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2020 is the 60th anniversary of first profession of vows for
Denis April, James Farge, Ronald Griffin, Joseph (Ted) Johnson,
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Thanks to Rebecca Campbell, Kevin Storey's Executive Assistant, for her patient and careful proofreading of this text.



Greetings from the Superior General and from the Editor of the *Annals* 2020

Dear Confrères and Basilian Lay Associates,

Once again, I am pleased to present you the *Basilian Annals* for 2020. In my Message to the Congregation in August of this past year I quoted our vision statement: "The Basilian Fathers are a joyful community serving the Church because we continually recommit ourselves to: (1) time with God in prayer, (2) time to renew ourselves, and (3) time for relationships with our confrères and with others." I went on to comment that while the pandemic has given us time with God it has severely tested us in terms of renewing ourselves and connecting with others. However, this *Basilian Annals* will help us to connect with our Basilian brothers and Lay Associates. This is our Congregational history for this bizarre year of 2020. I want to thank all who contributed to this edition of our history. I want to thank Jack Hanna who has compiled and edited this material. I want to thank God for continuing to accompany us through this pandemic. Above all, I want to thank God for calling us to the Congregation of St. Basil.

Fraternally, in Christ,


Kevin J. Storey CSB
Superior General

Dear Brother Basilians and Basilian, Lay Associates, Apreciados Hermanos, Mes chers confrères,

Jacques Duret, André Fayolle, Joseph Lapierre, Henri Martinesche, Jean François Pagès, Augustine Payan, Jean Baptist Polly, Pierre Tourvielle, Julien Tracol, Jean Antoine Vallon: these are the ten men who founded our Congregation. Their work began in a very difficult time in history. But we are still here. In the *Annals* of 2020, we start by reading about the newly ordained and we end by reading about our departed brothers. In between is the story of Basilian ministry to God's Holy People. I hope that you enjoy paging through the 2020 edition of the *Basilian Annals*. J'espère que vous apprécierez la lecture des *Annales des Prêtres de Saint Basile* de 2020. Espero que Uds. disfruten de la lectura de los *Anales Basilianos* de 2020.

In the Lord's peace,


Jack Hanna CSB
Secretary / Treasurer General

Please Pray for our Generous Donors

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Holy Father Basil, remember your Congregation, which has belonged to you from the beginning. Stir up, O Lord, in your Church the Spirit which Blessed Basil served, so that filled with the same Spirit, we may be eager to love what he loved and to put into practice what he taught. Amen.

Javier Higuera Orjuela CSB

Ordenado Sacerdote el 2 de enero 2020

Si algo he aprendido de la vida es que las cosas no siempre resultan como uno espera. No es que yo sea pesimista cuando digo esto, simplemente que en ocasiones las cosas se complican o por el contrario, salen mucho mejor de lo que uno espera. En ambas situaciones Dios nos enseña algo. Y esto ha sido este primer año de sacerdocio, un año lleno de muchas sorpresas agradables y desagradables. Sin embargo, no hay que tener miedo, pues bien, mis directores espirituales me han enseñado algo: en la vida nos puede faltar cualquier cosa; la salud, el dinero, y hasta los amigos, pero Dios nunca faltará. Creo que quienes ya llevan varios años como sacerdotes lo podrán corroborar.



Con mucho dolor, no sólo yo sino toda la Congregación, hemos perdido hermanos durante estos últimos años. Unos se nos han adelantado y han partido a la casa del Padre, otros sencillamente quisieron salir de la Congregación. A ambos los hemos llorado y hemos sentido su partida, pero de eso también se trata la vida. De muchas maneras somos aves de paso, hoy estamos, mañana no lo sabemos. Lo verdaderamente importante es la amistad con Dios y vivir esa espiritualidad con nuestros hermanos de comunidad y después con todos aquellos que hacen parte de nuestros apostolados.

Otra de las grandes enseñanzas de este primer año como sacerdote, que ha coincidido con la cuarentena prolongada y con la pandemia que hemos vivido aquí en Colombia y en muchas partes del mundo, es que he podido valorar lo verdaderamente importante, la familia, los hermanos de comunidad, y los amigos. En medio de la incertidumbre y de tantas situaciones complejas Dios me ha demostrado su amor y su providencia. Me ha hecho comprender que él cuenta conmigo pero que las cosas no dependen de mí. Eso me ha llevado a estar siempre disponible a su voluntad. Y es que en medio de las crisis Dios sabe hablar muy claramente. Sólo le pido a Dios que él me siga dando sabiduría, fortaleza y alegría en este ministerio al que él me ha llamado.

Frecuentemente en mis oraciones le pido que nunca me falte Él en mi vida. Me acojo a las oraciones de todos mis hermanos de comunidad, familiares, y amigos para que yo pueda vivir con generosidad este ministerio sacerdotal. Que San Basilio y todos nuestros santos patronos sigan intercediendo por mí y por toda la Congregación.

Synopsis in English: If there is one thing that I have learned it is that things don't always work out the way you think. Sometimes they get complicated and sometimes they are better than you expect. This has been a year of pleasant and unpleasant surprises. However, I believe that we can lose everything: health, money, even friends. But God never fails us. With great sorrow, we have lost some brothers this year. Some have gone to God and others have left the Congregation. In a way, we are like birds that fly along: here today and gone tomorrow. The most important thing is our friendship with God. During the pandemic we have learned to value the important things: family, our brothers in the Congregation, and our friends. Not everything depends on me. I just ask God to keep giving me wisdom, strength, and joy in my ministry. Many times, I pray to God that he be with me always. I join my prayers with those of my brother Basilians, my family, and my friends that I can live with generosity the priestly ministry. May St. Basil and all our holy patrons keep on interceding for me and for everyone in our Congregation.

Eduardo Iván Rivera CSB

Ordained May 23, 2020

The pandemic has changed many aspects of our lives. I had to adapt my ordination to the changing circumstances. Bishop George A. Sheltz, auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, ordained me on May 23, 2020 at St. Anne Catholic Church. Only a limited number of people were in attendance. Everyone was wearing a mask, and the Mass was livestreamed. The ordination was unique and memorable in many ways. After the ordination, I could not host a large reception, instead I had a dinner with my parents. On the following day, I celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Chapel of St. Basil at the University of St. Thomas. I am grateful to all of my confrères who supported me through their prayers, messages, and presence.



The months after my ordination have brought me countless opportunities for exercising the priesthood. I learned how to adapt to new situations, just days after my ordination. Everything was thrown into flux when Al Sinasac was robbed and attacked in front of the parish. As I packed my things to move to Rochester, the General Council reassigned me to minister at St. Anne. I have enjoyed every moment of my ministry at the parish. The state of Texas has remained open since the summer, so I have had opportunities to celebrate Masses, weddings, funerals, baptisms, confessions, and anointing the sick. Many people still come to speak with me in-person for spiritual counseling. They have been affected by the pandemic in different ways; some people have lost their jobs, while others have lost their loved ones. Through all of the joys and struggles of this year, I look to Christ the Good Shepherd to guide my priesthood.

“Jesus said to the Pharisees, ‘I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.’”
John 10:11

Carlos Arturo Rodríguez Marciales CSB

Ordenado Sacerdote el 2 de enero 2020

Siento gratitud por estos meses de ministerio sacerdotal. Cuando me preguntan ¿Qué se siente haber llegado al sacerdocio? Simplemente, viene a mi mente “es una Gracia de Dios” que Él, sabe dar a quien llama, para seguir haciendo presente el reino de Dios en el mundo.

Estos meses han sido de gracia en mi vida ministerial a pesar del contexto; he experimentado que he sido llamado a seguir alimentando mi vida de Cristo, entregando su Palabra para animar al pueblo que Dios me ha colocado delante. Que como buen pastor sepa animar en este tiempo a aquellos que necesitan de la Iglesia, alimentar su vida espiritual con la Palabra de Dios, estar en comunión virtualmente, a la distancia. Así he tenido que estrenar mi ministerio. No me lo imaginé nunca, pero sigo diciendo, es un tiempo de gracia.



Recuerdo algunas palabras del Señor obispo en la ordenación sacerdotal que me han ayudado a entender qué significa ser un sacerdote hoy. Es el que tiene la tarea de desvelar los misterios de Dios en los hombres, de llevar la comunidad a Cristo, sentirse un verdadero discípulo, y sobre todo, vivir en encuentro con Cristo. He comprendido, que he sido puesto en el mundo para hacer la obra de Dios en persona de Jesucristo, que estoy llamado por Dios y predestinado a la salvación, a vivir y buscar la comunión perfecta con el Padre el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. Es una gran misión, una gran responsabilidad, esto hace que siga entendiendo que el ministerio sacerdotal “es una gracia de Dios”.

Vivir el sacerdocio desde el reino de Dios, decía el obispo: “un sacerdote sin reino de los cielos no es sacerdote.” He logrado ver la grandeza de Dios en los penitentes a través del perdón de los pecados, he sido puerta para los nuevos cristianos a través del sacramento del Bautismo, y he dado la bendición matrimonial a esas parejas que el Señor les ha concedido celebrar este sacramento. ¿Cómo no decir que ser sacerdote “es una gracia de Dios”?



Synopsis in English: I am grateful for these months of priestly ministry. When I am asked how it feels to have reached the priesthood, what does it mean? It simply comes to my mind "it is a grace from God" that He knows how to give to those he calls, to continue making the kingdom of God present in the world. These months have been a time of grace in my ministerial life in spite of the context; I have experienced that I have been called to continue feeding my life on Christ. I still say, it is a time of grace.

I remember some words of the Bishop at the priestly ordination and they have helped me to understand what it means to be a priest today. It is the one who has the task of revealing the mysteries of God in men, of bringing the community to Christ, but above all of living in an encounter with Christ. I understand that I have been placed in the world to do God's work in the person of Jesus Christ. It is a great responsibility; it makes me continue to understand that the priestly ministry "is a grace from God". I have managed to see the greatness of God in the penitents through the forgiveness of sins, I have been a door for the new Christians through the sacrament of Baptism and have given the marriage blessing to those couples that have celebrated this sacrament. How can we not say that being a priest "is a grace from God"?

Phillip Anthony Acquaro CSB

50 Years of Priestly Ministry

One of the amazing things about being a member of the Basilian Fathers, is the encouragement from superiors to “retool.” After fifteen years teaching, I found myself in Rome, listening to one of the Rota judges pleading for more canon lawyers to serve the Church. After receiving permission, I enrolled in the Catholic University and received the JCL degree. All the time the Lord was working in my life. My father passed away and my mother was alone in Detroit. My sister lived in Phoenix and my parents over the years were snowbirds. The Basilians were in parish and hospital ministry there, and having the JCL, I was asked to serve in the Tribunal of Phoenix.

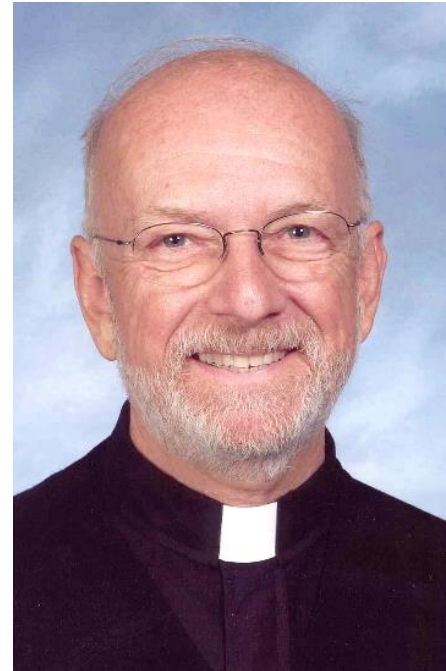
God continues to move in my life. After discovering my Italo-Greek Byzantine heritage, I was asked to help the Byzantine Catholics struggling in Phoenix. Working in the Tribunal allowed me to assist the Byzantine Church.

God continues to work. A small Byzantine mission with 6 families, was in need of a pastor. From a living room to an old Roman church with a WW2 shack as a hall, we placed ourselves under Our Lady's care. We were blessed and the parish grew.

God continues to work. Suffering from poor health, I was allowed to retire, joining the fathers in Houston at Dillon House. The property was old and inadequate for elder residents and the Superior General asked me to head a building drive to replace the old Dillon House building.

God continues to work. Blessed with talented Basilian Lay Associates, and many generous lay people, the current residence came into being. It is a comfortable and welcoming environment. God continues to work if we just say “yes” to Him. What marvels He has done. So wonderful in my eyes!

A blessed fifty years! Thanks be to God!



Michael Buentello CSB

25 years of priestly ministry

As others have mentioned before, these 25 years of priestly ordination have passed so quickly. It seems like it was only a few years ago that many Basilians, my family and close friends gathered in my home parish in Palacios, Texas as Bishop Ricardo Ramirez, CSB, laid hands on me. I have passed most of those years in education. I have thoroughly enjoyed all my high school assignments. When I first entered the Congregation, it was my desire to be a parish priest but by the time I graduated from the University of St. Thomas I knew that I wanted to teach in the high schools. I am grateful to the community for giving me the opportunity to serve as a priest and a teacher all these years.



It was at the University that I saw firsthand priests in action. At that time there were 20 Basilians assigned to St. Thomas. Most of them have sadly passed on. I was impressed with their dedication to religious life and to education. I was blessed to have had some of them as professors: Victor Brezik, Bob Lamb, Jim Keon, and Jack Hanna. They were demanding in the classroom but accessible and engaging with their students afterwards. I can proudly say that Basilians have been my greatest educators!

As a community, the confrères were faithful to the prayers of a religious. I learned from these men that it is possible to be a good priest and a good educator and at the same time be filled with joy. When I received my first teaching assignment, they were happy and excited for me. They shared with me their stories when they were first sent to teach and told me what to do and what to avoid doing as a new teacher. I was so well prepared to teach in the classroom because of what I witnessed at the University of St. Thomas. May those who have died rest in peace and those who are still with us, may they continue to be blessed.

I have taught in 4 Basilian high schools: St. Pius X, Aquinas Institute, Andrean, and Catholic Central. Each school has its own charm. I wish we had the manpower to still be present in all of them. In a high school, each day is a new adventure. In my current assignment at Catholic Central, I realize that I am following in the footsteps of all Basilians who have preceded me. Most of them left a powerful legacy. It is important that I know their story and their contribution to Catholic Central, but it is also important that I add to the Basilian legacy. I have so many fine memories of John Menner, John Ward, Charlie Smith, Ray Páramo, Ed Kline, Joe Miller, and Ned Donohar. Celebrating daily Mass for the current students, faculty, staff, and visitors is a joy. Praying with them and listening to their stories is a privilege. In our institutions we are seen first as “Father” and then as a teacher or administrator. That is an honor.

These 25 years of priesthood have passed so quickly. I realize now more than ever that “today” is important for it is filled with the presence of God. I am thankful for my parents who were my first teachers in the Catholic faith. They did it with great joy and love. I am grateful to the Basilians that modeled priesthood for me. I pray that I will continue to grow in my love for the Eucharist so that I can be of service to all. ***¡Viva Cristo Rey!***

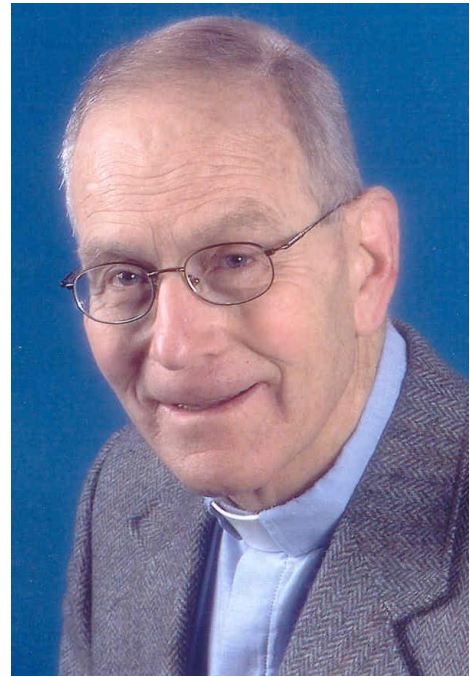
David Otto Klein CSB

50 Years of Priestly Ministry

This is my 50th year as a Basilian and the community has afforded me a variety of rewarding opportunities to enjoy my life.

The path to the Basilian priesthood began through my brother's connection with the priests and scholastics at Catholic Central. He started there in 1952 and would often mention the names of Basilians because they related well with the students. I found that same admiration for the Basilians as I attended C.C. and Saint John Fisher.

I was impressed by the Basilian association with the local parish clergy in Detroit and the Basilian hockey teams at Saint Mike's in Toronto. Basilian Sunday parish assistance in local dioceses has been part of my life and has resulted in several long friendships.



I have been able to experience with Basilian confrères camping and exploring the open spaces of western Canada and U.S. and the rare trip to Mexico. During those trips, we celebrated Mass in the "cathedral of nature."

Teaching and coaching for 13 years yielded the blessing of helping and guiding students to grow and mature and many of these relationships continue even now. One of my best memories is coaching kids who played pond hockey and putting together teams that won yearly championships in the University of Notre Dame High School League. My life as a Basilian teacher and coach took a new direction in the late 1980's when I was offered the opportunity to pursue hospital chaplaincy which has continued until the present time when the Covid 19 pandemic put a stop to it. I have been moved by the emotions, fears and burdens patients faced as I made rounds as a chaplain in New Mexico and British Columbia. Ministering to patients drawing close to the ends of their lives as well as veterans suffering mental and physical injuries from war were challenging to me. I experienced the vulnerability and hope of a young man on an artificial heart machine awaiting a heart donor.

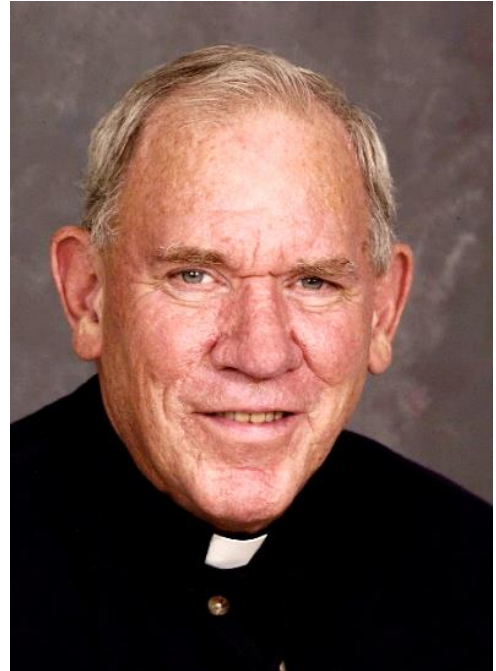
As I approach 50 years as a priest in December of 2020, I continue to feel the priesthood is a special opportunity to serve people's spiritual needs. I hope to continue to do this ministry as long as I am able. My 50th anniversary coincides with the 100th anniversary of the mission parish, Saint Isidore, where I have served for five years. I am looking forward to joining these two celebrations with the people of that parish as well as my brother, sister, nieces, and nephews back home in Michigan.

Paul Francis O'Connor CSB

50 Years of Priestly Ministry

Fifty years ago, as young theologians preparing to be ordained Basilian priests, we were lucky enough to have had excellent instructors. Among them were these Basilians: Fathers T. Forestall, J. Gallagher, W. Principe, E. Allen, W. Irwin, and R. Crooker. They helped me to be confident that I might be a good and useful priest.

I celebrated my first mass in my home parish. Fr. Joe Dorsey CSB preached. I remember that he talked about compassion in his sermon. On that first full day as a priest I experienced, in a dramatic way, what my vocation would be about. This reality would become more apparent to me in the years ahead. There was a celebration dinner that night. Due to snow (Rochester) and car trouble, my brother Dick and I arrived at “my” party when most people were already seated.



I was in a hurry to order a drink at the bar and to get to the head table. But I was interrupted. Standing at the entrance to the hall were the parents of a young man named Bill. They were friends of my parents and their son Bill and I had been novices together ten years before, in Pontiac. Bill was professed but left the Community when he was a scholastic. Not too long before my ordination, Bill, driving alone, had been killed instantly in a highway accident. Bill's father came up to me and reached for my hands. Bill's mother stood off to the side watching her husband and me. The father gripped my hands and began to sob, not saying a word. Bill's mother stood there, her face silently expressing her terrible loss. Here was a celebration for a young priest, just ordained. Here was the tragic absence of their young son.

In those moments I began to experience in a new way the work of a priest facing sorrow and pain, loss and confusion. Standing there with that sad couple, I began to call on the reservoir of compassion that would continue to be awakened and deepened all through the years of my ministry. The experience of compassion has given to me, and, I think, to all priests, the capacity to express and experience the love of God.

My vocation has always led me, also, to the places where I am tasked to express and experience God's tender mercy. That has been the double gift to me over the years: first, in innumerable moments to glimpse God's mysterious presence when suffering and compassion come together, and second, to experience the human warmth and comfort of Basilian fellowship and support.

David Louis Gerard Sharp CSB

50 Years of Priestly Ministry

Praise God for this year of celebration. 80 years a human being, 60 years a Basilian and 50 years a priest!

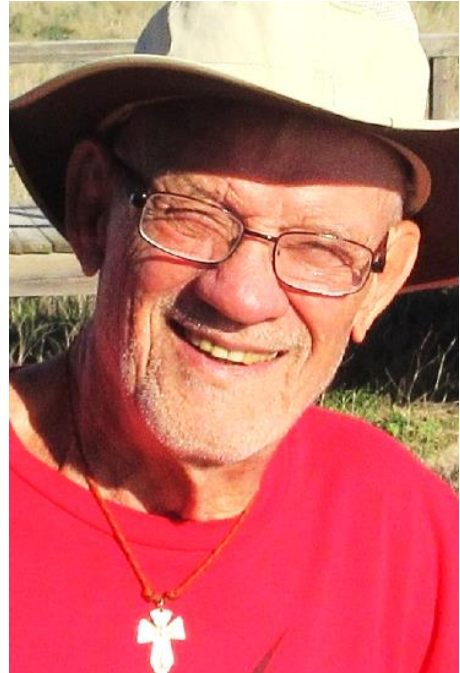
It is a joyous celebration for me, a year of thanks. Thanks to my parents and my family who so strongly nourished my calling by their exemplary lives. Thanks to so many friends who helped me along this Way, along this Pathway of the Heart. Thanks to the Basilians who have inspired and guided me all along the Way. And thanks be to God, to our Blessed Mother, and to the communities of people that have sustained my very life. It is all of you that have made my following of the Way easier and even possible.

