSB presided.

Robert John Duggan, CSB

February 2, 1935 – October 4, 2015



Father Bob Duggan, CSB, died in Novi MI as a result of a fall that left him paralyzed and unresponsive. Basilians from Catholic Central HS celebrated the Eucharist in his hospital room; shortly afterwards the physicians terminated life support. Bob passed peacefully from this life to the next. He was 80 years old; he made first profession in 1954 and celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination in 2014.

Bob was born in Detroit, MI, the son of the late Raymond Duggan and Susan Collins. He graduated from Catholic Central HS in 1953. He entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester, NY and was professed in 1954. Bob studied at Assumption University and received a BA in English and Philosophy. He taught as a scholastic at St. Thomas High School in Houston. Jack Hanna, CSB, a high school freshman at the time remembers him as an excellent teacher and an inspirational Basilian.

After completing his Theological studies, Bob was ordained to the priesthood in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, by George Cardinal Flahiff, CSB in 1964. From 1965 through 1974 Bob taught English at Catholic Central High School in Detroit. In 1967 he completed graduate studies and received an MA in English from the University of Detroit. In 1974 Bob began a second phase in his Basilian priestly ministry; he became a leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Archdiocese of Detroit. He first lived with George Koskicki, CSB and later the General Council gave him permission to live in the Precious Blood Rectory which had become a center for the Charismatic Renewal. The third phase of Bob's Basilian ministry was his service as pastor. He served in Ontario, in Michigan and in Texas. Bob's vision for a parish was "Jesus Christ is the Center of Christian Life." This simple yet challenging ideal was at the core of Bob's ministry in the parishes he served.

In 2009 Bob was thinking about retirement but the fourth phase of his ministry was about to begin: he was asked to serve on the staff of the Sugar Land Novitiate with Vince Dulock, CSB. Teaching, Charismatic Renewal, Pastor, Formator; Bob was good at whatever he did.

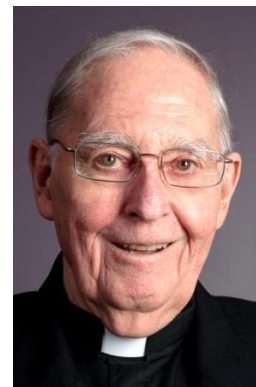
Bob had the following appointments in his life as a Basilian:

Basilian Novitiate, Rochester, NY	1953-1954
House of Studies, Assumption University, Windsor, ON	1954-1958
St. Thomas High School, Houston, TX	1958-1961
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto, ON	1961-1965
Catholic Central High School, Detroit, MI	1965-1974
Charismatic Ministry, Detroit, MI	1974-1976
Precious Blood Rectory, Charismatic Ministry, Detroit, MI	1976-1979
Ste. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church, Detroit, MI	1979-1982
St. John Baptist Church, Amherstburg, ON	1982-1989
Ste. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church, Detroit, MI	1989-1997
St. Anne Church, Houston, TX	1997-2003
Renewal	2003
Most Holy Trinity, Angleton, TX	2003-2009
St. Basil's Novitiate, Sugar Land, TX	2009-2015
Basilian Fathers of Dillon House, Houston, TX	2015

The wake and prayer service for Father Bob Duggan was held in the Chapel of Catholic Central HS in Novi MI on Thursday, October 8; Maurice Restivo CSB preached. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Ste. Anne de Detroit on Saturday, October 10; George Smith, CSB presided and Paul English, CSB preached. Interment was at the Basilian plot in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Southfield MI.

Christopher Andrew Iredale, CSB

September 17, 1931 – October 25, 2015



Father Christopher Iredale, CSB, died peacefully at Anglin House in Toronto. He has been in declining health for the past few years; he himself requested a move from Orsini House to the nursing care of Anglin House. He was 84 years old. He had been a Basilian for 65 years and served for 57 years as a priest. Chris was born in St. Catharines, ON; his parents were George Iredale and Martha McQuilkin. He began his education in St. Catharines but in 1945 he came as a boarder to St. Michael's College School in Toronto. Chris graduated from St. Michael's College School in 1949 and that same year he entered the Basilian Novitiate in Richmond Hill, ON.