We have met under many different circumstances. Some of you are close relatives and family. Some are Basilian Brothers who walk with me. Some are students from Detroit, Toronto, Albuquerque, Wickenburg, and Glendale. Some are the parents and friends of these students. Others are from parishes, newspaper routes, drop-in centers, immersion experiences in Mexico and Central America. Some are neighbors and co-workers of various places where I lived and worked. But there is a common bond that unites us this year. Each of you have given me the support and encouragement and guidance that I needed in order to follow the Way of Basilian Priesthood. I was not ordained just because I wanted to be a priest, although that is the case. I was ordained because I felt the call of the Lord pulling (and often times pushing) me, and this call came, and continues to come, through each of you!

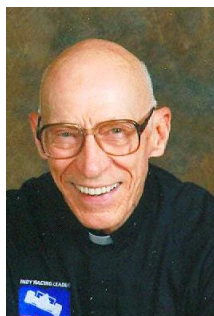
I heard, and continue to hear, (with my hearing aids on my getting older heart), the faint and often unclear notes bidding me to follow the Way. You have amplified and harmonized these notes as they have become a grand festival of sounds that demand my response. You have always given me positive vibrations in my time with you. Vibrations that let me know that you wish me to serve in this Way, the Way of the Priesthood of Jesus Christ! It has been and continues to be a mysterious call from the Lord. You have made it less mysterious by your very human affirmations of that intention I first had so many years ago: To serve all people. To be Jesus for each person. To follow the Way.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, I thank each of you for bringing me to this time of my life. 50 years of Priesthood! I ask your continued support and encouragement. I ask forgiveness and understanding for my deficiencies and failings and poor judgments. And once again I offer to you my service, my energy, my love, as I continue to follow (oftentimes falteringly) the Way of service as a Basilian Priest.

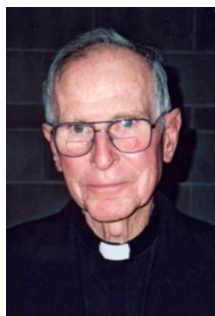
May we praise and thank the Lord for his greatness and goodness!



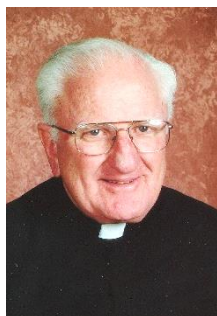
60 years of Priestly Ministry



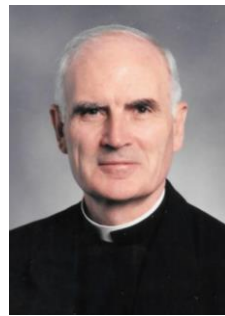
Al Cylwicki CSB



Tom Dugan CSB



Al Gaelens CSB



Jack Gallagher CSB



Leo Walsh CSB

Al Cylwicki was born in Detroit; he attended Catholic Central High School and received a B.S. degree in 1955 from Assumption University in Windsor ON. He was ordained in 1960 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Bishop Francis Valentine Allen. He celebrated his first Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Detroit with Norbert Ruth CSB preaching. Al lives at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Rochester NY.

Tom Dugan was born in Rochester NY; he attended Aquinas Institute and received his B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1958. He was ordained in 1960 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Bishop Francis Valentine Allen. He celebrated his first Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Rochester with Walter Principe CSB preaching. Tom lives at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Rochester NY.

Al Gaelens was born in Rochester NY; he attended Aquinas Institute and received his B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1955. He was ordained in 1960 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Bishop Francis Valentine Allen. He celebrated his first Mass at St. Helen's Church in Rochester with Antony Lococo CSB preaching. Al lives at Dillon House in Houston TX.

Jack Gallagher was born in Yorkton, SK; he attended St. Joseph's College for high school and began his Art course at St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon. After Novitiate, he completed his university studies at the University of Toronto, graduating in 1955. He was ordained in 1960 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Bishop Francis Valentine Allen. He celebrated his first Mass in Yorkton with I. A. Shalla, C.Ss.R. preaching. Jack lives at Presentation Manor in Scarborough ON

Leo Walsh was born in Kirkintilloch, Dunbartonshire, Scotland. He attended high school at St. Mary's College in Aberdeen and graduated from St. Peter's Seminary in Cardross, Dunbartonshire. He was ordained for the Diocese of Glasgow in 1960 by Bishop Donald Campbell. He first knew of the Basilians in 1974 and soon came to Canada; he made his novitiate in Rochester and was professed in 1977. He currently lives in Windsor ON at Assumption Parish.



70 Years of Priestly Ministry

P. Wallace Platt has had over 25 appointments the USA, Canada, France, Mexico, and Colombia in his 70 years of Basilian priestly ministry. He served in education as a professor and administrator, he served as a formator, he served in parish ministry, and he was the Secretary General. Born in Toronto, he attended St. Michael's College School. He entered the Novitiate and was professed in 1943. He received his B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1947, an M.A. in 1951, and a Ph.D. in English in 1976. Wally was present in Annonay at the historic 1955 Reunion of the Basilian Fathers of Viviers and the Basilian Fathers of Toronto.

The Curial Office Staff in the Cardinal Flahiff Centre



Carolina Klapp



Elizabeth Contreras



Amanda Parcher



Fernanda Fernández

Carolina Klapp was born in Santiago, Chile and serves as the Congregational Financial Officer. She has been employed by the Basilians for 12 years. She works closely with the Treasurer General to manage the finances of the Congregation and the Sugar Land Mission Center. She provides financial reports, she prepares the yearly budget, and ensures 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. She is Assistant Financial Officer and performs the day-to-day financial operations. These include accounting, account payables, bank reconciliations, audits, and taxation. Elizabeth loves people and she loves numbers!

Amanda Parcher is a lifelong Torontonion, and she has worked at the Flahiff Centre for 9 years. She receives donations and pensions, she oversees health and car insurance, she is responsible for the accounting of the building costs, and she is the on-site IT person. Amanda is essential to the operation of the Curial Office. Outside of work, she likes to play football and enjoys travel.

Fernanda Fernández is a native of Mexico, born in Guadalajara, Jalisco (*jorgullosamente tapatía!*). She came to Canada in 2007. She began to work at the Flahiff Centre in 2019 and is currently the office Administrative Assistant and Receptionist. She does data entry, supervises mailing, maintains Basilian personnel records, and assists the Financial Officers. She enjoys reading and keeping her cat company.



Rebecca Campbell

Rebecca Campbell is from Georgetown, PEI (Prince Edward Island); this is her eighth year at the Flahiff Centre. She became the Assistant to the Superior General in 2019 and she supports him in his day-to-day administrative duties, including managing his very complex schedule. One of her important roles is recording the minutes of the General Council Meetings. She manages communications with the Basilian Lay Associates. She also assists the Secretary General by judiciously editing and carefully proofreading projects such as the *Basilian Directory*, the *Basilian Newsletters*, and the *Basilian Annals*. She has had extensive culinary training and is an accomplished chef with a specialty in the confection of fine pastries.

The Basilians in the Curial Office

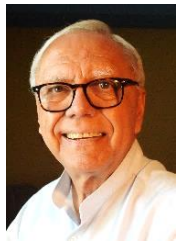
Superior General, Vicar General, Secretary-Treasurer General



Kevin Storey and the David Katulski are the two members of the General Council whose work is centered in the Curial Offices. As Superior General, Kevin works in a collegial way with his Council to promote the well-being and good order of the Congregation. Because of the 2020 pandemic, the General Council has been meeting via ZOOM. Kevin has done visitation of the houses of formation via ZOOM and finds that this alternative is workable.



David Katulski is serving his third term as Vicar General. His primary ministry on the Council is dealing with Basilians who are having difficulties in their life and ministry. He also handles legal issues that face the Congregation. David works with our Canon Lawyer in matters involving issues like exlaustration, incardination, and other matters involving the Roman Congregations. Via ZOOM David has given days of prayer to the faculty and staff of St. Joseph's High School and to the Knights of Malta.



Jack Hanna is the Secretary-Treasurer General and he has two areas of responsibility. As Secretary General, Jack is responsible for communication within the Congregation. As Treasurer General, Jack oversees the Basilian Finances. He works with the Congregation Financial Officer, Ms. Carolina Klapp, and the Assistant Financial Officer, Ms. Elizabeth Contreras. Jack meets with the Basilian Finance Committee (A. Leung, G. McDonald, W. May, R. Glass and D. Katulski).

The other members of the General Council, **John Huber**, **Morgan Rice**, and **Dennis Noelke** are always available for consultation by email or telephone or ZOOM. Kevin and David used to meet for Morning Prayer and Kevin, David, and Morgan used to gather for Eucharist and dinner on Thursday evenings until the pandemic put an end to these community activities.

Associated with the Curial Community

Joe Redican writes: Joe Redican had a quiet year. I returned from Costa Rica on March 15 to go into pandemic lockdown which limited opportunities for ministry and for community interactions. I did do one 12 step retreat in October as well as lots of individual counselling. Travel was limited to a trip to see Tim Scott in Montreal in October where I celebrated Mass at Tim's new church in Point Charles Montreal and a trip to Keon House in Houston for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

+Bob Kasun writes: Bob Kasun – It has been a year and a half since my blood cancer has been in remission, thanks be to God and to many people for numerous prayers. My energy level is not quite back to pre-chemo days, but “age” might also have something to do with it! With the appointment of Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick, one of Toronto's four auxiliaries, to the Diocese of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, in February 2020, the remaining three auxiliary bishops have had to divide up the Northern Region. I received responsibility for Simcoe County which added about another twenty-five parishes and missions to my portfolio, bringing the total number up to 97. Fortunately for me, that number will return to the normal number of 72 parishes, late in January 2021, when the new auxiliary bishop will assume responsibility.

The Basilian Archives

Jim Farge CSB, Director of Archives

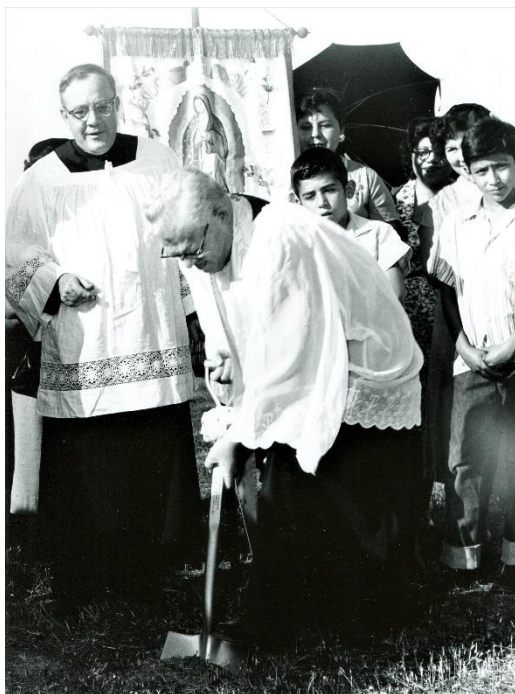
Michelle Sawyers, Archivist



2020 will be a memorable year for all of us. Though there were challenges, I was inspired to see how the team at the Cardinal Flahiff Centre adapted to stay productive and maintain the spirit of camaraderie.

The year started out with a presentation at Presentation Manor. I shared some of the wonderful photo collection that is housed in the archives and spoke about the founding of the Congregation of St. Basil and how they came to North America. There was a great turnout, and I was fortunate to have a crowd of knowledgeable Basilians to help me answer questions at the end.

Only a few weeks later, we learned that we would be working from home. Luckily through technology we had access our digital resources. Though I couldn't access the physical archives for a few months, I was able to work on some projects that I wouldn't typically have time for: I indexed some Basilian periodicals, cleaned up some of the data in the archives database, and began digitizing some of the earlier *Annals*, amongst other things. Though my cat was a great office buddy, I was happy when we were able to return to the office part time in the spring.



Father John Collins watches as Father Bob Lowry breaks ground for St. Theresa's Church in Sugar Land TX in 1958. The St. Joseph Mission Center stands on this site today.

It was disappointing when the Catholic Archives Group (CAG) conference had to be cancelled, but the organizers announced that the conference would be held digitally. In late September, four sessions were presented through Zoom, including a digital preservation workshop and a very enjoyable address from a curator of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library. I took on a new role as the CAG newsletter editor.

The two biggest users of archival resources this year were Father Jack Hanna and Father Jim Farge, who are both working on projects in anticipation of the Basilian bicentennial. I had great fun helping Father Hanna select photos for the forthcoming *Bicentennial Commemorative Book*; it includes Father Kevin Kirley's excellent text: *1922: Before and After*. Father Farge has been a frequent visitor (wearing a mask) as he has been working diligently on a supplement to the *Dictionary of Basilian Biography*.

Throughout the year I have been helping Jillian Kaster-Miller select photos for Throwback Thursday on Basilian social media, and there were many reference questions about topics such as St. Basil's Hymnal, St. Mary's College, Sault Ste. Marie, College St. Charles, Algeria, 95 St. Joseph Street, and more. My biggest hopes for next year are that we can have visitors in the archives again!

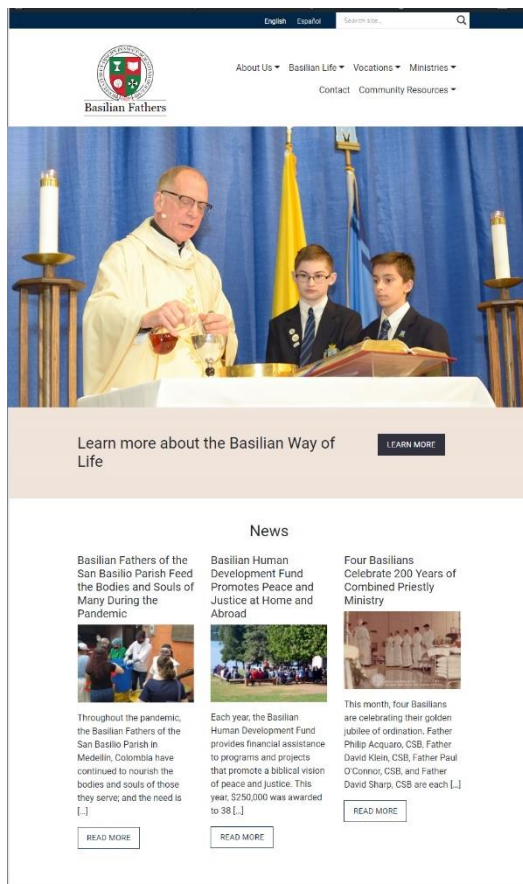
Communications Office

Jillian Kaster-Miller, Coordinator

As a result of lockdowns due to the Covid pandemic, Basilian apostolates had to grapple with how to move their various ministries to virtual platforms. Parishes offered online prayer services and Masses in place of in person worship and high schools experimented with how to offer the Basilian curriculum online. The Communications Office was able to share the Basilians' virtual ministries with a broader audience. It was interesting to see the similarities in how the Basilian apostolates responded to the crisis.



Despite the challenges of 2020, there was much to celebrate among the Congregation. The year began with the priestly ordinations of Father Carlos Rodríguez, CSB, Father Javier Higuera, CSB, and Father Eduard Padilla, CSB in Medellín, Colombia on the Feast of St. Basil. Due to the COVID pandemic a private Mass was celebrated for the priestly ordination of Father Eduardo Rivera, CSB in May. Although the Congregation couldn't gather in person, the Mass was livestreamed through the Basilian YouTube channel and many sent their blessings for his ministry online. The community also welcomed eight Basilian scholastics who professed their first vows in the summer. Once again, the Congregation was able to take part in the celebrations from afar as the first professions were livestreamed over Facebook



This year, the Congregation of St. Basil's website, Basilian.org, underwent a redesign. With the help of the website redesign committee of Father Dennis Noelke, CSB, Father José Del Toro, CSB, Father James Farge, CSB, Father Steven Huber, CSB, Father Kevin Mannara, CSB, and Father Eduardo Rivera, CSB whose input helped create a new bilingual, (English and Spanish) vocations focused website. It offers visitors information about how the Basilians' work in education and evangelization has evolved to meet the needs of today as well as resources for young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

(A page from the website is seen at the left.)

The Communications Office is involved with the planning for the upcoming 200th anniversary and looks forward to promoting the Bicentennial celebrations that will begin in November 2021.

The Basilian Centre for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation

Kevin Mannara CSB, Coordinator



At the direction of the General Council, Paul English, Bob Holmes, Terry Kersch, Maurice Restivo, and I were asked to reflect on our Congregation's dedication to social justice in light of today's context. This past year we included BLA Tom Hebert, who has been a positive and dedicated addition to the original members.

It became clear that the Centre needs to speak to the concerns of the young people in our schools and other apostolates. They are both our present and our future. These young people express in multiple ways their concern for the future of human life on our planet, so any reconfiguration of the Centre would need to take into account the concept of ecological justice. Pope Francis gave us a blueprint when he published *Laudato Si'* in 2015, adding it to the Church's magisterial teaching. In it, the pope created a dialogue between faith and the sciences.

We, as a congregation of priests, teachers, preachers, scientists, and scholars can indeed contribute to the cultural and spiritual transformation needed to better "care for creation." These ecological concerns go hand in hand with other justice related concerns we are facing today: social unrest around race, responses to a pandemic, civil dialogue, issues related to the dignity of life, and efforts at how to build lasting peace.

The name was changed to the Basilian Centre for Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC). Many other religious congregations are also establishing their own JPIC committees. Partnering with them allows us to increase the impact of our Basilian voice. We restructured Stirrings into a monthly, online means of communications. Each edition follows a "See, Judge, Act" methodology. Basilians are invited to contribute links to articles of interest or offer commentary on the articles chosen.

To better gauge the Congregation's interests, uncover areas we are already working on, and prioritize future endeavors, JPIC conducted a congregational survey this past year. While the community has a breadth of concerns, we cannot address them all. The results affirmed what we proposed: issues related to climate change and sustainability are top concerns.

An Advent opportunity for reflection invited houses to share their thoughts to get more input into our discernment for how to move forward. Those who participated gave us helpful additional data. We look forward to developing next steps based on the survey and the reflections during 2021.

Robert Kernahan Holmes CSB

Teacher of Peace

Bob Holmes has been a Basilian voice for Peace and Justice for years. He joined CPT (Christian Peacemaker Teams) in 2000. In 2003 he was appointed Basilian Coordinator for Peace and Justice. He continued in this role from 2003 until 2020 during which time he edited *Stirrings*, the Basilian peace and justice publication. In 2020 the Basilian Peace and Justice Office was transformed into the Basilian Committee for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC). Of course, Bob continues to be active with the new committee and he is often called on to give presentations in and around Toronto. He also continues to administer the Basilian Human Development Grants.



With CPT, Bob Holmes has served mainly on the Palestine Team. He was also on teams in Mexico, Colombia, Iraq (Baghdad and Kurdistan), Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Bob has been one of the leaders on 13 Basilian Peace and Justice Pilgrimages to the Holy Land and one to Colombia and one to Mexico.

In Canada, with the Catholic Workers, Bob took part in blockading the clearcutting of the rainforest in British Columbia. With the CPT Aboriginal Justice Team Bob has served in Northern Ontario at Grassy Narrows First Nation, blockading clear cutting on their treaty territory. In Southern Ontario he worked with the Algonquins to protect their land from mining and he joined the Six Nations in their LandBack actions. He was in New Brunswick with the Mi'gmah defending their fishing rights and protecting their land from fracking.

In 2014 Bob received the prestigious **Teacher of Peace Award** from Pax Christi Toronto.

**“And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”**

Micah 6:8

Thank you, Bob, for being our Teacher of Peace.

Le Berceau de la Congrégation

Annonay, Ardèche France

Rapport de Bernard Buisson CSB:



En France l'année 2020 fut compliquée, surtout de mon côté. Presque 2 mois d'hospitalisation à la clinique CHIRON sur ANNONAY, de mi-mai à début juillet, avec comme diagnostic une sévère dépression. Je suis sorti de la clinique le 2 juillet pour vivre 2 mois de convalescence auprès de mon plus jeune frère, Michel, et de son épouse, Sylvie. De longues marches en forêts et en altitude ont commencé de me faire revivre. Les soignants m'ont tous annoncé qu'il faudrait un an pour à peu près tout récupérer. Je revois tous les 2 mois le psychiatre qui m'a suivi tout particulièrement. Il est satisfait de l'évolution déjà constatée.

Depuis novembre, je reprends quelques services pastoraux, mais tout le monde me dit d'y aller très lentement. J'ai célébré avec mes collègues des deux paroisses quelques messes - notamment sur Facebook - où je n'étais pas célébrant principal. Pour Noël et la Ste-Famille, j'ai célébré comme seul prêtre à la communauté locale de Roiffieux (c'est Michaël BOUVIER, le directeur du collège qui y anime la chorale paroissiale, ceci expliquant le choix du site).

2ème changement notable: début août, le Père François MORFIN s'est résolu à déménager de la Villa Ste-Marthe à AUBENAS pour intégrer la maison St-Joseph à VARAGNES, sur la route d'ANNONAY à BOULIEU. Etant donné ses difficultés à se déplacer et à s'exprimer, il a fait le choix d'entrer en section EHPAD (établissement hospitalier pour personnes âgées dépendantes). L'acclimatation à sa nouvelle résidence s'est plutôt bien passée, même si pour l'instant le nouveau confinement empêche d'aller le voir "de visu" sur place.

A part tout cela, un grand chantier a démarré au collège du Sacré-Coeur. D'abord sur le plan administratif, par la fusion des organismes de gestion (OGEC) de l'école primaire de Montalivet et du Collège, sous le nom d'Ensemble scolaire St-Basile. Sur le flanc sud-ouest du collège, on a construit une grande salle d'évolution sportive, en prolongement de l'ancien théâtre devenu lui aussi espace sportif, 2 laboratoires de physique-chimie, des salles pour le rangement du matériel sportif, technologique, de laboratoire. Le tout avec un ascenseur intérieur pour intégrer les règles d'accessibilité pour les élèves handicapés. Et dans quelques années, la construction d'un nouveau vestiaire sportif, le nôtre étant en piteux état et ayant des éléments d'amiante dans sa toiture.

Mon nouvel appartement ayant été terminé au second étage dans l'ancienne maison des soeurs à la fin de l'année 2019, j'ai commencé mon déménagement de la maison St-Joseph vers cette nouvelle résidence qui s'avère finalement bien trop petite pour héberger tout ce que j'aurais voulu y mettre. Il va falloir procéder à une révision déchirante moi aussi et à un tri beaucoup plus sélectif dans les livres. En tous cas, j'ai intégré début septembre 2020 mon nouveau lieu d'habitation.

Concernant la venue de l'école de Montalivet, les travaux ne démarreront pas avant septembre 2021, le temps de trier tout ce qu'il reste encore dans les bureaux ou chambres des confrères français décédés depuis 1995. On respectera une partie de la végétation tant dans le parc St-Joseph que dans le Clos Bayle pour donner un environnement un peu écologique, mais il faudra bien aménager des places pour garer les voitures et gérer les déplacements induits pour les professeurs, le personnel et les parents.

Sur le plan paroissial, notre évêque, Mgr Jean-Louis Balsa a décidé de “marier” au printemps les deux paroisses Ste-Claire et St-Christophe pour faire des économies d'échelle et supprimer par cette fusion un certain nombre de réunions qui étaient souvent redondantes pour les responsables. J'ai profité de mon âge (71 ans passés), de ma santé défaillante, pour demander de ne plus être curé “in solidum” (et devenir prêtre auxiliaire paroissial. Moi aussi, j'aurai beaucoup moins de réunions désormais et ce n'est plus moi qui déciderai du calendrier des baptêmes, mariages, funérailles.

Il reste une chambre d'amis un peu spartiate pour vous accueillir dans mon nouveau logement si vous venez à passer par ANNONAY dans les mois qui viennent, de préférence en période scolaire pour la restauration facilitée avec le self, car mes talents culinaires étant ce qu'ils sont, il vaut mieux être prudent! *Père Bernard BUISSON CSB*



*Ville d'Annonay, seen from the second floor of the Collège de Sacre Cœur.
The statue of the Sacred Heart is in the foreground.*

The Cradle of the Congregation

Annonay, Ardèche France

Bernard Buisson CSB reports:

In France, the year 2020 was complicated, especially for me. I was hospitalized for almost 2 months at the CHIRON clinic on ANNONAY, from mid-May to early July, with a diagnosis of severe depression. I left the clinic on July 2 to live 2 months of recovery with my younger brother, Michel, and his wife, Sylvie. Long walks in the forests and the fresh air began to revive me. The caregivers all told me that it would take a year to get back to normal. Every two months I see the psychiatrist who had attended me. He is quite satisfied with my progress.

Since November, I have resumed some pastoral services, but everyone tells me to go very slowly. I celebrated with my colleagues from two parishes a few Masses - especially on Facebook - where I was

not a principal celebrant. For Christmas and the Holy Family, I celebrated as the only priest in the local community of Roiffieux (it is there that Michael BOUVIER, the director of the college leads the parish choir; that is why I went there).

Another notable change: at the beginning of August, Father François MORFIN decided to move from Villa Ste-Marthe in AUBENAS to join the St. Joseph's House in VARAGNES, on the road from ANNONAY to BOULIEU. Given his difficulties in travelling and expressing himself, he chose to enter the EHPAD section (hospital for the dependent elderly). The acclimatization to his new residence went rather well, although for now the new confinement regulations prevent me from going to see him in person.

Apart from all this, a major project has started at the Sacred Heart College. Firstly, on the administrative level, by the merging the management bodies (OGEC) of Montalivet Primary School and the College, under the name of the St. Basil School Ensemble. On the south-western flank of the college, a large sports facility has been built, an extension of the former theatre, which has also become a sports space. There are two physics-chemistry laboratories, rooms for the storage of sports equipment, technological and laboratory equipment. This area has an indoor elevator to incorporate accessibility rules for students with disabilities. And in a few years, we will see the construction of a new sports locker room, ours being in poor condition and having asbestos in its roof.



*Parc St-Joseph,
Maison St-Joseph in the background.*

My new apartment was finished on the second floor in the sisters' old house at the end of 2019, so I started my move from Maison St-Joseph to this new residence, which turns out to be far too small to house everything I would have wanted to put in it. We're going to have to do a much more selective sorting of the books. In any case, I moved to my new residence at the beginning of September 2020.

With regard to the moving of the Montalivet school, work will not start until September 2021. I will have time to sort out all that is still left in the offices or rooms of the French confrères who have died since 1995. Some of the vegetation in both St. Joseph Park and Clos Bayle will be respected to provide a somewhat environmentally friendly environment, but parking spaces will be required to park cars and provide spaces for teachers, staff and parents.

On the parochial level, our bishop, Monsignor Jean-Louis Balsa, decided to “marry” the two parishes of St. Clair and St. Christopher in the spring to make a more economical use of facilities and eliminate the number of meetings that were often redundant for everyone involved. I took advantage of my age (71 years of age), my failing health, to ask not to be a pastor and to become an auxiliary parish priest. I too will have far fewer meetings now and I will no longer decide the calendar of baptisms, weddings, funerals, etc.

There is still a somewhat spartan guest room to welcome you into my new accommodation if you come to ANNONAY in the coming months. It would be best if you come when the school is in session when we will have catering with the cafeteria. With my culinary talents being what they are, it is better to be careful! *Bernard BUISSON CSB*

BASILIAN FATHERS OF ASSUMPTION CHURCH Windsor, ON

The local community at Assumption Parish in Windsor consisted of three members: Maurice Restivo, Steven Huber, and Leo Walsh.

Maurice continues to serve as Pastor and Rector of our community. He remains involved in recovery activities, as well as serving on the Council of Priests for the Diocese of London. Once Windsor entered lockdown mode, he honed his culinary skills a bit more, and often cooks for the confrères.

Steven serves as the Associate Pastor, and as Chaplain of Campus Ministry at the University of Windsor. He continues to sing with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and the Windsor Classic Chorale, although for the moment, all performances have been put “on hold” due to the pandemic. He looks forward to joining these groups once the pandemic has subsided.

Leo Walsh continues to remain active, even in his retirement. He regularly celebrates Mass in our parishes and continues to meet with individuals who are seeking spiritual direction or other pastoral counselling. He also continues to serve on the staff of Assumption University as the Academic Vice-President, and Chair of the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute at Assumption University.

The Year 2020 began quite normally for the Basilians at Assumption Parish. We hosted the Windsor BLAs and other local confrères for the celebration of our Basilian feast day on January 2, beginning with Mass in Assumption Church. It was a very ordinary start to a year that ended up being anything but ordinary!

When the first lockdown orders were issued in March, the local community had to very quickly figure out how to continue to reach the parishioners, in order to minister to them during the shutdown. In a matter of days, Steven Huber had managed to transform the Rosary Chapel into a “studio,” so that Mass could be live streamed for the parish community. The live streaming of Masses was so well received, that the parish invested in upgraded live streaming equipment.



In the midst of the lockdown, restoration work on the historic Assumption Church building continued. Work has begun on repairing the plaster on the east side of the Church, through a process called consolidation. This process involves going into the attic and spraying several layers of a special compound onto the wood lathe. Damaged areas are then repaired with new plaster, and the repaired area is then repainted. The process of recreating all of the stenciling and detail in the painting is quite labor intensive, so we expect this work to continue well into 2021.

On June 29, Leo celebrated his 60th Anniversary of Ordination (*see page 11 of the ANNALS.*) He celebrated a Mass for his anniversary, at which many of his former parishioners from St. Paul's in LaSalle, Ontario were in attendance. Maurice in his homily reminded us that the life of a Priest is not about status, but about service. Leo Walsh has given us a wonderful example of being of service to the people of God, and we are truly grateful. He is a blessing to Assumption Parish.



September brought a major change in the life of the local community, when the Diocese of London officially activated our “Family of Parishes”, as the “Windsor Heritage Catholic Family of Parishes”. With Maurice as Pastor, the Basilians at Assumption Church now have pastoral responsibility for three Parishes: Assumption, St. Alphonsus, and St. Angela Merici, which is the Italian parish in Windsor. The family also includes two Ecclesial Communities: the St. Daniel Comboni African Community, and the St. Benedict Tridentine Rite Community. Both of these communities have their liturgies at St. Alphonsus Church. To assist with the workload, the Diocese appointed Father Christian Amogu, a Diocesan Priest from Nigeria, as Associate Pastor. In addition, Father Peter Hrytsyk (who lived at St. Basil's College as a seminarian in the 1980s) celebrates the Latin Mass for the St. Benedict community. We are also blessed with a great pastoral team and office staff. With the Family of Parishes, we have reconfigured office and living space. The Basilians continue to live at Assumption, and Father Christian lives at St. Angela. Maurice and Christian have their offices at St. Angela.

*Maurice Restivo CSB, Pastor
Steven Huber CSB, Associate Pastor*

The local Basilian community at Assumption continues to enjoy a strong relationship with the Windsor area Lay Associates. Although we have not been able to host them at the rectory for meetings since the pandemic started, we are grateful for their help and service to the Parish, and to the wider community. In addition, we are preparing for Jim O'Neill's arrival. He has retired from Detroit Catholic Central in Novi and will be off quarantine and able to move into the local community on January 3.

Associated with Assumption Parish

Mark Gazin CSB: During my brief tenure at Assumption Parish, Bishop Fabbro, CSB asked me to be parochial vicar for two clustered parishes in east Windsor from January 1st to July 1st, 2019. My role was to separate the cluster and prepare each parish to become part of two new separate Families of Parishes. However, in 2020, the Archdiocese of Vancouver offered me a part time position in their Tribunal with residence in the parish in which I was ordained 30 years ago. Consequently, in February 2020, I moved out west, arriving 3 weeks before the Covid-19 pandemic. My father died in April, just after Easter and I was blessed to be able to gather 20 members of my family for a cemetery service on May 1, 2020. Much of the rest of 2020 has been one of lockdowns and quarantine.



Jim O'Neill CSB: Jim retired from teaching this year. After COVID interrupted his first semester with the maple sap buckets still on the trees and the little fish still in the classroom tank until the water would warm up in the river in May, he was left with no students or hands-on teachable moments. The computer regime of online classes was just not appealing and other difficulties convinced him it was time to change focus. One difficulty was ongoing health issues, and, in the summer, he had two heart operations, one for atrial flutter and the second, a repeat of the cardio ablation. The summer was spent preparing for and recovering from surgery. In late summer he began a sabbatical program in San Antonio Oblate School of Theology. The four-month course finished in December and as the new year begins, he is quarantined in Windsor prior to becoming a Canadian resident once again.

Bernard John Pinsonneault CSB: Bernard remains content in his independent living suite, now of seven years, offering fellow residents as many as six religious services weekly. He enjoys the luxury of day travel in Canada, and occasional visits to his family in the U.S. and he does not view the 14-day quarantine on his return to Canada as a deterrent. The Basilian Fathers are providing all of his needs, for which he is grateful.

Paul McGill CSB: Paul writes: Everyone would agree that 2020 was a year unlike anything we have seen in our lifetime. Historians tell us that 635 CE was the next closest by comparison. With the onset of COVID-19 in Windsor, we shut down the Retreat Ministry at Marie Rose Place on March 17, 2020. It will not start up until the pandemic is stopped by the various vaccines. Because of all my pre-conditions, I have stopped helping out at local parishes. My last public Mass was on March 13. Tuesday, March 31, was the third anniversary of my living in an apartment on Riverside Drive. While I miss public ministry, I have not found the time heavy: downsizing, reading, calling friends, sending emails, praying more ... all these things have helped to pass the time.

The Basilian Fathers of Edmonton

St. Joseph's College, St. Alphonsus and St. Clare Parishes
Edmonton AB



The Basilian Fathers of Edmonton reside in the rectory of St. Alphonsus Church in a poor neighborhood of Edmonton. The house consists of five members, although **Terry Kersch** went on sabbatical to the Holy Land just a few days after joining us from the Whitemud house. The house at 4808 Whitemud Road was sold in the summer, with half the proceeds going to the general treasury, and the other half used partly to defray renovation expenses at St. Alphonsus Rectory – in preparation for the move-in of Terry

and Warren – but mostly donated to St. Joseph's College. The local community gathers at 7:15 AM Monday to Friday for morning prayer, with Mass on Tuesdays. We have a communal meal twice a week, which is usually made by one of us, although take-out is occasionally on the menu.

Dave Bittner is grateful to **Glenn McDonald** and **Warren Schmidt** for making it possible for him to begin 2020 with a visit with his family in Maryland and Florida for Christmas and New Year's. In addition, he was able to travel with his brother to Maui in February for their annual trip during humpback whale season. During the first wave of the pandemic, Dave was diagnosed with a serious case of prostate cancer. The surgery took place at the Royal Alexandra Hospital on July 3 and has been followed by many weeks of recuperation and ongoing treatments. In early July, he switched from Pastor to Associate Pastor of St. Alphonsus and St. Clare, which has allowed him to slowly rebuild his ministry. Since July 18, he has been recording, editing, and posting the Sunday Mass each week on the St. Alphonsus YouTube channel, and posting the link on the parish Facebook pages. He has celebrated one Sunday Mass at St. Alphonsus each week since August 30. He has also celebrated one Sunday Mass at St. Clare since December 6. He is grateful to all the confrères here in Edmonton for their continuing care, patience, and support during what has been a most difficult year for all of us.

Glenn McDonald serves as a Division Chaplain for Edmonton Catholic Schools, Pastor of St Alphonsus and St Clare (as of July 1st), and Board Member for L'Arche Edmonton. With the financial assistance of the General Council and the Basilian Fathers of University of St. Michael's College, St. Alphonsus and St. Clare were able to sponsor Registered Education Savings Plans for young people in the parish, to help inspire them to pursue higher education. Funds from the General Council were also used to purchase 45 Chromebook computers for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students at Ben Calf Robe/St. Clare School and St. Joseph High School, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent shift to online learning that occurred. Glenn would also like to thank the Basilian Fathers and the Lay Associates for their prayers for the poor, because numerous incidents and tricky situations have demonstrated that God's providence watches over St. Alphonsus and St. Clare. Finally, a special word of thanks to former Pastor of St. Alphonsus and St. Clare, Father Andrew Leung, for his on-going and

generous internet and heating system support. The extensive internet infrastructure he installed during his tenure allowed the vulnerable members of the parishes to remain connected to the Eucharist and Worshipping Community during the COVID-19 pandemic.



TOP: St. Joseph College; MIDDLE: St. Clare Church,
BOTTOM: St. Alphonsus Church

As 2020 concludes, **Warren Schmidt** nears completion of his PhD dissertation through l'Institut Catholique in Paris, entitled *La prise en acte de la tension entre pouvoir et charisme dans les Rituels réformés de l'ordination presbytérale d'après Vatican II: 1968 et 1990* (*Holding in Tension Power and Charism Dimensions in the post-Vatican II Rites of Priestly Ordination: 1968 and 1990*). He is completing his dissertation from Edmonton, where he moved at the end of October from Paris, to begin teaching ministry at St. Joseph's College once his PhD is complete. The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in greater appreciation of the benefits of audiovisual communication (e.g., Zoom, Google Meet). Warren taught an online course through St. Joseph's College, kept contact with his dissertation director, confrères, family, and friends, and has led a daily Vespers group via Zoom since March.

Jim Stenberg serves as Chaplain at St. Joseph's College at the University of Alberta, and occasionally teaches a course there; in 2020 he taught Phil 209 (The Human Person) and CHRTC 264 (Dimensions of the Christian Faith). The last in-person Mass he celebrated at St. Joe's was on March 16, the anniversary of his ordination. Since that time, he has celebrated Sunday masses virtually, through Zoom, with the occasional appointment for confession. Jim is the local superior, and the main grocery shopper for the house. Jim's immediate family lives in Gadsby, but since the pandemic began, he has only visited his mother and niece once. He plans to celebrate "Christmas in July" with them when, God willing, the pandemic has ended. In late December he suffered a toothache, which resulted in the extraction of an upper molar; 2021 will likely see a dental implant replacing the missing tooth.

Frassati House

Toronto ON

The Basilian community at Frassati House consists of **Norm Tanck** (Rector), **Bob Holmes**, **Jack Hanna**, and **Doug Hilmer**.

Frassati House, located in the Corktown district of Toronto just south of Regent Park, is in a racially and ethnically diverse, mixed income neighborhood consisting of older homes, townhouses, apartments, and subsidized and social housing. We are a block from St. Paul's Basilica where Bishop Michael Power was pastor. Good Shepherd Centre, which serves the poor and homeless in the area, is just around the



corner from us. We are on the Queen streetcar line and so have good access to public transportation. We enjoy good relations with our neighbors who often stop to admire our gardens.

We celebrate Morning Prayer and Mass at 7:30 AM Monday through Friday and Evening Prayer Monday through Thursday after dinner. House "business" is usually conducted after Mass or during the evening meal. The four residents each take a day a week to shop for and prepare dinner. Each member has responsibility for the upkeep of his room including laundering his bed linens and towels. A housekeeper comes in on Wednesdays to clean the house. Jack, Doug, and Norm look after our small lawns and flower beds. Jack enjoys mowing the lawn during the "growing season" but snow blowing in the winter is far down the list of his favorite tasks.

Covid-19 has caused some changes from previous years. This year, because of Covid-19 travel restrictions, visitors have been fewer than usual. Bob, Norm, Jack, and Doug have been diligent in handwashing and sanitizing and keeping physical distancing. At the morning Eucharist we do not drink from the chalice and we offer each other the peace of Christ without physical touching. In the past, we would occasionally go to the neighborhood pub on Friday for fish and chips; that no longer happens. We miss it.

Jack Hanna works in the Curial Office where he serves as Secretary-Treasurer General. The General Council has been meeting on Wednesdays via ZOOM in 2020. Much of Jack's work has been translating various documents from Spanish to English and vice-versa. Dealing with the situation with the four priests in Cali Colombia has occupied much of the time of the General Council and the Curial Office staff. In August, when there was a short-lived decrease in the number of Covid-19 cases, Jack and Archbishop Michael Miller made a brief visit to Alberta where they visited Banff, Lake Louise, and Jasper. They stopped in Edmonton to visit the Basilians at St. Alphonsus-St. Clare.

Norm Tanck continues in his role as the Basilian Fathers' Director of Associates. Along with Brenda Holz and Nancy Strader Norm is the ordained Coordinator of the Toronto/London Basilian Lay Associates. He is also the Associate Pastor of St. Basil's Parish. Several people come to Norm for spiritual direction and he worked with the Toronto Sisters of St. Joseph to prepare a retreat for young adults at the sisters' facility on the north shore of Lake Simcoe, which was cancelled because of the pandemic.

In February, Norm was honored to preach at a Mass at St. John Fisher College celebrating the 90th birthday of Fr. Joseph Trovato. A week later he was in Houston for the Basilian Superiors and Rectors Workshop. While he was there, he met with the Houston BLAs and preached A Day of Prayer for St. Anne's Parish Ladies Guild. Then things changed drastically because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Upon his return to Toronto, Norm began a 14-day self-isolation. Shortly after that everything in Toronto was shut down, churches were closed, public Masses were cancelled. Public Masses eventually began again, but attendance was limited. As

2020 ended we were back in a strict lockdown. During all these closings and re-openings, we learned how to be a "virtual" online Church. Faith sharing, Sunday morning worship, the Rite of Christian Initiation, marriage preparation, and staff meetings were done via ZOOM.



Doug Hilmer has, as have all Basilians, had to deal with the challenges of COVID 19. The last semester of his studies in Gerontology was disrupted because of the pandemic. He did, however, successfully complete his studies, with honours, from George Brown College. In December, Doug began his work in Gerontology at *Cedarhurst Dementia Care Home*, a residence for people who have mild to moderate dementia. Doug is ready to use his training to help the residents to live to the best of their ability. This is important ministry during the best of times but even more so now as everyone deals with COVID and its impact on this vulnerable sector of our society. Doug continues to contribute to the activities of Frassati House in prayer, liturgy, groundskeeping, cooking, and general maintenance.

Bob Holmes writes that the shared life at Frassati House, praying, cooking, shopping, has worked well even under Covid lockdown conditions. His special task is house finances. To maintain health and sanity Bob has hiked the city ravines, the lakeshore, the Bruce and Algonquin Park trails. His Social Justice Office ministry has involved editing *Stirrings*, being staff for the Basilian Human Development Grants Committee, representing Basilians on the Canadian Alternative Investment Cooperative, and collaborating with many social justice organizations – Pax Christi Toronto, KAIROS Canada, Catholic for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land, Camp Micah – to name a few. Bob was frequently asked for presentations (often by Zoom) at high schools, colleges and groups as well as collaborating on webinars for Earth Day, International Day of Peace, Voices for Peace Conferences and others. The Association of Former Basilians asked Bob to lay out their newsletter, *Rapport*, and recently he was asked to be the Basilian liaison to the Association of Former Basilians' Board of Directors.

Bob has remained an active member of the Christian Peacemaker Teams in Canada in solidarity with Indigenous communities in their struggle for Land Rights. He served on the Basilian Social Justice Vision Team which has morphed into the Basilian Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) team. *Stirrings* has been converted into an on-line newsletter and the Congregation has been surveyed on its current interests and hopes for future growth of our Basilian social justice ministry.



The Basilian Fathers at Presentation Manor Scarborough ON

The end of November marked the close of our second year in Presentation Manor. Despite the fact that the confrères are quartered in different parts of the building—some in “Assisted Living” and others in “Independent Living”—we form a single community, with John Reddy and John Malo as superior and assistant superior, respectively. Daily Mass, open to all residents, was celebrated in the main chapel until the advent of COVID-19. Current (December 2020) members of the community are Denis April, Leo Burns, Robert Barringer, Daniel Callam, James Carruthers, Michael Fallona, Donald Finlay, John Gallagher, Neil Hibberd, John Hurley, Brian Inglis, William Irwin, Wilfred Janisse, Gordon Kennedy, Kevin Kirley, John Malo, James McConica, Donald McLeod, Wallace Platt, John Reddy, Leo Reilly, Thomas Rosica, Joseph Walsh and Clarence Watrin. Associated with the House are Ian Boyd, Joseph Hunt, Edward Johnson (who resides on his family farm), and Gordon Walker (who lives in the Memory Unit at Providence Healthcare Centre).

Deaths in 2020: Alphonse de Valk (16 April), Raymond Jackson (23 July), Thomas McReavy (4 October), Martin Dimnik (15 November), Gerald Dillon (3 December).

Because Presentation Manor is an Elder Care Facility, COVID-19 had a dramatic effect on community life. As the virus waxed and waned, we moved from two daily Masses with “social distancing” to none. Similarly, when a single case of the virus was detected, the entire residence went into “lockdown,” i.e., we were confined to our rooms for fourteen days, with meals delivered to the door. Similarly, when the city was hard hit, we were not allowed to leave the property, and visits from outside, except for medical personal, were forbidden. The dining room, too, changed, with two sittings, spaced seating, and food brought to individual diners. Thanks to such precautions, along with regular testing, Presentation Manor has been almost completely virus free, at a time when many similar institutions have suffered severely.