Chris graduated from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto in 1953 and went to teach as a scholastic at the Aquinas Institute and St. Thomas High School. He returned to St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto for his Theological Studies. Chris was ordained in 1958 at St. Basil's Church in Toronto.

While a teacher at Michael Power High School Chris began his studies to be certified as a librarian. In 1990, Chris celebrated 34 years of service in education as a teacher, administrator and librarian. Besides St. Thomas in Houston and Aquinas Institute in Rochester he served for 16 years at St. Michael's College School; he also served for 15 years at Michael Power and later at Michael Power-St. Joseph after the consolidation of the schools. Chris also served in Basilian parish ministry. Chris never retired from his priestly ministry. For years he helped with chaplaincy at St. Joseph's College school in Toronto. On many weekends he would leave Toronto on Friday and take the bus to St. Catharines to celebrate Eucharist and do other priestly ministry. On the home front, Chris was always solicitous for any guest who came to stay at Orsini House; he gave visitors a warm welcome. He had a major conversion experience in mid-life; he discovered 'centering prayer' at that time. He began a beautiful new relationship with Jesus. Finally, Chris gracefully accepted old age with all its challenges.

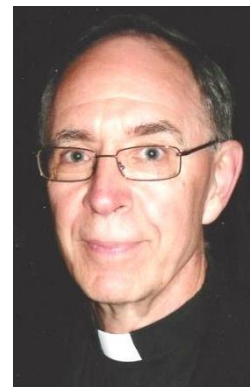
Chris Iredale had the following appointments as a Basilian:

Richmond Hill Novitiate, ON	1949 – 1950
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto ON	1950 – 1953
Aquinas Institute, Rochester NY	1953 – 1954
St. Thomas High School, Houston TX	1954 – 1955
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto ON	1955 – 1959
Michael Power HS, Etobicoke ON	1959 – 1962
St. Michael's College School, Toronto, ON	1962 – 1978
Michael Power HS, Etobicoke ON	1978 – 1986
St. Basil's Church, Ottawa ON	1987 – 1988
St. Basil's College, Toronto, ON	1988 – 1991
St. Basil's Church, Ottawa, ON	1991 – 1992
St. Basil's College, Toronto, ON	1992 – 1993
Holy Rosary Church, Toronto, ON	1993 – 1994
Orsini House, Toronto, ON	1994 – 2015
Anglin House, Toronto ON	2015 – 2015

The wake and prayer service for Father Chris Iredale, CSB was held in the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre Chapel in Toronto, ON, on Wednesday, October 28; Jim Carruthers, CSB gave the eulogy. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in the same chapel the next day; David Katulski, CSB, Vicar General of the Congregation presided and Bill Irwin, CSB preached. Interment was at the Basilian plot in Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill, ON.

Kenneth John Decker, CSB

October 20, 1938 – November 30, 2015



Father Ken Decker, CSB, died peacefully at Anglin House in Toronto after quietly and courageously battling cancer of the pancreas and liver for over a year. He was 77 years old. He had been a Basilian for 58 years and served in priestly ministry for 48 years. Ken was born in Detroit, MI, the son of the late Edmund Charles Decker and Agnes Anne Samida Decker.

Ken graduated from Catholic Central HS in 1956. He entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester, NY and was professed in 1957. Following profession, Ken entered the University of Toronto where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1961. After completing his Theological studies at St. Basil's Seminary, Ken then attended the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, earning his M.S. degree in Physics and Chemistry. In 1980, Ken received a Master of Religious Education from the University of St. Thomas in Houston. In 1967, Ken was ordained to the priesthood in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Detroit by Bishop Joseph Breitenbeck.