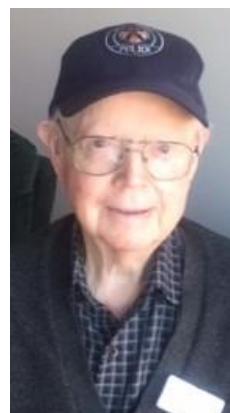
In what seems like a century ago, we were able to welcome fourteen confrères (*photos below*) for drinks and dinner on 21 January, with all of us eating in the Assisted Living area. We were also pleased to welcome Tim Scott in January as he recovered from heart surgery. It should also be noted that the Metropolitan Opera on 4 January included a special tribute to Owen Lee.



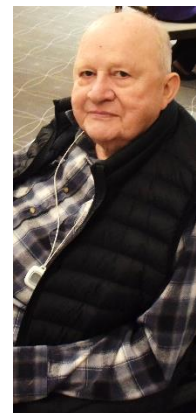
Marty Dimnik and David Katulski



Jack Hanna and Leo Reilly



Kevin Kirley



Don Finlay

Denis April: “2020 will be remembered by all of us as the year of COVID-19, but fortunately we've been largely spared here at Presentation Manor with some inconveniences such as having to attend Mass on television, rather than our chapel. We hope that 2021 will restore us to a normal existence.”

Bob Barringer, the most recent Basilian arrival at Presentation Manor, came at the end of November. He was able to finish a Romanian translation project, *The Life and Teachings of St Gregory Palamas* by Dumitru Staniloae, while in the two-week quarantine period, and now will have to find a way to balance life at Presentation Manor with his new job as the interim President of St Augustine's Seminary in Toronto.

Leo Burns spends his time playing BINGO and euchre while locked up in an old-folks' home (*photo at right*).



Dan Callam ministers, COVID-19 permitting, at Holy Rosary Church and occasionally for the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter. He is a board member of the Society for Catholic Life and Culture and The Chesterton Institute. He is also on the board of *Catholic Insight*, now an e-magazine, and is a regular contributor to its web page. His review of Robert Nusca, *The Christ of the Apocalypse* (Steubenville [OH]: Emmaus Road Publications, 2018) was posted at www.catholic365.co on 15 December 2020.

Jim Carruthers continues to provide Spiritual Direction for a few people. He is also chaplain to the Contemplative Women of St Anne (out of St. Basil's Church) and a member of the Gibbons-Daley Board. Jim says: “The Administration of Presentation Manor has been vigilant, and the residents have obeyed the rules. We have had only one positive case among the residents—praise the Lord!”

Jack Gallagher is working on a text in basic moral theology as a help to lay people and especially parents. “At this point the work on a text is moving along well but I need, but have not identified, suitable specialists in catechesis to develop a programme for communicating the material effectively. Suggestions are appreciated.” Jack celebrated his 60th anniversary of priestly ordination in 2020 (*see page 11 of the ANNALS*).

Wilf Janisse writes: “This year at Presentation Manor, I have found more time for prayer and reading, which in the past I have often neglected for one reason or another. We residents come together for meals and meetings of various kinds. This has been an opportunity for us to socialize. Many of the residents have had wonderful experience in their lives and are willing to share their work, accomplishments and travel adventures with others. All of this, especially with travel curtailed because of the Covid Virus pandemic, makes our indoor activities interesting, pleasurable and informative.”

John Malo is giving a series of five talks on the “Prodigal Son” to the faculty and staff of a nearby Catholic elementary school.

Jim McConica shares these thoughts: “Since turning over my responsibilities for the Collected Works of Erasmus, I have been catching up with long-postponed ambitions such as reading Gibbon. I also enjoy one or two journals and I have a fairly extensive correspondence by e-mail. I enjoy our life together at Presentation Manor and I reflect on how fortunate we are compared to others in a similar situation.”

Don McLeod “In 2020, I continued to serve as Chair of both the Collegium of St. Michael’s College (until September, when I finished a three-year run and handed the gavel to Mr. Paul Harris) and the Assumption University Board of Governors, as a Trustee of CRSIRP (the insurance program for Canadian religious communities) and as Director of Healthy Aging. In addition, since late September I have served as co-chair of a steering committee exploring ways in which Regis College and St. Michael’s Faculty of Theology can collaborate and coordinate their programs. My colleagues and I have become experts in Zoom, and other media that enable virtual meetings.”



Neil Hibberd moved in on 20 March (*photo at right*).

Wally Platt celebrated his 70th anniversary of ordination in 2020 (*see page 11 of the ANNALS*).

John Reddy continued in his role as superior of the local community. “This year has been challenging in many ways owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. The administration of Presentation Manor has been of great assistance in ensuring the safety of the confrères and in creating a friendly and welcoming atmosphere at the residence. The lack of Mass and restrictions on larger community gatherings have been difficult, but people here are positive in their attitude and grateful for all that is done for us by a gracious and obliging staff. We are blessed in many ways.”

Tom Rosica arrived in January. He provided the larger Presentation Manor community a much-appreciated series of talks for Lent and Easter.

Joe Walsh takes his regular turn as principal celebrant with preaching at the daily Eucharist for all residents of Presentation Manor. “On March 16, 2020 the Archdiocese of Toronto shut down all church services. Masses resumed here on June 21 but now twice a day necessitated by the six feet spacing between chapel chairs. By November all the principal celebrants were Basilians with one exception. A blessing is that our temperatures are checked twice daily, and Covid-19 tests are available every two weeks. Life is dull now, but it is great to be alive!”



Clare Watrin



Joe Walsh



Jim McConica



John Reddy



John Malo



Denis April



Mike Fallona



Dan Callam

Associated Members



Ian Boyd retired in August after forty-six years as editor of *The Chesterton Review* and president of the G.K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture, an event noted in, among other publications, the *L'Osservatore Romano* of 4 September 2020. On 18 October 2020 he delivered an online talk entitled "The Return of Eugenics," an event sponsored by the Chesterton Institute, now housed at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ. Ian now resides with his sister Betty in Edmonton AB.



Joe Hunt resides at *Maison de Retrait de Marie Thérèse (Etablissement d'Hébergement pour les Personnes Agées Dépendantes)*. He writes, "It represents a radical change from my parish ministry. In the EHPAD there are priests from Paris and the surrounding dioceses, religious brothers and sisters, with some laymen and women. There are five or six buildings to house various groups and the grounds are extensive, but my sclerosis makes it difficult for me to move around freely."

Basilians at St. Michael's College School

Toronto ON

Bill May writes: "Hello confrères, what's new with you? COVID-19 Pandemic. There, I've said it; the horizon against which we have all been moving, and living, and having our being will tinge everything I write regarding the Basilian Fathers of St. Michael's College School during this year of grace 2020."

The apostolate's year began busily enough with the continuing implementation of the External Review's 36 recommendations for St. Michael's College School in the wake of the difficulties of 2018. Andrew Leung, CSB as President of St. Michael's College School and the school's administrative team were gently but inexorably guiding the school community and good progress was being and continues to be made.

Then came March Break.

"High tailed it back" adequately describes both Andrew Leung and Bill May's early return to Canada from their various well-deserved time away. Both made it over the Canadian border before it closed and began to prepare as well as possible for the unforeseen difficulties and blessings that God has given during this "interesting" time. Bill May cut it closest when he crossed the eerily empty Ambassador Bridge on March 16th, 2020.



On March 24th, 2020, the school began its foray into on-line learning. The faculty, administration, students, and students' families made a 90 degree turn into unmapped territory and made it work from their homes; not only did it work because of all their own considerable talents but because of the guiding Hands of our Good Lord. While Bill May wrestled with the technology from 5 Oriole Parkway, President Leung and the school's essential workers planned and ably executed the following courses of action.

- They cleared out the student's lockers of any lunches which had been left in the lockers.

- Then Fr. Leung and the school's essential workers assembled 1,100 cardboard boxes.

- Once the boxes were assembled, the non-perishable contents of the student's lockers (gym clothes, calculators, and personal items) were packed into the boxes which were labelled with the students' names. The families were then contacted, and arrangements were made for each box to be picked up, keeping in mind social distancing and mask wearing.



Once the building was cleared of that, preparing for what followed could begin.



Hand sanitizing stations were set up through-out the building and at each of the entrances, masks and face shields were provided for each staff member. For the students' health and safety mandatory wash stations were set up in the Alumni Lounge near the main entrance.



Classrooms were rearranged to maintain social distancing and plexiglass barriers were installed on teachers' desks. Students and teachers are required to be masked except when eating. The feeding of adolescents is one of the more important aspects of the high school apostolate and areas designated by grade level and cohorts (the school has been broken up into student cohorts, one day is Cohort A, the next is Cohort B).



The Lecture Halls, Theatre Lobby, the Father Mohan Stage, the Cafeteria, the Arena(!) are all turned into ersatz cafeterias, when the weather was gentle the courtyard and patio were used.

Plexiglas barriers and alternating seating spaces aid us in KEEPING THE STUDENTS SAFE. Our priority!

Life for the Basilian Fathers of St. Michael's School at 5 Oriole Parkway is not merely the apostolate, no matter how dramatic, important, and blessed that is. We also live, pray, eat, and try to stay sane together. Andrew Leung used his talents to make 5 Oriole Parkway much more environmentally friendly by changing the lights and light switches to the kind that use less energy.

Bill May, to keep himself busy during his "exile" planted stuff ... grass ... a shade garden ... cursed the squirrels ... installed a birdbath ... trimmed the hedge ... cut his own hair ... (The hedge turned out better.)



He even assisted Andrew in repairing the sprinkler system.

Bob Barringer, CSB was a part of the community from February to November and entered the white-hot furnace of linguistics and began a translation of a theological work from Romanian to English.

Jeff Thompson, CSB continues his ministry as Assistant Pastor in Christ the Redeemer parish in West Vancouver, British Columbia. He is enjoying his pastoral ministry on Canada's breathtaking West Coast.

Bill May: "So, hello confrères, what's new? Luckily the Christian life, though it has costs, is filled with blessings. Starting conversations with the phrase, "So, did you ever think you'd be asked to do" has become a standard for us we can, fairly easily, most of the time, end our conversations with 'what a blessing!' Stay well."



St. Basil's Collegiate Church

Toronto ON



To best report on 2020, it would be important to consider the year with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first two and a half months went along fairly “normally”. Father Dan Donovan continued to celebrate the weekday 7:30 AM Mass, while confessions and the 12:10 PM weekday Masses were celebrated by Morgan Rice (Pastor), Norm Tanck (Associate Pastor), Jim Farge, and others including Jack Gallagher, who came from Presentation Manor to celebrate the Mass on Wednesdays. Leo Reilly also commuted to celebrate a monthly Mass at one of the senior homes within the parish. Their dedication and assistance were much appreciated!

We also have appreciated the collaboration with several Jesuits in formation. Ordained a priest in May, Kevin Kelly, SJ assisted at Masses at the beginning of the year as a transitional deacon. Ordained a transitional deacon in May, Trevor Rainwater, SJ coordinated the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program until he departed for Washington, D.C., in July. Then, in September, transitional deacon Jean Francky Guerrier, SJ began assisting liturgically and preaching.

Little did we know how much parish life would change! On March 18 Ontario entered a state of emergency. Public Masses and in-person parish meetings and events were cancelled. A further lockdown came on March 24 when churches had to close their doors to the public. That was a particularly difficult day and hard for so many who would not be able to come into the church at Easter or anytime until mid-June when churches could re-open and offer public Masses at limited capacity.

Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) catechumens and candidates had to wait until the summer to receive the sacraments they had hoped to receive at the Easter Vigil. Couples who were scheduled to marry either opted for a small ceremony or rescheduled, hoping for a date with fewer restrictions. It was a time of much uncertainty.

Though in-person meetings came to a sudden halt in March, our outreach programs continued strongly. During

the first few weeks with the collaboration of Chartwell's, which provides food services for the University of St. Michael's College, we were able to distribute take-away meals to patrons in Scollard Park on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Eventually, we were able to make the bagged meals ourselves in the parish kitchen with various supplies purchased at Costco each week. Our parish conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was also busy assisting neighbours in need throughout the pandemic by providing food vouchers. It was a record year in terms of those we have assisted in this difficult time.

The pandemic certainly challenged us to think outside the box. When the church had to close, we began offering on Zoom a Sunday morning service called "The Gathering", which incorporated our talented music ministers and provided an opportunity for the community to pray and to hear lay and ordained, women and men, reflect on the Sunday Gospel. We also started a Saturday morning Zoom faith-sharing session. Other ministries like RCIA and marriage prep also moved to online formats. We offered a virtual Book of Remembrance in November and moved to an e-mailed bulletin rather than printing paper ones. During Advent when Toronto was in a second lockdown, we added a "coffee hour" and live-streamed Mass on Zoom to follow The Gathering. We were grateful that, even when in-person interactions were restricted, online formats like Zoom allowed us to maintain and build community—something that will likely continue even when the pandemic has run its course.

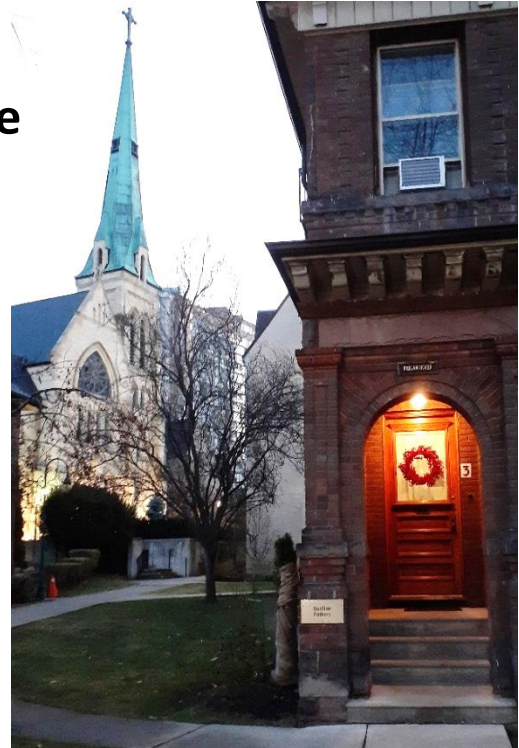


Masked Ministers: Norm Tanck (above), proclaims the Word and Morgan Rice (below), distributes the Sacrament.

Basilian Fathers of the University of St. Michael's College and the Pontifical Institute

Toronto ON

Our local community counts four members, Rev. James Farge, CSB, Rev. Michael Lehman, CSB, Rev. Morgan Rice, CSB and Rev. T. Allan Smith, CSB. Associated with the local community are Rev. Timothy Scott, CSB and Rev. Walter Werbylo, CSB. Like everyone else, our local house has had to adapt to various restrictions in an effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The campus has been largely deserted since early March, with only a fraction of students in residence. Faculty and office staff work largely from home. The kitchen in Brennan Hall offers meals for take-out to resident students and operates the dining room for the priests. After a brief re-opening in early summer, it was closed again to the public, except for a very few who get take-out lunches on weekdays. The absence of students has facilitated turning the campus into a film location for movies and TV productions, including an episode for "The Handmaid's Tale." Our practice of dining out once a month has fallen into abeyance, but before restrictions came, we did manage to celebrate Mardi Gras with a suitably fat feast of sausages and beer at Wurst, a local restaurant. We had festive dinners at home in Phelan House to mark the Feast of the Presentation and Christmas Day.



Entrance of Phelan House, the Basilian Residence, with St. Basil's Church.

James Farge is a Fellow of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, for which he is Curator of Rare Books and Special Collections in the Institute Library. Although his chief concern is collecting and preserving the collections and restoring damaged books, he also helps in a wide range of library tasks – the volume of which has been increased by the library's small staff working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic. He is Secretary of the Institute's Board of Governors and serves on its Finance and Audit Committee. Jim is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Collected Works of Erasmus* of the University of Toronto Press – a project that, under the general supervision of Father James McConica, has published 71 of its projected goal of 86 volumes. He is also on the Comité de lecture of the *Revue d'histoire de l'Église de France*. At the request of the Institute's Publications Department, Jim revised the text and upgraded the notes in Etienne Gilson's *Reason and Revelation in the Middle Ages*, a 1938 publication of Gilson that was previously reprinted 16 times. He is Director of the General Archives of the Basilian Fathers. He is working on a Supplement to the *Dictionary of Basilian Biography* (2005) that will include all Basilian priests and former priests who have died since 2002. The list, thus far, numbers about 180, about 25 of whom were former Basilians. Jim is also secretary of the Corporation of the Basilian Fathers of the University of St Michael's College and serves as sacristan for the local community in Phelan House and in the Elmsley Hall chapel of USMC. His assistance with ministry at St. Basil's Parish has been greatly diminished in 2020 by the pandemic that has caused a significant reduction in attendance at Mass (when Masses were permitted) and in demand for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Michael Lehman: Even in a pandemic, COVID-19 world, education continues, though looking different this year. Michael continues his ministry with the Toronto Catholic District School Board as Chaplain and involvement in Adult Faith Development with people at all levels within the Catholic Board. School visits and celebrations of Eucharist, retreats have been curtailed to a large extent because of the pandemic and the creation of a virtual school within the Board. Much of Michael's time is spent preparing webinars, google classrooms and hosting and participating in many, many Zoom meetings that support administrators, educators, and students in face-to-face learning, virtual learning as well as a hybrid model in some situations. Michael continues to be called upon by other Catholic school boards for support as well. He continues his work



Michael Lehman, Morgan Rice, T. Allan Smith, and Jim Farge live together in Phelan House but still meet occasionally via ZOOM.

with the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association in Joint PD and Religious Affairs. Given the closure of parishes for now, there are a few more free weekends, which provide opportunities for Michael to practice his culinary skills, always with the cooperative taste testing by his confrères. With what time remains, he enjoys quiet evenings at home with conversation with confrères, a crossword puzzle and a Montreal Canadiens Hockey game when they resume.

Morgan Rice continues as Pastor of St. Basil's Parish. (Refer to the St. Basil's entry for more information in that regard.) He serves the Congregation on the General Council as Third Councilor. The General Council members in Toronto gathered for afternoon Mass and dinner each Thursday until the coronavirus pandemic reduced that to an occasional dinner at a restaurant patio. In the local house, he is the treasurer and has responsibility for vehicle maintenance. Morgan is a Director on the St. Michael's College School Board and Foundation. He also serves on the Archdiocese of Toronto's Council of Priests in the second year of a two-year term. The pandemic has kept him close to home with much time spent on Zoom calls and meetings.

T. Allan Smith was reappointed Rector of the Basilian Fathers of the University of St. Michael's College. He became a Full Professor at the Faculty of Theology, USMC, in January 2020. He continued to serve as Registrar of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies and as an Associate Faculty member (status-only) at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Toronto. This year he taught "Early Ascetic Literature" and "Russian Theologians" at the Faculty of Theology, and "Medieval Russian Literature" at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. When the pandemic struck, he like countless other instructors shifted his courses online to complete the last three weeks of the winter term. The fall term was taught entirely via Zoom. He recently joined an international team of scholars preparing a collection of annotated translations of the works of Sergii N. Bulgakov. He and Professor Emeritus David Goldfrank (Georgetown University) continue their work on an annotated translation of

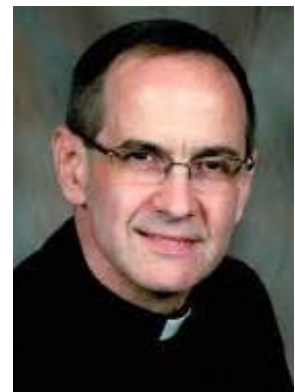


Iosif of Volokolamsk, *The Enlightener*. One of his remaining doctoral students successfully defended his dissertation in August; it dealt with biblical scholarship and reading culture in Origen's Psalm homilies in *codex monacensis Graecus* 314. In December, he was an examiner for another doctoral candidate who wrote on a figural theology of creational suffering. His usual outings to the opera and ballet came to an abrupt end with the pandemic, but before the lockdown he attended a live performance of "Hansel and Gretel" by the Canadian Opera Company and "Romeo and Juliet" by the National Ballet of Canada. Thanks to the wonders of information technology, however, he has been able to see many operas and a few ballets virtually.

Timothy Scott writes, "This has been a year to remember, or perhaps rather to forget. I began with a period of rest and recuperation at Presentation Manor following surgery. The confrères were

gracious hosts. I returned to Montreal in February to teach at the *Grand Séminaire* and work on continuing formation of clergy. In March, many ministerial activities ground to a halt due to the pandemic while seminary teaching moved online. As well, my involvement with the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle and the *Société catholique de la bible* (SOCABI) continued via the internet. In the summer, I was approached by the diocese and accepted an appointment as pastor of two parishes in the Pointe St-Charles district: Paroisse St-Charles and St. Gabriel's parish. This is a working-class neighbourhood with a significant immigrant population and there are major structural issues related to aging church buildings. As I write this, the second wave of the pandemic has struck Quebec with a vengeance, limiting religious services to 25 persons. Nonetheless, signs everywhere in Montreal remind us, 'ça va bien aller'."

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 seven 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-two seminarians living in the seminary in either years 1 through 4 of theology or in the initial spiritual year, plus three 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.



The Basilian Fathers in New Mexico



David Otto Klein and David Sharp celebrated the 50th anniversary of their ordinations in 2020 (see pages 8 and 10 of this edition of the *Annals*).



David Sharp writes that he is still attempting to attain his life-time goals of Silence, Stillness and Solitude in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona. Not having had much success yet, but enjoying the attempts, he is adding yet another goal – Slowness. Aging does do something to us, eh? Although more deliberate now, he continues to do all his own shopping, cooking, cleaning, in his desert dwelling. Blessed indeed!

At any rate David loves the plants and creatures that he shares his space with (*the two photos on this page are from David Sharp*). He takes even more time now to observe and appreciate them. He also is continuing his friendships and sharing with the various human communities that enrich his life so much. Although separated physically from his Basilian confrères, he feels a deep kinship with the Community. Hopefully, once the Covid is more under control, he hopes to visit more often.

Don Hyatt is in Truth or Consequences NM; since he is now totally blind, he has a full-time caregiver who attends to him. The plan is for him to move into an assisted living care facility in the near future.

Ed Heidt says that he has been “in seclusion and under sedation” during the pandemic. He has found more time for prayer, reading and reflection. Ed has been having lower back problems (stenosis) which has slowed him down. Therapy is helping; however, he has had to give up ministry for the time being.