Ken was an excellent teacher at Catholic Central, Andrean and St. Thomas HS. Ken spent a sabbatical year in Nigeria, Africa, working with Our Lady's Missionaries. While there, he attended a trade school and spent time on one of his great loves – carpentry. He fabricated furniture for the local church whose parishioners were largely first generation Christians. He produced many beautiful and useful pieces for his family, friends and Basilian houses. He will be remembered in a special way at Frassati House and Anglin House as the Eucharist is celebrated everyday on altars lovingly crafted by Ken Decker.

Besides being a teacher, Ken was rector of St. Basil's College for several years and later served as a dedicated pastor in Missouri City TX and Amherstburg, ON. He was Vicar General (1997-2002) and then served as Superior General (2002-2010). +Ron Fabbro, CSB, Bishop of London, ON writes: "Ken was a man of integrity; the confreres knew that they could count on him to be fair and impartial. When I was Superior General, I valued Ken's counsel and his good judgment."

During his life as a Basilian, Ken had the following appointments:

Basilian Novitiate, Rochester, NY	1956 - 1957
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, ON	1957 - 1959
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto, ON	1959 - 1961
Catholic Central High School, Detroit, MI	1961 - 1964
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto, ON	1964 - 1968
Andrean High School, Merrillville, IN	1968 - 1973
St. Thomas High School, Houston, TX	1973 - 1981
St. Basil's College, Toronto, ON	1981 - 1987
Sabbatical, Nigeria, Africa	1987 - 1988
Holy Family Church, Missouri City, TX	1988 - 1996
St. John the Baptist Church, Amherstburg, ON	1996 - 1997
Curial House, Toronto, ON	1997 - 2010
Frassati House, Toronto, ON	2010 - 2015
Anglin House, Toronto, ON	2015

The wake and prayer service for Ken was held in the Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre Chapel in Toronto, ON, on Thursday, December 3; Joe Walsh, CSB, the superior of Anglin House presided and Ken's sister, Elaine Musthaler, spoke on behalf of the family. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Basil's Church, Toronto the following day; George Smith, CSB presided and preached. +Ron Fabbro, CSB led the Final Commendation and Farewell. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill, ON.

Edward Arthur Roberts, CSB

November 8, 1927 – December 2, 2015

Father Edward Arthur Roberts, CSB, died peacefully at St. Dominic Village in Houston; his niece was with him at the time. He was 88 years old. He had been a Basilian for 69 years and a priest for 60 years.

Edward, known by everyone as “Art”, was born in Houston, Texas, the son of the late John Charles Roberts and Dora Marie Peltier. He was the eldest in a family of nine children: Jim, George, Walter (Butch), John, Tom, Bill, the late Dorothy Fisher and the late Mary Ann Mack.



Art attended All Saints Catholic School in Houston and then graduated from St. Thomas High School in 1945. He entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester, NY and was professed on August 15, 1946. Following profession, Art spent a year at Holy Rosary Seminary in Toronto. He studied at Assumption College in Windsor and received his BA from the University of Western Ontario in 1950. He received a Secondary School Teacher's Certificate for the State of Michigan from the University of Detroit. During his two years of teaching at St. Thomas High School in Houston Art obtained a Texas Teacher's Certificate from the University of St. Thomas. He then attended St. Basil's Seminary in Toronto to complete his Theological studies. Art received his MA in History from the University of Windsor.

Art was ordained to the priesthood on June 29, 1955 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Bishop Francis V. Allen. Others ordained that year were James Black, Wilfred Canning, John Cavanaugh, Robert Chauvin, Eddie Doser, John Dougherty, Norm Fitzpatrick, Johnnie Gaughan, Leo Hetzler, John Kelly, John Kraus, Patrick Lalonde, John McGee, Ted McLean, John McManus, Bob Madden, Paul Meloche, Vincent Paré, Charles Principe and Fred Sohn. Father Raphael O'Loughlin, CSB preached the sermon at Art's First Solemn Mass on July 4 in All Saints Church, Houston.