+Ricardo Ramírez writes: “I am enjoying retirement. My ministry is limited to private Masses and prayers. I have a “telephone ministry,” and do what I can to bring encouragement and comfort to those who are sick, or who are seeing loved ones suffer. A home was given to the Diocese of Las Cruces for me to use. It is in a quiet neighborhood with a great view of the Organ Mountains. I am assisted by a housekeeper and a gardener, who come for a few hours each week. I am learning to improve my cooking skills. I walk for an hour each day to control diabetes. I will welcome any Basilian as my house guest when things get somewhat back to normal.”



The Basilian Fathers of Novi MI

Ministry at Catholic Central and Cristo Rey

It goes without saying that the year 2020 was memorable for everyone, mostly for all the wrong reasons. Sadly, longtime Catholic Central teacher-administrator and mentor to many, **Ray Paramo** died on 27 January. His wit and carefree observations about the world in general are missed.

In March, the state restricted all activities in an attempt to combat the spread of COVID-19 including the suspension of in-school activity as well as religious gatherings. It felt like we all were having a novitiate experience. We did not go out or travel. We were left with doing household chores, praying together and celebrating daily Mass together. We began having “Community Recreation” where we sat down together and talked about the news of the day and how we were all doing. In spite of the horror of mounting death counts and infection rates, our local community had the protection of Mary, Alma Mater, and so far have escaped infection by the virus.



*Back L to R: Patrick Fulton, John Wheeler, José del Toro, Dennis Noelke.
Front L to R: Rob Moslosky, Bill Riegel, Rich Elmer, Dan Ryan, Dennis Kauffman.*

Michael Buentello continues at Catholic Central as the Director of Mission and Ministry. He also assists at local parishes for Sunday Masses. In 2020 he celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination (*see article on page 7 of this ANNALS*).

Besides working full time at teaching and pastoral ministry at Detroit Cristo Rey, **José del Toro** began a PhD in Educational Administration which he expects to complete in the summer of 2021. As one of the original teachers at Cristo Rey, he is an important community member as the school transitions to a new President. Schooling this year has proven a challenge with online classes particularly for the clientele that is served by Cristo Rey. When one walks by his room in the Basilian Residence, you can hear José virtually teaching his classes. José also finds the time to assist various parishes on Sundays.

Richard Elmer at 92 years old still keeps himself busy assisting in CC’s Advancement Office as well as maintaining a pastoral presence at St. Catherine of Siena Academy. In December he had a fall which resulted in a broken hip. Although slowed down he has made remarkable progress in his recovery.



Being Principal at Catholic Central has proven a uniquely challenging experience for **Patrick Fulton**, during this era of coronavirus education. He credits the efforts and support of the confrères and lay educators for their part in CC thriving during this difficult year. He also serves as the local Superior of the Basilian community. The General Council has asked Patrick to lead the Steering Committee for the 2022 General Chapter and he has agreed to do that.

Dennis Kauffman is the Director of School improvement at CC and his eye for details makes him perfect for accreditation work. He also assists with Student Activities and is the Senior Class moderator. Many evenings he was out supporting student athletics when student activities were occurring. Besides his ministry at CC, he assists with sacramental ministry at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville.

After many years in education **Rob Moslosky** retired from full time ministry at Catholic Central. It is more like “semi-retirement” as he faithfully continues to assist the school in a reduced capacity. He also serves as the house treasurer which is no easy task in the largest “active” house in the community. He keeps track of a myriad of details that allow the house to operate smoothly and in the black.

Dennis Noelke completed his term as Principal of CC and is enjoying a more moderate paced life. He helps out with school retreats, masses and is the local BNENE director. As well, he continues in the position as Fourth Councilor on the General Council: work that sees him engaged in many Zoom meetings. He also serves the local community as Second Councilor.

Jim O’Neill finished his final term of teaching in a most tumultuous time. He managed to participate in a ministerial renewal program at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio. Unfortunately because of Covid closures, many of his sabbatical plans were quashed. After many years of work in the US, Jim returned to the true North strong and free to a new ministerial adventure.

Moving at a pace that would put many a younger priest to shame, **Bill Riegel** continues to minister in both the school and local parishes. He is muchly beloved in the parishes where he is a regular presider. He has been occasionally slowed by back issues that have plagued him with some suffering. He continues to help at the school as a guest teacher, on school retreats and as an Addictions Counselor in Guidance. He can be relied upon to show up at non-varsity sports which is deeply appreciated by the student-athletes and to make dinner conversation stimulating with his theological observations. He also serves the local community as First Councilor.

We were blessed to have associate **Dan Ryan** join us in the latter half of the year after his graduation from the University of Pittsburgh where he triple majored in History, the History of Art and Architecture, and Classics, minored in Religious Studies and Education and received a certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. He began work on his Masters of Teaching at the University of Michigan. The year radically changed what should have been a very predictable round of student teaching assignments. Suddenly he had to master distance learning via Zoom and other digital platforms. Happily, he will conclude his student teaching with in-person teaching at his alma mater, Catholic Central.

John Wheeler also ministers at the beck and call of many parishes in the area. He is highly sought after for giving relief to pastors so they can take holidays. He helps out at school with confessions and keeps up regular contact with alumni, particularly honing the lyrical talents of the alumni glee club.

Dillon House

Houston TX

As we all know, 2020 was not like anything we have ever experienced. One very major problem was the fact that visitors were prohibited at St. Dominic's Village. This made it impossible for visits and phone calls were very unsatisfactory. New at SDV this year is Phil Acquaro who is fighting one illness after another. Bob Klem has been slow to recover from the setback of a fall. Other confrères at SDV are Wilf Canning, Jim Gaunt, Roy Oggero, Les Schaefer, and Joe Roussel. Bill Frankenberger is at Silverado nursing home in hospice care. Since November, things have loosened up a bit, with Richard Wahl and Bob Glass being designated visitors for our confrères at St. Dominic's Village.



Entryway: Welcome to Dillon House 2020

A problem that affected us here in the house was the cancellation of Ministry services throughout the Archdiocese. Since things have eased up here, Rich Wahl is helping out in parishes and Bob Glass is hearing confessions regularly at Shalom Center.

We are fortunate here to have such a comfortable home and such conscientious employees who care for us very well and graciously. We are also fortunate that the lock-down has a minimal effect on our daily lives. We make visits for shopping and doctors. We pray, eat and recreate together. We only have a few visitors—mostly repair persons who wear masks and wash their hands when they enter the house.



Seated: Carl Belisch, Al Gaelens.

Standing: Jamie Abercrombie, Paul O'Connor, John Boscoe, Bob Glass. Photographer: Richard Wahl

Richard Wahl reflected on the effect of the covid-19 virus. "I reflected recently that the covid vaccine is a work of the Holy Spirit. In time, the Spirit hovers over the world to work in humans to bring about the New Creation that is part of God's plan. Just as the Spirit entered Mary to bring forth the Incarnate Word, so the Spirit is in our world to bring about healing, justice and peace. But once again, this Christmas we are driven to affirm the divine in every human person and the holiness of all things. Jesus Christ is merciful to me."

Here are some of the contributions of the Basilians at Dillon House:

Jamie Abercrombie checks our security every evening. He also keeps us aware of the problem of Climate change. He also helps out in the Dining Room and reminds us of the benefits of proper nutrition.

Carl Belisch is the First Councilor and is a pillar of strength for the Superior and the House. He brings wisdom and humor to all deliberations and is a steady presence within the community. He maintains a large volume of letters, e-mail and phone calls.

John Boscoe is our Sacristan and does a wonderful job preparing for and assisting at liturgies. He keeps track of the newspaper deliveries. He also takes wonderful care of Pearl, our dog, 24/7.

Albert Gaelens schedules our daily Eucharist and deals with the large amount of mail we receive. Al celebrated his 60th anniversary of ordination in 2020 (*see page 11 of the **ANNALS***).



Paul O'Connor gave up the reins of the superior's job in July and has moved gracefully (and gratefully) into a more peaceful existence. He willingly gives advice when asked for it and gives information on things that are not obvious to Bob Glass. Paul celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination in 2020 (*see page 9 of the **ANNALS***).

Richard Wahl, our Second Councilor, reflects: "In the anxiety and challenges of this year with the pandemic, storms of all kinds, and political and social divisions, I still find God's goodness. I thank God that my health remains a blessing. I walk at least a mile and half each day and do some weight bearing exercises. My Monday to Friday ministry at the Tribunal continues (half time at the office half at home). I continue to find it a ministry of hope. Weekdays, I celebrate the Eucharist in our house chapel, and with the Incarnate Word Sisters on Friday and Saturday. I teach Introduction to Church Law in the fall at the seminary, and to the permanent Deacon candidates. These are difficult days but our trust in Jesus Christ, so we are people of Hope! Grace and peace."

Bob Glass writes: "I was appointed Superior of the House in July. I am finding that everything is different: being a person of compassion and wisdom is a challenge, but I am working on it. Being a Business Manager is absolutely new. God bless the confrères; they have been great in understanding my learning curve."

All of us pray for you and we ask your prayers for us.

Keon House

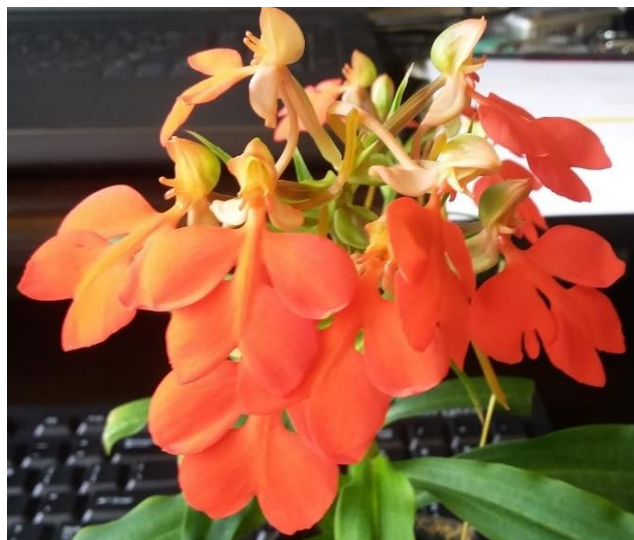
Houston TX

Well, it is the end of 2020. Both St. Thomas High School and the University of St. Thomas faced the challenges of this year with grace, faith, and hope. Whether moving to remote learning or finding hybrid models, our schools were true leaders in education and faith filled responses to the different challenges.

Keon House has seen a number of changes this year and has tried to maintain a positive attitude and strong community through it all. In the spring we hired a new cook, Elizabeth Aquila, who has been a true blessing. We also share space with the formation side of the house.

Ron Schwenzer kept up with the gardening and landscaping of the house. He also made sure that we maintained a steady supply of cookies thanks to his baking skills. Ron has often cooked for the house when needed.

Ted Baenziger has been quite busy with duties to the French parish. Like Ron, he has often provided the community with his culinary efforts when we were without a cook. He has not been able to show off his orchids this year to the dismay of many. He wanted to share with his brother Basilians one of his favorites (*photo at right*); it is a *Habenaria Rhodocheila*. Ted looks at it every day in his room.

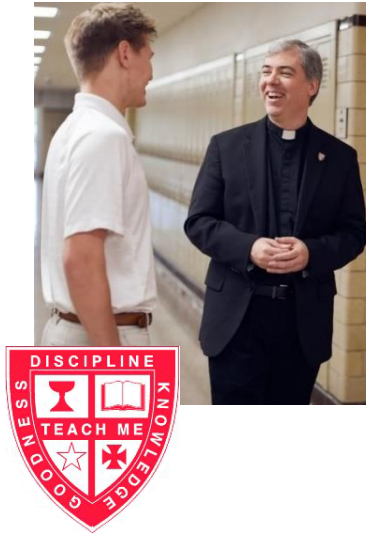


Mitch Dowalgo officially retired from St. Thomas High School after spending the last several years as a language specialist in the Learning Enrichment Center. He will be greatly missed. Father Janusz Ihnatowicz, a retired professor of Theology at the University of St. Thomas who has lived with the Basilians for years, continues to be a source of humor and wisdom in Keon House.



John Huber had various ministries over the year, working for the Education Department of the University of St. Thomas until June and serving on the General Council with responsibility for France, Mexico, and Colombia. John is the Director of BNENE (Basilian Network for Education and the New Evangelization). This initiative offers professional development and faith formation to the faculties and staffs of our Basilian high schools to promote the Church's teachings on education and the Basilian tradition of education.

John assists Ted Baenziger with the French-speaking Parish and with "Les Equipes Notre-Dame," a faith sharing group of French couples. He also serves on the Boards of Aquinas Institute, Detroit Catholic Central High School, the University of Saint Thomas, Incarnate Word Academy, the School Board for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston as well as the Archdiocese's Inner-City School Task Force.



Jim Murphy continues as President of St. Thomas High School and to say it has been a challenge is an understatement. Jim began livestreaming Mass on March 19th and has helped to connect many people through this pandemic. Jim works hard and is much loved at St. Thomas High School.

Now that he is the only Basilian on campus, his spiritual leadership is needed more than ever. This summer he was also appointed the local superior of Keon House. Jim serves on the Board of Directors at the Regis School of the Sacred Heart as well as the University of St. Thomas. He also has worked with the Archdiocese Disaster Relief Response Team.

The Basilian Novitiate

Houston Texas (January 2020 - August 2020)

The Basilian novices from the United States and Canada in Houston, Texas spent the second half of their novitiate in an unexpected way. In learning to live in the time of pandemic, they shared the experience of all Basilians, and in fact of the entire global human community!

While the existence of COVID-19 was apparently known to officials in January, knowledge of its existence in North America came in early March. From January to March, the novices Sean Ajluni, Charles Borromeo, Patrick O'Brien and David Semivule began their second six months following the regular novitiate schedule, which found them at morning silent meditation at 7:00 AM, followed by Morning Prayer at 7:45 AM. After breakfast, they participated in a daily conference on topics germane to the religious life and Christian faith and morality. Morning Mass followed most days (on Monday, the novices joined the rest of the Keon House Basilians at community mass at 5:00 PM). After lunch the novices were to go off the novitiate grounds to do community service. (The first month or so were dedicated to a scriptural and spiritual meditation on the notion of service as religious, and the following months were to include the actual going out.) The late afternoon was a time of relaxation followed by supper and dishes. At 7:15 PM, the novices had common recreation and at 9:00 PM, Compline followed by Grand Silence.

From January 16-22, Father Paul English, novice master, participated in a twice-a-year gathering of participants in the ForMission program of the Religious Formation Conference. The winter gatherings are in San Antonio, Texas.

The novices spent the day away from the novitiate on a "desert day" on January 16, with Father Ted Baenziger, assistant novice master. These days proved to be quite helpful to the men, and a welcomed change of scenery. Desert days commonly center around a scripture and some prepared questions, culminating with mass and a meal in a restaurant.

The novices continued to participate in Inter-Community Novitiate gatherings in San Antonio, Texas. They did so from January 31 to February 2. These were welcomed opportunities to receive important spiritual reflections and to compare notes with other young religious in formation across the eastern part of Texas. This session reflected on the care of our Common Home, Earth, and the challenges and danger of our current situation. In February, Father Paul English attended meetings regarding the Congregation's activities to ensure Social Justice. On Leap Year Day, February 29, the novitiate experienced a professional soccer game, enjoying a win by the Houston Dynamo. Then came March.



The Keon House Courtyard, the photo is taken from the Novitiate side of the residence.

Given the restrictions of the pandemic, the novices were not able to go out to do community service, a vital part of the plan for the novitiate year. Through the good services of Father Ted Baenziger, they were put in contact with a local St. Vincent de Paul society chapter at St. Michael's Catholic church and worked out with them a manner to participate in their ministry. Their initial meeting with the leaders was on March 18. Subsequently, the novices were to be participants in conference calls between the St. Vincent de Paul volunteer and the person requesting assistance. It was not the ideal situation, but in 2020, nothing was ideal.

In April, while we had plans to attend the annual Mass of the Chrism at the Co-Cathedral with Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, this, like many celebrations, was attended online. Father Kevin Storey, Superior General, did his visitation via Zoom, meeting with each novice between April 8 and 9.

The novices had the privilege of serving and participating in the Sacred Triduum in person. It was celebrated at the Chapel of St. Basil at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, and broadcast over the Internet for others to participate in that limited way. On Easter Day, Patrick O'Brien withdrew from the novitiate. In May, Charles Borromeo withdrew.



Due to limitations from the coronavirus, the Inter-Community Novitiate gatherings could not occur in person. They did meet, however, on April 28 and May 16 over Zoom. There was good input followed by time for the young religious to connect informally. A friend from the Inter-Community Novitiate professed first vows in the Congregation of Divine Providence in San Antonio on June 24. Father Paul English was asked to preside at the Mass. The novices attended, happy to share the moment.

The novices were able to serve and participate in the Priestly Ordination of Father Eduardo Rivera CSB, at St. Anne's church and at the Chapel of St. Basil. They were able, as well, to view the profession of the Mexican novices via Internet on June 18.



Paul English CSB, David Semivule CSB, Sean Ajluni CSB, Ted Baenziger CSB

The pre-profession retreat of the novices took place at a spirituality center run by the Diocese of Victoria, Texas. The preacher was Father John Markey OP. The novices returned to Houston and professed first vows on August 8. Father John Huber, CSB, General Councilor, received David Semivule's and Sean Ajluni's vows at the Chapel of St. Basil at the University of St. Thomas. Some family members and Basilians were in attendance. A reception followed, with the generous help of the Basilian Lay Associates.

Basilian Scholasticate at Keon House

Houston Texas (August 2020 – December 2020)

Father Paul F. English CSB, Master of Scholastics; Father Edward J. Baenziger CSB, Assistant Master of Scholastics.

Scholastics: David F. Semivule CSB, Sean P. Ajluni CSB.



Having enjoyed a two-week vacation after profession, both David and Sean began studies in August. David had previously received his Bachelor's degree and thus began studies for a M.Div. at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston. Sean used the fall semester to complete his Bachelor's degree in Philosophy at the University of St. Thomas. Both initially found the return to full-time academic work a heavier load than they had anticipated. Still, they soon established a new rhythm, both as professed members of an active Basilian house and as full-time students.

The scholastics' daily schedule much more closely resembled that of any other active house in the Congregation, with the exception that they met with Fathers English and Baenziger for conferences twice a week. The daily mass schedule for the house was set to accommodate the classes and other commitments of the Scholastics. The Keon House members were very accommodating.

One important part of the years as a scholastic should be participating in some form of community service or ministry in a parish, school or other ministerial opportunity. Due to the restrictions in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, this normal part of life was not possible. We do look forward to a new year in which, rhythm established, community service might be once more an option.

Sean's completion of his Bachelor's degree was a happy moment for him and for those who love and support him, including the local Basilians and his family in Detroit. The General Council and Sean have discerned that he will spend the first six months of 2021 in Rochester, NY, working in Campus Ministry at St. John Fisher College and living in Basilian community with Father Kevin Mannara CSB. Sean has spent time in Rochester before and is enthusiastic about this assignment.

A beautiful element in our lives is the ministry that David does. As a long-distance runner, he has come to know the streets of Houston and people who are homeless. He began gathering the leftovers from Keon House suppers, placing them in containers and, after supper, running the food to local homeless people. Often Father Ron Schwenzer CSB, assists David in preparing the food. David does not call any attention to this project, but it challenges the rest of us in a most salutary way.

The Scholastics continue their connection with the Inter-Community group of young religious via (Zoom), but also at a retreat center in Castroville, Texas, outside of San Antonio in late October.

Ted Baenziger is the pastor of the French Community in Southeast Texas, celebrating Mass and the various sacraments regularly at the Chapel of St. Basil, where this community has gathered for worship for many years. He derives great benefit and pleasure from this warm relationship. Ted continued his work as an expert in the area of orchids and plant husbandry, judging orchids at competitions and giving educational talks. He challenges his mind daily with the assorted puzzles in the daily newspaper.

Paul English continues his training as a formator. He is half-way through the ForMission program of the Religious Formation Conference (RFC), headquartered in Chicago, IL. The program requires attendance for a week every six months. The COVID-19 pandemic brought the postponement of the June gathering, but Paul and his cohort are on schedule to complete the certification in June 2021. The RFC asked Paul to partner with Sister Maco Cassetta in October to lead an international training for people entering formation ministry with a session for members of congregational leadership. People attended by Zoom from the USA, Canada, South America, Europe, Israel and Australia. The training was well-received.

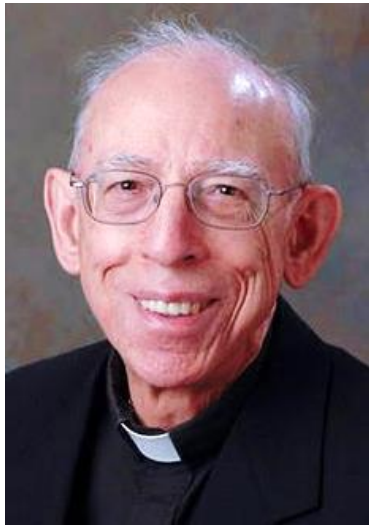
Paul serves on the Boards of Directors of the Aquinas Institute in Rochester and of St. Thomas High School in Houston. Both boards have met by Zoom. Paul also began ministry at the University of St. Thomas this fall as chaplain, part of Campus Ministry. While it has been an unusual semester due to COVID-19, connecting with students, faculty and administration has been a joy.



The Scholasticate is blessed to share Keon House with the Basilians who serve or have served at St. Thomas High School and the University of St. Thomas. The confrères have been quite supportive, both of the Novitiate and of the Scholasticate, and provide a warm and excellent example of "how good it is when brothers dwell together in peace."

The Basilian Fathers of Rochester

Kevin Mannara reports: We still live in the same places: I am in a house adjacent to the St. John Fisher College campus and the senior confrères reside at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse. The Basilians and diocesan priests there have a good community life of prayer and fellowship with each other and the Sisters. They receive excellent care, and the Sisters just love the Basilians! The Basilians are in the regular rotation of presiders and homilists for Mass in the Motherhouse Chapel.



Joe Trovato (*photo at left*) settled in after his move there the previous June. Until March, Joe and I went to a Saturday priests supper club that we previously belonged to when we lived at the St. Kateri/Christ the King rectory. In June, **Al Cylwicki** completed 25 years of service to St. John Fisher College and finished his term on the Board of Trustees. Until March, he was still celebrating Mass at the House of Mercy and Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse. Over the past year Al has had a number of health challenges. **Tom Dugan** is a skilled handyman who repairs and refinishes furniture. He also looks after the pastoral needs of many of the priests and Sisters.

I serve as the Director of Campus Ministry at St. John Fisher College, am the Co-director of Vocations, the Coordinator of the Basilian Center for Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation, on the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, and other pastoral activities.

St. John Fisher College continues to grow. The Chapel of St. Basil the Great attracts worshippers, weddings, and special events. The Trovato Campus Ministry Center has led to continued growth of the program. A new, beautiful residence hall serves the ever-growing student body. New programs have been added. Alumni always ask about their favorite Basilians and share stories.

On February 22, Dr. and Mrs. Gerard Rooney hosted a dinner at the President's House in honor of the 90th birthdays of Joe Trovato and Tom Dugan. Several Basilians came from Toronto and Houston, as well as Joe's niece and her husband from Arizona. The following morning Joe was honored at a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Hermance Family Chapel of St. Basil the Great. Norm Tanck preached. Many college alumni, friends from St. Kateri Parish, and relatives were present for the celebration.

Al Cylwicki and Tom Dugan celebrated the 60th anniversary of their ordinations in June (*see page 11 of the ANNALS*). The president of Fisher, Dr. Gerry Rooney presented both of them with a embroidered stole to commemorate the occasion.

No account of 2020 would be complete without discussing the impact of the pandemic. The first week of March I took a group of students on an alternative spring break service trip to the Smoky Mountains in TN, and then I went to Houston for the Superiors Workshop. The following week Eduardo Rivera came to prepare for his upcoming assignment to our growing Campus Ministry program. On the day he arrived, the College shut down and prepared for classes to go remote.

"I attended Eduardo's ordination and Mass of Thanksgiving in May. Sadly, the pandemic hit home when Joe Trovato contracted COVID in July during a visit to the hospital for a blood sugar issue. I visited him when he first returned to the hospital, so I had to quarantine for 14 days after his diagnosis. Al and Tom

were in quarantine too. During my quarantine, Joe's condition became grave, Eduardo's appointment was rescinded, and then Joe died the night of July 20."

Joe Trovato was one of the most beloved priests in Rochester. A private Funeral Mass was held in the Chapel at St. Basil the Great at St. John Fisher College, where he served for 30 years. Bishop Salvatore Matano presided and I preached. Joe had told me he wanted to be remembered as a good priest, gentle and kind. I believe he will be.



Campus Ministry was challenging in the fall. Students lived in the residence halls with a variety of protocols. In late October there was an outbreak on campus, so resident students were sent home and all classes went remote. We continued to be supportive with online outreach.

In June I got a puppy, a mini goldendoodle that I named Grace. She has been a graceful companion during these months of isolation. I welcome Basilians to visit any time. Many do, especially those coming to visit their families. The year ended with my mother contracting COVID. Thankfully she is improving but still has difficult symptoms, so I've been staying with her for a few days.

As with most of the world, 2020 unfolded in ways we never expected. It's been a year of uncertainty, isolation, and loss. It's also been a year when we all became much more aware of our dependence on God and connection to others. I pray the lessons of 2020 will lead to fuller life in 2021 and beyond.



The Campus of John Fisher College, founded by the Basilian Fathers and Bishop James A. Kearney in 1948.

Associated with the Basilian Fathers of Rochester

George Smith writes: On July 1, 2020, George Smith transitioned from his role as Interim Dean of the Faculty of Theology of Saint Paul University to become Interim Dean of the Faculties of Human Sciences and Philosophy at the same University. In those two faculties, he assisted over sixty-five tenured professors and one thousand students in their complete conversion to virtual teaching and learning. His most fervent hope is to welcome those same professors and students back to campus in September 2021. He continues to serve as Chair of the Board of Directors of Presentation Manor, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Toronto School of Theology, and as a Trustee of St. John Fisher College. Although he has been unable to travel to Rochester due to the pandemic, he is very grateful for his association with the Basilian Fathers in Rochester.

St. Anne's Parish

Houston TX

This past year has brought times of great joy, sorrow, and difficulties for our community at Saint Anne's. The difficulties began midway through lent when we had to close the parish due to the Texas order of a lockdown due to the pandemic. Our Easter celebrations had to be cancelled. The month of May brought us both joy and sorrow. One of our joys was on May 23rd when Eduardo Rivera was ordained to the priesthood here at St. Anne's. He has been a real blessing for our parish. Another joy was the final completion of the construction of our new garage, gym, track and field, offices, and gathering areas just in time for the beginning of the school year.



The sadness came a couple of days later when Al Sinasac was assaulted in front of our church on May 26, 2020. Al suffered a hemorrhagic stroke and multiple cranial fractures. After several days in intensive care, he was transferred to The Texas Institute for Research and Rehabilitation (TIRR).

Al writes: "There I learned to do again what had always seemed routine and commonplace. Simultaneously, I was learning a new vocabulary; words like hemiplegia, neuroplasticity, apraxia and aphasia. I worked with a physical therapist, occupational therapist, recreational therapist, nutritionist, psycho therapist and a speech pathologist. Four weeks later, I was discharged and walked out of TIRR without assistance or mobility device. Weekly and bi-weekly outpatient speech therapy proceeded until a squamous cell carcinoma on the skull in the location of one of the fractures required two surgeries and six weeks of radiation therapy. With the New Year, I will resume speech therapy and follow-up appointments with my many specialists. I have begun to slowly return to my life and work in ministry. I am grateful to God for His presence throughout the assault and my rehabilitation. I am blessed with excellent care from my doctors, therapists, and caregivers. I am thankful for the continuous support I have received from my family, friends and Basilian confrères."

Finally, at the end of June when the lockdown was lifted, we were once again able to celebrate the Sacraments and Masses with our parishioners, first at 25% capacity within the church and then later at 50% capacity. We began livestreaming our English and Spanish Masses at this time to reach out to our parishioners who are unable to attend Mass. In July, David Zapalac was appointed as pastor of St. Anne's.

We are now celebrating all the sacraments while adhering to social distance guidelines. We celebrate baptisms once a month. We have confessions one day each week or by appointment. We offer the anointing of the sick by appointment. We celebrate both funeral and wedding Masses at 50% capacity within the church. We have daily Mass Monday through Friday at 7:00 AM and Weekend Masses

Saturday at 5:15 PM and Sunday 7:30 AM and 10 AM in English and 12:45 PM in Spanish. We also have ZOOM meetings with many of our different parish organizations.

Eduardo Rivera enjoyed his year as a deacon at St. Anne's. He wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to be involved with as many events and programs as possible. Eduardo preached a retreat for the faculty and staff of St. Anne Catholic School. He also gave talks for the RCIA Program, Confirmation catechesis, *grupo de cursillistas*, and young adult groups. Eduardo was excited to begin sacramental ministry in English and Spanish. He presided at several weddings and baptisms as a deacon, and he continues his ministry as a priest.

At the onset of the pandemic, he was preparing for his ordination and completing his Master of Divinity. He was ordained a priest at St. Anne on May 23 with a limited number of guests in attendance. In July, he was appointed as parochial vicar at St. Anne's. Eduardo's first months as a priest provided him with opportunities to celebrate the sacraments in a parish community, which continues to perform ministry in-person during the pandemic. He is adapting his ministry as vocation director by connecting with discerners over ZOOM and organizing an online vocation retreat.

Jay Walsh is completing 17 years of happy service, off and on, as a Parochial Vicar at St. Anne's. Jay has been mostly serving in a virtual way as spiritual coordinator for parish St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Lectio Divina group, along with regular visits to the classes of school children. With the other confrères, he has found 2020 an especially challenging year with the Corona Virus mandating social distancing and mask wearing, but is looking forward to receiving the vaccine soon. A torn rotator cuff has interfered with his hobbies of golf and fishing this year, but Jay is looking forward to resuming these sports in the new year.

As pastor, David Zapalac continues to serve in both the English and Spanish speaking ministries. Reopening the church during the pandemic has brought its own set of challenges and David has had to learn the ins and outs of virtual meetings and conference calls. Luckily, the staff and parishioners of St. Anne's are very helpful and supportive.



St. Joseph Mission Center

Sugar Land, TX



Vincent Dulock CSB writes: As you might expect this has been an unusual year for the center here with the coronavirus dealing havoc to our usual ministry. Pre-coronavirus I would travel around the country to parishes where we had been invited to preach for our missions seeking their financial help and prayers. I would always give a regular homily on the readings and just at the end tell of our needs in our missionary work. People were always generous.

Needless to say, this year has put an end to this travel and preaching. I still have some clerical work here at the center but most of that is handled very ably by Mr. Aron Fernandez who works full time in the office here. There are also 3 Vietnamese priests that we give room and board to who are studying at the University of St. Thomas seeking graduate degrees to go back to Vietnam to teach in their diocesan seminaries. To me this is mission work too. We have morning and evening Liturgy of the Hours together and Mass every day. They are nice young men, and it gives me some community.

The Director of Operations at the Mission Center is Mr. Aron Fernandez; Aron began work here in 2016 and he become an essential part of the Basilian Fathers Missions Ministry. He supervises the accounting, he (in normal years) schedules Mission Appeal preaching across the USA, he and Jack Hanna edit the Mission Newsletter twice a year and send out a summer letter and Christmas card to donors, among other responsibilities. We are fortunate to have him. This past year he was confirmed at Sacred Heart Church in Manvel and I was his sponsor. It was a memorable moment for both of us. *(Photo at right)*



Pre-virus I helped with Masses and confessions in many of the local parishes on the weekends. This too has gone by the boards since they have cut down on their attendance and Masses. Now, with a lot of time on my hands, I am studying New Testament Greek over the internet so that I can read the NT in its original language. It's not the easiest language I have ever learned but I am enjoying it and putting in quite a bit of time to it. My dog Morena, a chocolate Lab, keeps me company too, although sometimes she can be a bit of a nuisance wanting to be petted all the time. Like all of us I am keen to have this pandemic over. But in the meantime, I am keeping busy. I also go to the gym twice a week and take occasional walks. Let us keep the faith and pass on the *Good News*.

El Ministerio Basiliano en México

El Noviciado en Tehuacán



El 16 de julio 2020 en frente del altar de la capilla de San Lorenzo

El 16 de julio 2020 celebramos la misa para recibir seis novicios nuevos. Después de la misa se tomó esta foto con doce novicios (seis que apenas se habían recibido como novicios y seis que iban a profesar sus primeros votos dentro de dos días), dos escolásticos y seis sacerdotes. Fue una de las pocas oportunidades para celebrar juntos como una comunidad. La vida comunitaria y la vida parroquial cambiaron radicalmente. Los escolásticos y asociados asistieron en sus clases virtualmente empezando en marzo; la parroquia suspendió misas abiertas al público, los novicios cambiaron su ministerio

en el segundo parte de su año a un ministerio en línea y les dijimos a los jóvenes que querían entrar como asociados que sería necesario esperar un año.

On July 16, 2020 we celebrated Mass, receiving six new novices. After Mass, this photo was taken with twelve novices (six who had just been received as novices and six who were going to profess their first vows within two days), two scholastics and six priests. It was one of the few opportunities to celebrate together as a community. Community life and parish life changed radically in 2020. Scholastics and associates attended their classes virtually beginning in March; The parish suspended Masses open to the public, the novices changed their ministry in the second part of their year to an online ministry, and we told the young people who wanted to enter as associates that it would be necessary to wait a year.

2020 fue el año de dos noviciados. Los del primero noviciado profesaron el 18 de julio. Los del segundo noviciado empezaron el 16 de julio. Entonces, durante casi 48 horas había 12 novicios. Padre Beto Rojas fue (y es) su director y Padre Jess Owens el asistente, con Padres Juan Carlos Rojas y René Espejel viviendo en el noviciado. Hasta marzo del año el primer noviciado procedía como cada noviciado con tiempos de oración, comer, estudiar y recrear juntos. Hicieron retiros y talleres fuera del noviciado. Desde enero hubo tiempos de ministerio principalmente en la parroquia de San Lorenzo y sus capillas. Después, al fin del marzo, practicaron su ministerio en línea dando charlas para grupos en la parroquia usando las medias sociales y ayudaron con la distribución de la dispensa para los necesitados de la parroquia. También, porque las misas públicas de la parroquia se suspendieron, la comunidad basiliana

entera de Tehuacán celebró la misa diaria en la capilla del noviciado. Pero, en general, la vida del noviciado no fue afectado mucho. Como dijo uno de los novicios en Houston, en la pandemia toda la comunidad regresó al noviciado. Y en Tehuacán, el noviciado dio la bienvenida a la comunidad también.



De pie, izquierda a derecha: Novicios que Iban a profesar Erick Enríquez, José Gómez, Jesús Rodríguez, Óscar Martínez, Ángel Vivas, Lauro Sánchez; Padres Beto Rojas y Jess Owens; Novicios apenas recibidos en el noviciado: Julio César Martínez, Jesús Cisneros, Hugo Medina, César Enrique Hernández, Alejandro García, Baruc Juárez; y delante, unos jóvenes considerando una vocación con nosotros.

2020 was the year of two novitiates. Those of the first novitiate professed on July 18. Those of the second novitiate began on July 16. So for almost 48 hours there were 12 novices. Father Beto Rojas was (and is) its director and Father Jess Owens the assistant, with Fathers Juan Carlos Rojas and René Espejel living in the novitiate. Until March of the year the first novitiate proceeded like each novitiate with times of prayer, eating, studying and recreating together. They did retreats and workshops outside the novitiate. Since January, there had been times of ministry mainly in the parish of San Lorenzo and its chapels. Then, at the end of March, they performed their online ministry by giving talks for groups in the parish using social media and helping with the distribution of grocery items for the needy of the parish. Also, because the public masses of the parish were suspended, the entire Basilian community of Tehuacán celebrated daily mass in the novitiate chapel.

But, in general, the novitiate life was not affected much. As one of the novices in Houston said, in the pandemic the entire community returned to the novitiate. And in Tehuacán, the novitiate welcomed the community as well.

La Parroquia de San Lorenzo en Tehucán

El año 2020 en la parroquia empezó como casi cada año. Nuestras familias celebraron la llegada de los Reyes el seis de enero (el día tradicional para dar regalos a los niños) y el día del Niño Dios el 2 de febrero (en que muchas personas vienen a la iglesia con el niño Jesús vestido como un niño y no un bebé). Celebramos la semana de la familia, que es una celebración anual en que hay charlas y talleres

para cada miembro de la familia durante los ocho días de la semana. Por último, empezamos juntos la Cuaresma el Miércoles de Ceniza.

The year 2020 in the parish began like almost every year. Our families celebrated the arrival of the Kings on January 6 (the traditional day for giving gifts to children) and the Day of the Niño Dios (literally, Child God) on February 2 (in which many people come to church with the child Jesus dressed as a child and not a baby). We celebrated Family Week, which is an annual celebration in which there are talks and workshops for each member of the family during the full week. Finally, we begin Lent together on Ash Wednesday.

Después, todo cambió. Suspendimos las misas públicas en la parroquia y empezamos misas diarias en el noviciado, transmitiéndolas por Facebook. Limitamos acceso a la oficina y las reuniones de los grupos de la parroquia. Con tiempo, cancelamos la publicación de la revista mensual porque no pudimos distribuirla. Continuamos en este modo hasta el otoño cuando empezamos misas con la sana distancia, los cubrebocas, lavar a mano, y desinfectar los zapatos. Seguimos transmitiendo la misa por Facebook hasta la fecha, para que la gente pueda elegir la manera de participación en la misa.

Then everything changed. We suspended public Masses in the parish and started daily Masses in the novitiate, broadcasting them on Facebook. We limited access to the office and meetings of parish groups. Eventually, we canceled the publication of the monthly magazine because we could not distribute it. We continued in this mode until fall when we begin Masses with safe distancing, masks, hand washing, and sanitizing shoes. We continue to broadcast the Mass on Facebook to this day, so that people can choose how to participate in the Mass.

El padre José Alberto Juárez comenzó el año como párroco, con el padre Alejandro Estrada como vicario parroquial y el asociado Hugo Medina haciendo la pastoral. El padre Alejandro Estrada fue párroco en la segunda parte del año. Sin embargo, su instalación se celebró el 29 de noviembre, cinco meses después de su primer día.

Father José Alberto Juárez started the year as pastor, with Father Alejandro Estrada as Parochial Vicar and the associate Hugo Medina doing pastoral ministry. Father Alejandro Estrada was pastor in the second half of the year. However, his installation was celebrated on November 29, five months after his first day.

El P. Daniel Porter ha sido vicario parroquial en la parroquia durante todo el año, visitando a los enfermos en la mayor medida posible. Padres René Espejel y P. Juan Carlos Rojas (de julio hasta diciembre) ayudaron también en la parroquia. P. René fue nombrado uno de los curas de la iglesia San José Obrero y, en noviembre, fue instalado como el párroco de San Pedro Acoquiaco en el centro de la ciudad. Sigue viviendo en el noviciado. Su presencia es muy apreciada por los novicios. P. Jess sigue en



Misa diaria en el noviciado. Desde la izquierda José Alberto Juárez (párroco, enero a junio), Alejandro Estrada (párroco, julio a diciembre), Jess Owens (director asistente de los novicios), Dan Porter (cura de la parroquia).

las oficinas de la parroquia, tomando medidas para protegerse y a la gente que viene para confesar y consejo pastoral.

Father Daniel Porter has been parochial vicar in the parish throughout the year, visiting the sick as much as possible. Fathers René Espejel and Father Juan Carlos Rojas (from July to December) also helped in the parish. P. René was appointed one of the parochial vicars of the San José Obrero church and, in November, he was installed as the pastor of San Pedro Acoquiaco in the center of the city. He continues to live in the novitiate. His presence is highly appreciated by the novices. Fr. Jess still works in the parish offices, taking steps to protect himself and people who come for confession and pastoral advice.

El Escolasticado en Tlalpan, Ciudad de México

El escolasticado de 2020 pasó dos temporadas en el último año. Desde enero hasta junio, había dos escolásticos y cinco asociados en casa. Los escolásticos Antonio Ibáñez y Juan José Ortiz estudiaban; Antonio estaba en su tercer año de teología en la Universidad Continental (la UIC) y Juan José acabó con éxito(!) sus estudios en filosofía en la Universidad Pontifical de México (UPM). Los asociados estudiando filosofía fueron Baruc Juárez (2º año, la UIC), César Enrique Hernández (2º año, la UIC) y Jesús Cisneros (acabó filosofía con éxito (!), la UIC); los asociados estudiando teología fueron (Julio César Martínez, 2º año UPM) y Alejandro García (2º año, la UIC). Un sexto asociado, Hugo Medina, hacía ministerio pastoral en la parroquia de San Lorenzo en esta temporada. En este tiempo P. Pablo Walsh fue director de los escolásticos y P. Juan Carlos Rojas fue el asistente.



Día de los Muertos: Desde la izquierda: Jesús Rodríguez, Óscar Martínez, Lauro Sánchez, P. José Alberto Juárez (director), P. Pablo Walsh (Asistente), Erick Enríquez, José Gómez, Ángel Vivas (de rodillas)

The scholasticate of 2020 can be split into two time periods. From January through June, there were two scholastics and five associates. The scholastics Antonio Ibáñez and Juan José Ortiz studied; Antonio was in his third year of theology at la Universidad Intercontinental (UIC) and Juan José successfully (!) finished his studies in philosophy at the Universidad Pontifical de México (UPM). The associates studying philosophy were Baruc Juárez (2nd year, UIC), César Enrique Hernández (2nd year, UIC) and Jesús Cisneros (he successfully finished philosophy (!), UIC); the associates studying theology were (Julio César Martínez, 2nd year UPM) and Alejandro García (2nd year, UIC). A sixth associate, Hugo Medina, was doing pastoral ministry in the parish of San Lorenzo from January to June. At this time, Fr. Pablo Walsh was the Director of the Scholastics and Fr. Juan Carlos Rojas was the Assistant.

Desde agosto hasta diciembre pasamos una segunda temporada; P. José Alberto Juárez se hizo director de los escolásticos y P. Pablo su asistente, permitiéndolo más tiempo para sus responsabilidades como superior. Como se dijo arriba, los jóvenes asistieron virtualmente en sus clases desde marzo de 2020. Eso hecho permitió que dos escolásticos pudieran hacer sus clases en línea y también ministerio pastoral en la parroquia de San Lorenzo. Antonio y Juan José pasaron la mayoría de su semestre en Tehuacán ayudando con celebraciones litúrgicas y unos grupos que podrían reunirse a pesar de la pandemia. Además, enriquecieron la vida comunitaria del curato.

From August to December, the second part of 2020, Father José Alberto Juárez became Director of the Scholastics and Father Pablo his Assistant, allowing him more time for his responsibilities as Superior. As mentioned above, the scholastics attended their classes virtually after last March. That fact allowed two scholastics to do their classes online and also pastoral ministry in the parish of San Lorenzo. Antonio and Juan José spent most of their semester in Tehuacán helping with liturgical celebrations and a few groups that could come together despite the pandemic. They enriched the community life of the rectory.



La paz y la tranquilidad: la capilla, el patio, y el jardín del Escolasticado, Tlalpan, CDMX

En el escolasticado, dos escolásticos reanudaron sus estudios en filosofía: Jesús Rodríguez (tercer año, UPM) y Ángel Vivas (2º año, UPM); y dos escolásticos sus estudios en teología: Lauro Sánchez (tercer año, la UIC) y Erick Enríquez (tercer año, UPM). Dos escolásticos empezaron una maestría en psicología en el Instituto de Terapia Gestalt Región Occidente (INTEGRO), Óscar Martínez y José Gómez. También, Óscar y José reanudarán sus estudios teológicos en enero 2021.

At the scholasticate, two scholastics took up again their studies in philosophy: Jesús Rodríguez (third year, UPM) and Ángel Vivas (2nd year, UPM); and two scholastics their studies in theology: Lauro Sánchez (third year, UIC) and Erick Enríquez (third year, UPM). Two scholastics began a master's degree in psychology at the Western Region Gestalt Therapy Institute (INTEGRO for its initials in Spanish), Óscar Martínez and José Gómez. Also, Óscar and José will resume their theological studies in January 2021.