Art had the following appointments in his life as a Basilian:

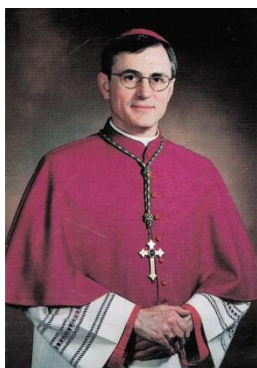
Rochester Novitiate, Rochester, NY	1945-1946
Holy Rosary Seminary, Toronto, ON	1946-1947
Assumption College, Windsor, ON	1947-1950
Catholic Central High School, Detroit, MI	1950-1951
St. Thomas High School, Houston, TX	1951-1953
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto, ON	1953-1956
Assumption University, Windsor, ON	1956-1965
St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY	1965-1967
St. Thomas High School, Houston, TX	1967-1970
University Of Windsor, Windsor, ON	1970-1972
St. Pius X High School, Albuquerque, NM	1972-1978
Newman Centre, Toronto, ON.	1978-1983
St. Albert The Great Newman Center, Las Cruces, NM	1983-1990
Basilian Fathers of Las Cruces, Las Cruces, AZ	1990-1994
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Truth or Consequences, NM	1994-2006
Basilian Fathers of Las Cruces, Las Cruces, NM	2006-2011
Dillon House, Houston, TX	2011-2012
St. Dominic Village, Houston, TX	2012-2015

A visitation and the Mass of Christian Burial were held at St. Anne's Church in Houston, TX, on Monday, December 7; Kevin Storey, CSB presided. Interment was at the Basilian plot in Forest Park Lawndale in Houston TX.

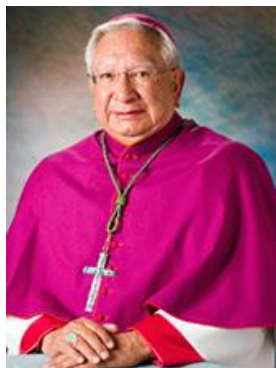
Family Deaths January 2014 – December 2014

Gerald Decker, the brother of Ken Decker, CSB
Gerard Deglène, the brother of Michel Deglène CSB
Rosemary Donovan English, the mother of Paul English CSB
Silvia Lopera Montoya, the sister of Rafael Lopera, CSB
Lillian Lyons, the sister of Wilf Canning, CSB
James Reilly, the brother of Leo Reilly, CSB

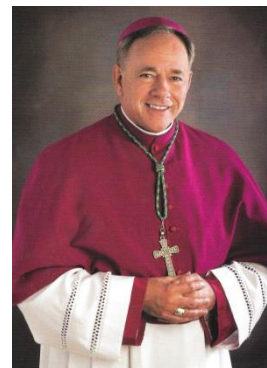
Basilian Bishops



+ Ronald P. Fabbro CSB
Bishop of London ON



+ Ricardo Ramírez CSB
Bishop Emeritus, Las Cruces NM



+ J. Michael Miller CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver BC

Community Count of the Congregation of St. Basil as of December 31, 2015

3 Bishops, 167 priests, 1 Deacon, and 12 Scholastics
183 Professed Members and 5 Novices (Colombia)

*(5 Novices were professed in the Novitiate at Santa Marta, Colombia, on January 2, 2016,
bringing the number of Scholastics to 17 and the number of professed members to 188 in January of 2016)*

France – 4 Canada – 83 USA – 74 Mexico – 11 Colombia – 11

Ages of Basilians Number of Basilians

20 – 29	5
30 – 39	13
40 – 49	9
50 – 59	21
60 – 69	26
70 – 79	55
80 – 89	45
90 – 99	9

December 31, 2015 TOTAL 183 Professed Basilians

The Congregation of St. Basil
Founded in Annonay, France 1822

Serving in
France
Canada
The United States
Mexico
Colombia



Christ, our Teacher
Cristo, nuestro Maestro
Le Christ, notre Maître