La Pandemia

La vida comunitaria en el escolasticado y el noviciado fue directamente afectada por la pandemia. En agosto, cuatro escolásticos (y posiblemente un quinto escolástico durante sus vacaciones), un novicio y un sacerdote pasaron un tiempo enfermos con el COVID-19. Los hermanos les llevaron su alimentación física y espiritual mientras que fue necesario quedarse en aislamiento. Gracias a Dios, nadie tuvo síntomas muy serios. Pero conocemos todos a gente que ha sufrido más que nosotros. La parroquia de San Lorenzo y sus capillas perdieron a ministros laicos. Algunos familiares nuestros han fallecido. Agradecemos a Dios al final de este año que nuestros países han visto la llegada de las vacunas. Pero no hemos salido de la pandemia en este momento. Seguimos en oración por todo el mundo, por todas nuestras familias, por todos nuestros amigos y compañeros y por todos nosotros. **Que el Señor nos bendiga y nos dé su amor, su protección y su sabiduría.**



La Ofrenda del Escolasticado en el tiempo de la Pandemia, recordando al P. Francisco Launtrie y al P. Max Murphy (fotos en la ventana); a dos formandos: un candidato Cristián que falleció en 2016 y Javier de la Rosa (foto abajo) que falleció en 2018, y a otros Basilianos, especialmente los Padres Isidro Castillo y Enrique Bravo.

Community life in the scholasticate and novitiate was directly affected by the pandemic. In August, four scholastics (and possibly a fifth scholastic while on vacation), a novice, and a priest spent time ill with COVID-19. The brothers brought them their physical and spiritual food while it was necessary to stay in isolation. Thank goodness no one had extremely serious symptoms. But we all know people who have suffered more than us. The parish of San Lorenzo and its chapels lost lay ministers. Some of our relatives have died. We thank God at the end of this year that our countries have seen the arrival of vaccines. But we have not emerged from the pandemic at this time. We continue in prayer for the whole world, for all our families, for all our friends and colleagues, and for all of us. **May the Lord bless us and give us his love, his protection and his wisdom.**



El Ministerio Basiliano en Colombia

Parroquia San Basilio en Medellín



La Casa Basiliana en Medellín estuvo habitada por el P. Javier Higuera CSB y el P. Oscar Gómez CSB. Ambos apoyaron los distintos ministerio y grupos pastorales junto a los proyectos Basilianos de promoción y dignificación humana, como son; Taller de jóvenes, Centro Médico, Confecciones, Basilnet, Comedor. Toda esta enorme obra (*Basiliada*) se mantiene gracias al apoyo de cada uno de los Basilianos en el mundo y benefactores generosos que siguen creyendo en nuestra Congregación a pesar de las dificultades vividas.

Father Javier Higuera CSB and Father Oscar Gómez CSB lived in the Basilian House in Medellín. Both supported the various ministries and pastoral groups along with the Basilian projects of human development: Youth Workshop, Medical Center, Confections, Basilnet, and Dining Room. All this enormous work (*Basiliada*) is maintained thanks to the support of Basilian Congregation and generous benefactors who continue to believe in our Congregation in spite of difficulties.

La pandemia y el confinamiento fue un desafío para nosotros en primer momento, pero al mismo tiempo fue un tiempo de gracia y bendición, ya que debimos servir desde otra manera. Dios nos mostró el camino para ayudar a muchas hermanas y hermanos que lo necesitaban a causa de la misma problemática. Con la ayuda de las Hermanas Franciscanas Misioneras y los Basilianos colocamos manos a la obra para con un Equipo de apoyo humano de más de 30 laicos mujeres, hombres y jóvenes, crear el Proyecto en Pandemia de *Ayúdanos a Ayudar*, realizando más de 1000 almuerzos en cada entrega. En verdad esto fue un “milagro” de Dios, que nos lanzó a atender en verdad a los hermanos más pobres. <https://youtu.be/eu7iL-E0jfc> (Abrir Link).



Pandemic and confinement were a challenge for us at first, but at the same time it was a time of grace and blessing, as we had to serve in another way. God showed us the way to help many sisters and brothers. With the help of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters and the Basilians we put to work with a human support team of more than 30 lay women, men and young people, to create the Project of *Help us to help!* We served more than 1000 lunches the days we were open. <https://youtu.be/eu7iL-E0jfc> (Open Link).

Un desafío más profundo para nuestra tierra Latina, y al mismo tiempo para nosotros como pastores, fue celebrar la Semana Santa solos, sin el pueblo de Dios presente, sin procesiones, sin multitudes. De igual manera lo vivimos con intensidad y sentimos el apoyo y la vivencia de nuestra comunidad desde sus casas, ya que trasmitíamos por radio y a nivel virtual las celebraciones.





A bigger challenge for us Colombians and for us as pastors, was to celebrate Holy Week alone, without God's people present, without processions, without large gatherings of the faithful. We felt the support of our community from their homes, since we transmitted the celebrations on the radio and via virtual platforms.

Estas dificultades que vivimos no nos detuvo para celebrar activamente los sacramentos de Primera Confesión-Comunión, Confirmación, y un buen grupo de Catecúmenos; no de igual manera que los otros años, pero si con seriedad y centrados en lo importante: la madurez en la fe y la Vida

Sacramental. En casa todos los días oramos Laudes, Visita al Santísimo después del Almuerzo, Vísperas, Completas antes de dormir, y la Eucaristía. Compartimos los alimentos juntos de desayuno, almuerzo y cena. Así mismo, designamos un tiempo para hacer encuentro de retiro espiritual a pesar de la imposibilidad de salir.

These difficulties we experienced did not stop us from actively celebrating the sacraments of First Reconciliation and first Communion, Confirmation. We had a good group of Catechumens; not in the same way as the other years, but they focused on what is most important: maturity in faith and sacramental life. At home every day we pray Lauds, we have a visit to the Blessed Sacrament after lunch, Vespers, Compline at night, and the daily Eucharist. We share meals together at breakfast, lunch and dinner. Likewise, we designate a time to spend in spiritual retreat despite the inability to leave the parish.

Casa Annonay en Bogotá



La Casa Annonay es un recuerdo constante para los Sacerdotes, Escolásticos y Asociados, de la fundación de los primeros diez Basilianos. Para los que han tenido la oportunidad de llegar a la casa Annonay, saben perfectamente que es un lugar muy acogedor, propicio para el estudio, la reflexión, la oración, y por supuesto la vida comunitaria; así como también se puede tener la experiencia de contemplar gran parte de la ciudad de Bogotá. Todo esto para decir que la Casa Annonay, es un lugar indicado para la formación de los futuros sacerdotes de la Congregación.

Casa Annonay is a constant reminder for the Priests, Scholastics and Associates of the first ten Basilian founders. For those of you who have visited Casa Annonay, you know that it is a very welcoming place, conducive to study, reflection, prayer, and of course community life. Besides all that, you have the experience of contemplating much of the city of Bogotá. Casa Annonay is an excellent place for the formation of the future priests of the Congregation.

El ministerio y apostolado de los hermanos sacerdotes P. Pedro Mora CSB. y P. Carlos Rodríguez CS B., se ha concentrado principalmente en la ayuda con las celebraciones eucarísticas en la Parroquia Nuestra Señora de Egipto, como también en el acompañamiento del ancianato Santa María de la Providencia de las Hermanas Guanelianas. Finalmente, debe indicarse que los padres no sólo se han limitado en estos apostolados, sino que también, colaboran con las celebraciones litúrgicas en diversas parroquias de la ciudad.

The ministry and apostolate of the priests, P. Pedro Mora CSB. and P. Carlos Rodriguez CSB, has focused mainly to help with Eucharistic celebrations in the Parish of Our Lady of Egypt, as well as at St. Mary of Providence Elder Care Home of the Guanelian Sisters. The priests have not only helped in these apostolates, but also with liturgical celebrations in various parishes of the city.



Como bien es sabido por toda la humanidad, la crisis sanitaria del Covid-19 ha imposibilitado la mayoría de los apostolados, no sólo de la Iglesia, sino también, del quehacer de los Basilianos en la Casa Annonay. Sin embargo, sin ánimos de quedarse con los brazos atados y buscando cómo contribuir al pueblo de Dios, los Escolásticos y Asociados con el apoyo de sus formadores, se han servido de los medios de comunicación, buscando llegar a los hogares de todos aquellos que por la contingencia sanitaria no podían estar físicamente en los templos.

As all of us know, the health crisis of Covid-19 has made it impossible for most apostolates to continue as usual. The work of the Basilians in Casa Annonay has undergone a change. However, the Spirit is not going to be restrained and we have been looking for ways to serve God's people. The Scholastics and Associates with the support of their formators, have used the media, seeking to reach the homes of all those who, because of the pandemic, could not be physically in churches.

Es así como se empezaron a transmitir las eucaristías, y de manera especial, la hora santa al estilo *taizé*. Esta es la manera como les hemos hecho sentir a nuestros amigos, familiares y parroquianos, que no



están solos, que Dios en medio de los momentos críticos camina con nosotros. Dialogando cómo estábamos llevando a cabo esta labor tan importante, surgió la necesidad de preparar contenido para los niños, de manera que ellos también se sintieran tenidos en cuenta con nuestra labor pastoral. Es así como surge la presentación del Evangelio de cada domingo por medio de títeres, en el que se propuso hacer asequible el mensaje evangélico, en un lenguaje idóneo para los niños.

This is how the Eucharists began to be transmitted and also a holy hour in the *Taizé* style. This way we have made our friends, family, and parishioners feel that they are not alone, that God is in the midst of difficult moments and always walks with us. By discussing how we were doing this important work, the need to prepare content for children was apparent. They too needed to feel included in our pastoral work. The presentation of the Gospel is done every Sunday through puppets; we set out to make the Gospel message accessible in a language suitable for children.



Un aspecto de gran importancia es el trabajo que se ha venido realizando con la Pastoral Vocacional. Si bien, al inicio de la pandemia, se pensó que era imposible continuar con dicho trabajo, no hubo más que orar al Dueño de la mies, para que enviara más operarios a su viña. De esta manera se llevó a cabo la hora santa vocacional al atardecer de cada jueves. De la mano de Dios, pudimos experimentar que el trabajo vocacional iba surgiendo y cada vez más era mayor el número de hombres que lo conformaban.

One very important aspect is the work that has been going on with the Vocational Pastoral Care. At the beginning of the pandemic, we thought that it would be impossible to continue this work. All we could do was pray to the Lord of the harvest so that he would send more workers to his vineyard. Now we now have the virtual vocational hour at sunset every Thursday. With God's help, we were able to experience that the vocational promotion was continuing and the number of men who participated was increasing.

A Dios gracias, se han abierto nuevamente las puertas de los templos, y las personas están retornando a la casa de Dios, es así, como los Escolásticos y Asociados, están colaborando con los protocolos para la protección de las vidas de las personas que participan de las eucaristías.

Thank God, the doors of churches have been opened again, and gradually people are returning to the house of God. Like the Scholastics and Associates, everyone is collaborating with the protocols required for the protection of the lives of people who participate in the Eucharists.

Los Escolásticos y Asociados continúan estudiando Teología y Filosofía en la Universidad Santo Tomás, dirigida por los Padres Dominicos. Nos confiamos a sus oraciones para que Dios nos siga bendiciendo a nosotros y a toda nuestra Congregación.

The Scholastics and Associates continue to study theology and philosophy at the Universidad Santo Tomás, staffed by the Dominican Fathers. We entrust ourselves to your prayers that God may continue to bless us and our Congregation.



Marlon Rincón CSB, Anderson Úsuga CSB, P. Carlos Rodríguez CSB, Gabriel Galviz (Associate), Raúl Zamara (Associate), Edilson Gómez CSB, Osman De La Hoz CSB

Houston Area Basilian Lay Associates

Coordinators: David Zapalac CSB, Barbara Bishop

The year 2020 began as usual, but surely is not ending that way. We had Mass at St. Anne's Church followed by a lovely dinner to celebrate with our beloved priests. We also celebrated three new Lay Associates. Elizabeth Edwards and Sandi and Tom Hedrick officially joined our group.

In February, we had a Mardi Gras celebration at our meeting. Sandi Hedrick and Diane Kopfensteiner made gumbo and I made bread pudding! True New Orleans food! Father Paul English was our guest speaker. He brought the four young men who were novices at the time. They each told their story and were well received. Since then, two have left. David Semivule and Sean Ajluni are now professed.



In March, things began to unravel. Several of the Basilians were in Houston. Father Norm Tanck led the Lenten Day of Prayer for St. Anne's Guild. How wonderful! I mention this, because the priests just made it out of town before the lockdown.

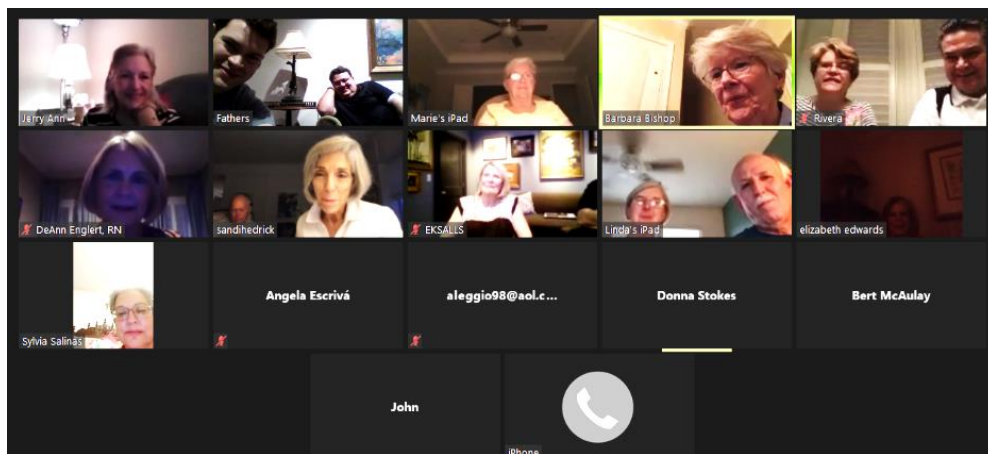
The highlight of our year was Eduardo Rivera's ordination! Blanca and Eusebio Rivera, his parents, are very involved Basilian Lay Associates and so we all have gotten to know Eduardo. We were really looking forward to his ordination and the celebration involved. Needless to say, we attended his ordination virtually. Our group gave Eduardo vestments as a gift. We all gathered in the parking lot at St. Anne's and presented him with his gift! *(photo at left)* Needless to say, the gathering was well attended! We are delighted that he is at St. Anne's!

In September, we began having Zoom meetings! We asked Father Eduardo to talk about his first few months as a priest. When Father Al was injured, Eduardo stepped in as if he had been a priest forever. He had much to share with us and we enjoyed his presence. Father Jim Murphy spoke at our October meeting. We asked that he share some things about the beginning of school at St. Thomas High School. I should add that they are doing a very good job of things at St. Thomas! Needless to say, it has been a challenge and they have handled it beautifully. In addition,

Father Jim has continued to celebrate Mass on Facebook, both daily and Sunday.

Linda and John Howard have moved to Tuscon to be near children and grandchildren. We surely miss them. They are still involved with our group! Thank God for Zoom! Our annual contribution was made to the St. Basil Chapel at the University of St. Thomas.

One of our members, Robert Stokes passed away in October. Robert and his wife, Donna have been very involved for a long time. We will all surely miss Robert. We all really enjoyed the Advent Morning of Reflection in December. The Windsor group and Father Kevin Mannara and Father Norm Tanck did a wonderful job. They gave us much to think about during this prayerful season. I have told Father Norm that the Houston group would like to host something for Lent.



Our ZOOM meetings have been a great success. It did not take too long to get used to them. It is a very good way to stay in touch. Everyone has given positive feedback about them (*photo on left*).

We miss Mary Murphy who has moved to a Memory Unit at the Villages of Southampton Senior Living Facility. It is not the same without her lively conversation.

In early December, Tom Hedrick and Dan Kopfensteiner took a Christmas tree to the patio at Dillon House. Just before Christmas, some of us took dinner on the days that they were without a cook. They enjoyed it so much that we have decided to take dinner once a month. It seems that people are looking for things to do for others. It is so important to stay involved, even though we cannot be together in person. We look forward to the time we can gather as a group!



***We are hopeful and have faith!
Happy New Year!***

Rochester Area Basilian Lay Associates

Coordinators: Kevin Mannara CSB, Cathy Poirier

Article prepared by Vilma Goetting

The Rochester BLA ushered in 2020 preparing and serving dinner at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality in January and March. During the first two months of the year we were able to hold evening prayer and monthly meetings as well as dinner at St. Joseph's Motherhouse with the Basilian Fathers living there. The 90th birthday celebration and reception at St. John Fisher College in honor of Father Joe Trovato was a joyful event, especially for our BLA Fisher alumni.

Come March because of Covid-19 restrictions and quarantines, Rochester BLA had to rearrange our regular meetings and cancel other planned events such as our volunteer service at St. Joseph's HOH, Saint Patrick's Day celebration at Father Kevin's residence and our April 11th Day of Reflection at the Mercy Spirituality Center in Rochester.

With the warmer weather we were able to move our meetings outdoors to the Prayer Garden at Christ the King Church. It was delightful to have the senior Basilian Fathers with us again to pray, converse and carry on a meeting. We even were able to enjoy an outdoor birthday celebration for Father Kevin!



During the summer we said goodbye to our saintly and loving Father Joe Trovato who journeyed home to his heavenly Father and Blessed Mother. Father Kevin arranged for the BLA to serve as Greeters as Father Joe laid in state at Christ the King Church where he served for years. The following week several Associates served as readers and pall bearers at the funeral for Father Joe. His spirit is with us!

(The photo at the left was taken at the dedication of the Campus Ministry Center at St. John Fisher College in October 2019.)

Our first ZOOM meeting on November 19th was hosted by Father Kevin at St. John Fisher College. Lay Associates and Come and See members actively engaged in discussion of how we can creatively continue to minister as Associates in the current pandemic. A priority at this time is to pray for vocations, as well as our Basilian priests, the Religious, those in the novitiate and seminary.

On December 12th Rochester BLA participated with other regional Lay Associates in a morning Reflection Retreat with Father Norm Tanck and Father Kevin Mannara. Thank you to our Canadian BLA for providing an inspiring Advent gift. The year closed with the passing of Marie Stahlecker, a faithful Lay Associate and loved friend. Marie was a woman of tremendous wisdom, faith, and humor. Marie's life was a true celebration of her "yes" to God.

Finally, we give thanks to Father Kevin Mannara for his care and guidance during this challenging year and we look forward to continuing to share our gifts in 2021.

Toronto Area Basilian Lay Associates

Coordinators: Norm Tanck CSB, Brenda Holz, Nancy Strader



*Nancy Strader, Sally Lianko, Father Jim Farge CSB,
Anastasia Oehlert, Simone Minalabag*

Our numbers have remained fairly constant, despite the departure of Jane Alan and Connie Pare, as well as the death of Mary O'Brien. We (Nancy and Brenda) are in our second year as lay coordinators. Father Norm Tanck is in his third year as our ordained coordinator. At our January 11, 2020 gathering, Mary Frances Coady gave a presentation on Georges and Pauline Vanier, who have been nominated for beatification. Georges Vanier was the 19th Governor-General of Canada.

At our February gathering, Father James Farge CSB, the Curator of Rare Books at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, gave the Toronto BLAs a guided tour of the collections. We were so enthralled by the rare books and time there passed too quickly.

We met with Father Norm using Zoom. In August, we had a BLA Coordinators' Zoom meeting. We decided that the 2020/21 meetings would be via Zoom. For BLA members without internet connection by phone or in-person attendance with Father Norm with masks and social distancing was possible.

Our September meeting was our first BLA Toronto Zoom meeting. The focus was on BLA business. We began our virtual September meeting with a memorial service for Mary O'Brien to allow BLAs who knew her well to share memories.

Father Norm asked Father Eduardo Rivera CSB to present at our October gathering. Father Eduardo spoke to us about his decision to become a Basilian priest. The example set by many excellent Basilian priests and educators, as well as a calling to serve, were deciding factors.

At our November 14, 2020 gathering, Father Norm gave us a presentation on the papal encyclical "Fratelli Tutti". Prior to our meeting, Father Norm had also sent us the document plus a summary so that we could prepare for the meeting.



*Arcangel Cruz, Simone Minalabag,
Mary O'Brien (RIP), Sally Lianko*

The Toronto-London Basilian Lay Associates hosted a virtual Advent Morning of Recollection on December 12, 2020, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. There were 50 to 55 BLAs participating from Toronto, London, Windsor, Rochester, Ithaca, and Houston. The gathering began with Morning Prayer followed by a presentation by Father Kevin Mannara CSB from Rochester on the Annunciation of Mary. A time for silent meditation and faith sharing followed. Everyone agreed that it was an excellent gathering. Despite the difficulties of the past year, we have much to be thankful for.

Windsor Area Basilian Lay Associates

Coordinators: Paul McGill CSB, Anne-Marie Handsor

The year 2020 was a very unusual and painful year. We began the year with high hopes and a lovely celebration with the Basilian Fathers on January 2nd – The Basilian Feast Day. We celebrated with Mass in Rosary Chapel and then proceeded to the Rectory for a delicious meal. We had our first meeting of the year in the Rectory. We welcomed a new “Come and See” into our group—Lionel Walsh. Our numbers in Windsor continue to rise and we are very grateful. We held our next meeting in February. In the early weeks of March everything changed. Churches closed as well as many other places. As a result we depended on emails and phone calls to stay connected. I learned about Zoom meetings on August 1st when we had our Coordinators meeting facilitated by Father Morgan Rice.



Assumption Church in Windsor has always been a centre for the faithful Lay Associates in the Windsor Area. Covid-19 has changed the lives of everyone.

In June Mary Anne Seguin – one of the original BLAs celebrated her 90th birthday. We had big plans for this occasion but due to the pandemic this was impossible. Father Paul and I went to Mary Anne’s and presented her with a gift and cards from the group. Mary Anne was so grateful when Father Paul brought along his stole, holy oil, holy water, and the Eucharist.

On August 30th we were able to gather as a group in the courtyard at the Rectory. Father Leo Walsh, Father Steven Huber, Father Maurice Restivo, and Father Paul McGill were all in attendance as well as many of the Lay Associates. It was a joy to finally be able to gather although we did wear our masks and maintained social distance.

In September we moved our meeting out of the Rectory and into Holy Name of Mary Hall. This was to create distance while wearing our masks.. This is annoying at times but it is essential. We invited Joyce Zuk to speak to us about the homeless in Windsor. Joyce is with Windsor Family Services and she was an amazing speaker. She touched all of our hearts. We were amazed by the way she spoke about the homeless and gave us small ways in which we could help at this crucial time. As a result of that meeting our group wanted to start small but we all felt called to put what we learned into action. We donated not only money but socks, scarves, mittens, gloves and much more. I spoke with Joyce this week and she says she was overwhelmed with the generosity of the BLA. We plan to continue to be involved with this Ministry.

We met in October for our monthly meeting, but we are no longer meeting in person. We pray for this pandemic to end and for people to heal. We continue to pray for all Basilians and Lay Associates and we ask you to continue to pray for us.

Raymond Páramo CSB

January 14, 1937 – January 27, 2020

Father Raymond Páramo CSB, entered eternal life on January 27; he was 83 years of age. He had been a Basilian for 64 years and had served in priestly ministry for 54 years, all of them at Catholic Central High School.

Ray was born in Houston TX, the first of seven children of Ramón and Catherine Suárez de Páramo. He attended public elementary schools until the 7th grade when he entered Our Lady of Guadalupe School in Houston. Father Francis Murphy CSB invited Ray to apply for admission to St. Thomas High School; he was accepted and graduated as Valedictorian of his class in 1955. He entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester NY along with six other of his classmates and was professed in 1956. Ray received a BS from Assumption University of Windsor in 1961 and an STB from the University of St. Michael's College in 1966.



Ray was ordained to the priesthood in St. Anne's Church, Houston, TX by Bishop John Morkovsky on December 10, 1966 along with Bob Power and +Ricardo Ramírez. Others ordained that year were: Quentin Johnson, Gordon Kennedy, Marvin LaBute, Gerald LaLonde, Kenneth McKernan, William Sheehan, and Edward Sullivan. Ray celebrated his First Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Houston; the choir of the Basilian Scholasticate at the University of St. Thomas provided the music. In early 1967, Ray, Bob and Ricardo travelled to Mexico City and celebrated the Eucharist at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Ray was appointed to Detroit Catholic Central High School after ordination and he has been a part of the school community all his priestly life. He taught Physics, Mathematics and Theology. He served as Dean of Discipline and as Vice-Principal. Ray instituted the Dillon Trophy which is awarded to the graduating senior with the highest grade-point average. Ray was proud of the long line of science fair winners from Catholic Central HS. Many students remember his Theology course for science-oriented students. The course delved into questions that scientists ask; Ray brought together Theology and Science into a stimulating dialogue. Ray also served at the Editor of the *Aluminator*, Catholic Central's alumni magazine. Ray began publishing in color and introduced advertising in the publication.

Raymond Páramo had the following appointments in the Congregation:

St. Basil's Novitiate	1955-1956
St. Basil's Seminary	1956-1957
St. Michael's College	1957-1959
Assumption University	1959-1961
Assumption High School	1961-1963
St. Basil's Seminary	1963-1967
Catholic Central High School and Basilian Fathers of Novi	1967-2020

The wake and visitation were held in the Chapel of Catholic Central High School on Thursday evening, January 30, 2020. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 7:00 PM. Dennis Noelke CSB, of the General Council, presided and John Wheeler CSB, long-time CC faculty member preached the homily. The burial took place on Friday, January 31, at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery.

Alphonse Anthony Maria de Valk CSB

March 27, 1932 – April 16, 2020

Father Alphonse de Valk CSB died peacefully at Scarborough General Hospital in Toronto. He was 88 years of age; he had been a Basilian for 57 years and had served in priestly ministry for 55 years.

Alphonse was born in Rotterdam in the Netherlands; his parents were Martien de Valk and Christina Lutkie; he had four brothers, Matthew, Charles, Neil, and Peter, all of whom are deceased. He attended primary school in Oudendbosch and high school in Rotterdam. He arrived in Canada in 1951 at the age of 19. In an article in the *2015 Basilian Annals*, Alphonse recounts: "I did what immigrants do: I looked for a job. After ten years, I began classes at USMC and the University of Toronto. Then the Lord surprised me and whispered that I should become a priest. And so, that is what I did."



Alphonse entered the Basilian Novitiate at Erindale in 1961 and was professed the following year. Anthony Lococo CSB was the Novice Master. He entered St. Basil's Seminary in 1962 to begin his studies of Theology. In 1965 he received an MA in History from the University of Toronto. That same year he was ordained to the priesthood in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, by Bishop Francis A. Marrocco, an Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto. Others ordained that year included: Carl Belisch, Murray Bogdasavich, Eduard Borg, Donald Finlay, George Freemesser, Terence Hunt, Jerry Kiessling, Nicholas Manherz, John Pinsonneault, James Rent, Paul Rybicki, James Samberg, Jay Walsh, and Patrick Warden.

Alphonse was then appointed to St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon; he taught there for twelve years. He took a break between 1967 and 1969 and returned to Toronto to prepare for his comprehensive exams for a doctorate in History at the University of Toronto. Alphonse dedicated himself to a study of abortion; it had been legalized in Canada in 1969. He authored *Morality in Law in Canadian Politics – the Abortion Controversy* which was published in 1974.

In 1978, Alphonse was appointed as Principal of St. Joseph's College in Edmonton. At the time only a few courses were offered at St. Joseph's. During Alphonse's tenure new Catholic courses were approved at University of Alberta. When his term at St. Joseph's ended in 1983, Alphonse dedicated himself to Canada's Pro-Life Movement.

Alphonse de Valk had the following appointments in the Congregation:

Erindale Novitiate	1961-1962
St. Basil's Seminary	1962-1966
St. Thomas More College	1966-1967
University of St. Michael's College (Studies)	1967-1969
St. Thomas More College	1969-1978
St. Joseph's College	1978-1983
St. Michael's College School	1983-2000
Soulerin House	2000-2008
Holy Rosary Church	2008-2012
Basilian Fathers of Henry Carr Farm	2012-2015
Anglin House	2015-2018
Presentation Manor	2018-2020

Because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, no funerals with a congregation were allowed. Alphonse was cremated. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated, and his final resting place was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill, ON.

Joseph Anthony Trovato CSB

March 1, 1930 – July 20, 2020

Father Joseph Trovato entered eternal life in Rochester General Hospital on July 20. He was 90 years of age; he had been a Basilian for 72 years and had served in priestly ministry for 64 years.

Joseph was born in Rochester, New York; his parents were Christopher Trovato and Salvatrice Papa; he had one brother, Frank, and two sisters, Rose and Katherine, all of whom are deceased. He attended grade school at Holy Redeemer School and high school at Aquinas Institute.



Joe entered the Basilian Novitiate in Rochester in 1947 and was professed the following year. In 1953 he received a BA in Modern Language from the University of Toronto. Later he received an MA from the University of Toronto. He was ordained to the priesthood in St. Basil's Church, Toronto, on June 29, 1956, by James Cardinal McGuigan. Others ordained that year included: Frank Black, Ken Cashion, Joe Courtney, Don Furlong, Paul Glynn, Bob Howell, Norm Iversen, Bob Klem, Ed Kline, Frank Launtrie, Jack Lee, William Lewis, Peter Mosteller, Harold Perry, John Ware, and Jack Wick.

Joe Trovato spent most of his Basilian ministry in Rochester NY. He served as a Regional Representative for the Eastern USA on the General Council from 1985 until 1997; this brought him into contact with a wide spectrum of Basilians. He was loved and admired.

Joe taught Spanish and Italian at St. John Fisher beginning in 1959; that same year he was appointed as Chaplain at the College. He served as Superior of the Basilian community whose members served at St. John Fisher. Joe continued in his ministry as College Chaplain until 1985. After that, he continued to work in Campus Ministry until 1989 when he moved to Christ the King Parish (now St. Kateri Tekakwitha) in Irondequoit. He served on the Board of Trustees of St. John Fisher and was honored with the title of Trustee Emeritus. In 2008, the College recognized his continued service with the President's Medal. The Campus Ministry Center at the College was named the Father Joseph A. Trovato Center in 2019.

Joseph Trovato had the following appointments in the Congregation:

Rochester Novitiate	1947-1948
Holy Rosary Seminary	1948-1950
University of St. Michael's College	1950-1952
St. Basil's Seminary	1952-1957
University of St. Michael's College	1957-1959
St. John Fisher College	1959-1985
Basilian Fathers of East Rochester	1985-1989
Christ the King /Saint Kateri Tekakwitha	1989-2019
<i>(Christ the King changed to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha in July of 2010)</i>	
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Rochester Motherhouse	2019-2020

A visitation was held at St. Kateri on Monday, July 27. Bishop Salvatore Matano celebrated the funeral Mass on Tuesday morning, July 28 at St. Basil Chapel at St. John Fisher College; Kevin Mannara preached.

Raymond Arthur Jackson CSB

November 20, 1926 – July 23, 2020

Father Raymond Jackson CSB, died peacefully at Presentation Manor on July 23, 2020. He was 94 years of age; he had been a Basilian for 70 years and served in priestly ministry for 62 years.

Ray was born in Timmins, ON; his parents were Harry Jackson and Myrtle Cahoon; he had one sister, Helen, who lives in Owen Sound and one brother, Norman, who is deceased. He attended school in Timmins and Owen Sound. He spent one year at St. Michael's College before entering the Richmond Hill Novitiate in 1949. After first vows, he continued his studies at St. Michael's College and received his BA from the University of Toronto in 1954. The next year he taught at Aquinas Institute. He received an STB degree from the University of St. Michael's College in 1958. Besides his academic studies, Ray was an extraordinarily talented watercolorist. During his life he painted Basilian sites with accuracy and sensitivity. All his works are beautiful, many of them are masterpieces.



Ray was ordained June 29, 1958 at St. Basil's Church in Toronto by James Cardinal McGuigan. His first solemn Mass was offered in St. Mary's Church, Owen Sound, on July 6. Others ordained that year included: Claude Arnold, Peter Beaton, Ed Brennan, James Burns, Bill Coughlin, John Farrell, Dennis Foy, Pat Gallagher, David Heath, Chris Iredale, Lawrence Janisse, Wilfrid Janisse, Arthur Knowlton, Stan Kutz, Charlie Lynch, Patrick McCabe, Donald McCarthy, John Menner, Ken O'Keefe, James Rankin, Neil Smith, Frederick Zakoor, and Michael Zolondek.

After teaching at Aquinas Institute in Rochester, Ray spent the rest of his life in a very fruitful ministry in parishes. From 1960 until 2007 Ray was devoted to the Basilian Hispanic Ministry, both in south Texas as well as in Mexico City and Tehuacán. Besides parish ministry, Ray served as Novice Master in Tehuacán. He was loved and respected. Jack Hanna CSB relates that when he visited Tehuacán in 2019, several parishioners asked about "Padre Ray" and spoke of him affectionately. Ray left Tehuacán in 1988; the fact that parishioners still remembered him some 30 years later speaks volumes.

Raymond Jackson had the following appointments in the Congregation:

Richmond Hill Novitiate	1949-1950
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto	1950-1954
Aquinas Institute, Rochester NY	1954-1955
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto ON	1955-1959
Holy Rosary Church, Toronto ON	1959-1960
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Rosenberg TX	1960-1964
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Wharton TX	1964-1965
St. Theresa's Church, Sugar Land TX	1965-1971
San Juan Crisóstomo, CDMX	1971-1976
Centro Cultural Aragón, CDMX	1976-1978
Noviciado de San Basilio, Tehuacán	1978-1986
Capilla de San Lorenzo, Tehuacán	1986-1988
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Wharton TX	1988-2007
Basilian Fathers of Henry Carr Farm, Beeton ON	2007-2015
Orsini House, Toronto ON	2015-2018
Presentation Manor, Scarborough ON	2018-2020

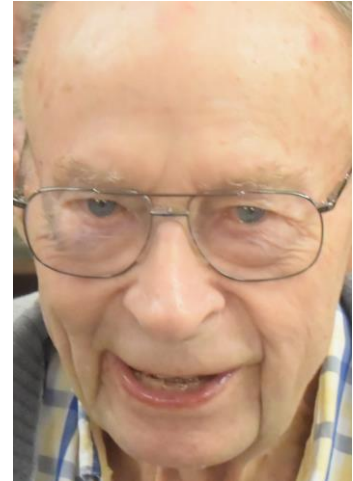
Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, a private Funeral Mass was celebrated at Presentation Manor on Wednesday, July 29.

Thomas Joseph McReavy CSB

October 4, 1925 – October 4, 2020

Father Thomas Joseph McReavy CSB, died peacefully at Presentation Manor, Scarborough after a long illness. He went to God on his 95th birthday; he had been a Basilian for 67 years and had served in priestly ministry for 61 years.

Tom McReavy was born in Owen Sound ON. His parents were John J. McReavy and Mary Butler. He had six brothers: Frank, Leo, Jim, Jack CSB, Patrick, and Harold and two sisters: Mary and Margaret. He attended St. Mary's Separate School, Owen Sound; St. Joseph's High School, Blind River; and St. Michael's College School, Toronto.



In 1952, Tom entered the Basilian Novitiate at Richmond Hill and was professed the following year. He obtained a B.A. degree from Assumption University of Windsor in 1956, a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree from the University of St. Michael's College in 1959 and a M.A. degree from the University of Windsor in 1981. He was ordained on June 28, 1959 and celebrated his First Solemn Mass in St. Mary's Church, Owen Sound. An uncle, Father F.J. McReavy, preached; his brother Jack McReavy CSB served as deacon, and a cousin, Ray Jackson CSB was subdeacon. Dake Batty CSB was Assistant Priest.

Others ordained that year included: Joseph Barnes, Robert Fink, Harold Gardner, William Irwin, Paul James, Richard Kinsky, Arthur Kirn, Charles Leland, Felix Malone, Thomas Mohan, Robert Neill, Michael Sosulski, James Strickland, Maurice Taylor, Leonard Thompson, René Vermillion and Clarence Watrin.

Apart from 1960 to 1965 when he taught at St. Charles College, Sudbury, Tom's life-long priestly service was in parish ministry. A look at the list of his appointments shows a man who served in almost every Basilian parish in the USA and Canada. He was always at home wherever he was sent, and his gentle ways endeared him to the parishioners that he served.

Thomas McReavy had the following appointments in the Congregation:

Richmond Hill Novitiate	1952-1953
Assumption University, Windsor	1953-1956
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto ON	1956-1960
St. Charles College, Sudbury ON	1960-1965
St. John the Baptist Church, Amherstburg ON	1965-1966
Blessed Sacrament Church, Windsor ON	1966-1968
St. Pius X Church, Calgary AB	1968-1974
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto ON	1974-1975
University of Windsor	1975-1978
Annunciation Church, Albuquerque NM	1978-1981
St. John Fisher Church, Richmond TX	1981-1982
Holy Family Church, Missouri City TX	1982-1989
St. Pius X Church, Calgary AB	1989-1990
St. Mary Church, Owen Sound ON	1990-1991
Sacred Heart Church, Manvel, TX	1991-1993
Sabbatical	1993-1994
St. Anne's Church, Houston TX	1994-2001
Dillon House, Houston TX	2001-2011
Basilian Fathers of Henry Carr Farm, Beeton ON	2011-2016
Anglin House, Toronto ON	2016-2018
Presentation Manor, Scarborough ON	2018-2020

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, a private Funeral Mass was celebrated at Presentation Manor. Tom was interred in the Basilian Section of the Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill, ON.

Martin Janez Dimnik CSB

October 6, 1941 – November 15, 2020

Father Martin Dimnik CSB, died in palliative care at Presentation Manor. He was 79 years of age; he had been a Basilian for 59 years and had served in priestly ministry for 49 years.

Marty was born in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. His parents were Martin Dimnik and Zorka Perlic; he has a sister, Susan Revai. His family emigrated to Austria in 1943 and to Canada in 1949, settling first in Raymond, Alberta and then later in Lethbridge. He attended elementary and high school principally in Lethbridge, graduating from St. Francis High School in Lethbridge in 1960.



Marty entered the Richmond Hill-Erindale Novitiate in 1960, taking first vows on August 15, 1961. After profession he went to live at St. Basil's Seminary while taking his university course in Slavic Studies at the University of St. Michael's College. He received his B.A. degree in 1965. He then taught for two years at St. Michael's College School. He took his theology at St. Basil's Seminary and at the Toronto School of Theology, and received the degree of Master of Divinity in the fall of 1971. Marty also obtained an M.A. degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures in 1970. He was ordained to priesthood on June 26, 1971, by Cardinal George Flahiff in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Lethbridge. His first Mass was celebrated the following day in the same church, with Monsignor J. Q. Killen giving the homily. Others ordained in 1971 included Denis April and Ronald Griffin.

After earning his D.Phil. from Oxford University in 1976, he was appointed to the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies in Toronto, where he remained for all his academic career. He served as Institute Secretary, *Praeses*, and Academic Dean. Marty was very proud of his Slavic heritage. He was a recognized authority on Kyivan Rus' (Kievan Rus'), a loose federation of Slavic and Scandinavian peoples that had its origins in the 9th century and came to an end with the Mongol invasions of the 13th century. Belarus and Russia derived their names from this federation and Kiev in the Ukraine was the capital city for much of the history of Kievan Rus'. In 2016, Marty published a landmark work entitled *Power Politics in Kievan Rus': Vladimir Monomakh and His Dynasty*, which was very well received in scholarly circles.

Martin Dimnik had the following appointments in the Congregation:

Richmond Hill- Erindale Novitiate	1960-1961
St. Basil's Seminary	1961-1965
St. Michael's College School	1965-1967
St. Basil's Seminary	1967-1970
University of St. Michael's College	1970-1971
Oxford University	1971-1976
The Institute House	1976-1996
University of St. Michael's College	1996-2014
Orsini House	2014-2016
Anglin House	2016-2018
Presentation Manor	2018-2020

Because of the Covid-19 restrictions, a private Memorial Mass for Marty was celebrated. Burial was at the Basilian plot of Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill, ON.

Gerald Francis Dillon CSB

January 26, 1932 – December 3, 2020

Father Gerald Dillon CSB, died peacefully at Michael Garron Hospital in Toronto after an operation for a fractured hip resulting from a fall. He was 88 years of age; he had been a Basilian for 63 years and served in priestly ministry for 58 years.

Gerry was born in Parry Sound, ON. His parents were Archie Dillon and Beatrice Evans; he has two sisters, Eileen Ludwig and Clarice Power. He graduated from Timmins High School in 1952. That year, he came to St. Michael's College and obtained a B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1954. He returned to the University for further studies in Philosophy and was awarded an M.A. in 1956. That year he entered the Richmond Hill Novitiate where he took first vows on September 12, 1957. He taught at St. Michael's College School, Toronto, and the Aquinas Institute, Rochester. While teaching at Aquinas, Gerry also attended the Eastman School of Music to further his study of the violin; an instrument he loved and played very well.



Gerry was ordained on December 16, 1962 in St. Basil's Church, Toronto by Archbishop Phillip Pocock. His First solemn Mass was in Sacred Heart Church, Timmins, ON. Edward O'Reilly CSB preached and Eugene O'Reilly CSB was subdeacon; Father Vito Cannizzo, CSS (Congregation of the Sacred Stigmata), the pastor was Assistant Priest. Others ordained that year included Rudy Acosta, Enrique Bravo, Larry Carney, James Howard, Neil Kelly, Leo Reilly, and Bill Schreiner.

Jack Hanna CSB ate lunch with Gerry often; Gerry lived at Orsini House / Anglin House and Jack worked in the Curial Office. "He and I would often talk about music; Gerry told me that he played second violin in an orchestra when he was in high school in Timmons. Once I had tickets to hear a Tafelmusik concert that featured two violin concertos. I invited Gerry to go and he accepted. I enjoyed the concert and I enjoyed watching Gerry even more; he was captivated with the stellar violin performances. Being with Gerry Dillon was always an enriching experience; he was a good Basilian."

Gerry Dillon had the following appointments in the Congregation:

St. Basil's Novitiate, Richmond Hill	1956-1957
St. Michael's College School, Toronto	1957-1958
Aquinas Institute, Rochester	1958-1959
St. Basil's Seminary, Toronto	1959-1963
Basilian Fathers of East Rochester	1963-1964
St. John Fisher College	1964-1965
Assumption College School, Windsor	1965-1981
St. Mary's College, Sault Ste. Marie	1981-1988
Sabbatical	1988-1989
Basilian Fathers of Angleton	1989-1998
Dillon House, Houston	1998-2012
Basilian Fathers of Henry Carr Farm	2012-2016
Orsini House, Toronto	2016-2017
Anglin House, Toronto	2017-2018
Presentation Manor, Scarborough	2018-2020

Because of the Covid-19 restrictions, a private Memorial Mass was celebrated for Gerry at Presentation Manor. Burial was at the Basilian plot in Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill, ON.

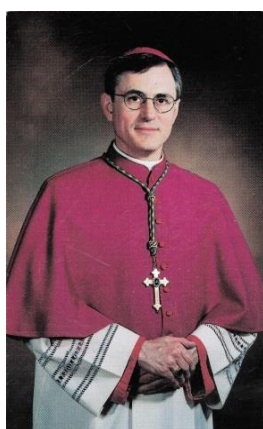
Family Deaths January 2020 – December 2020

Jean Annette Mill, the sister of Neil Hibberd CSB, died March 29
 Chester Gazin, the father of Mark Gazin CSB, died April 14
 Carol Wood, the sister of William Riegel CSB, died April 27
 James Lloyd Barringer, the brother of Robert Barringer CSB, died May 6
 Daphne Mae Giampietro, the mother of Anthony Giampietro CSB, died May 13
 Paul R. Janisse, the brother of Wilfrid Janisse CSB, died May 31
 John Oggero, the brother of Roy Oggero CSB, died October 9
 Lucille Moratto, the sister of Roy Oggero CSB, died December 17
 Wilbert Hernán Gómez, the brother of Edilson Gómez CSB, died December 26

Shepherds of the Flock: Our Basilian Bishops



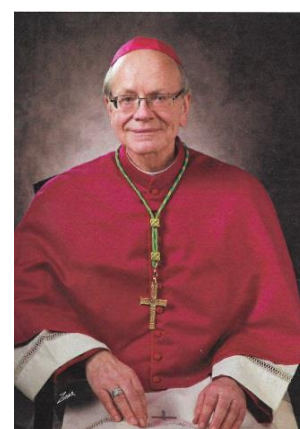
+ Ricardo Ramírez CSB
Bishop Emeritus, Las Cruces NM



+ Ronald P. Fabbro CSB
Bishop of London ON



+ J. Michael Miller CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver BC



+ Robert M. Kasun CSB
Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto ON

Community Count of the Congregation of St. Basil as of December 31, 2020

4 Bishops, 130 priests, and 14 Scholastics (USA-2, Mexico-8, Colombia-4)

148 Professed Basilians

France – 3* Canada – 62 USA – 58 México – 15 Colombia – 9

*ARDÈCHE: Bernard Buisson, François Morfin PARIS: Joseph Hunt

Ages of ordained* Basilians

20-29	1
30-39	5
40-49	8
50-59	12
60-69	23
70-79	34
80-89	39
90-99	12

Number of ordained* Basilians

*Ordained: Priests and Bishops
134 - total ordained