

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS

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Cardenal Newman School- Buenos Aires

The 4th Grade primary school children took the oath to the Flag in the country house of the Pueyrredón Museum. A group of parents also took part and performed an act in which they interpreted different Argentine national heroes. The students were invited to defend the flag and the occasion ended with a loud “Viva la Patria” (Long Live the Fatherland) intoned by parents, children and teachers.



4th Grade children playing with balloons with the colours of the Argentine flag.

On Friday 8th July we had the traditional Newman Festival in which members of the different artistic groups of the College present their work to the families and the rest of the school.

Under the slogan “Different languages” the students had the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in drawing, photography, theatre and on different musical instruments such as the guitar, piano and battery. The College choir and orchestra also performed.

It was a joyous occasion with festive climate in which the creativity and the artistic talents of the students shone. The funds earned by the kiosk will go to the solidarity works of the College, specifically to the summer mission.

Students Francisco Alvarado, Felix Kyburg, Juan Bautista Mackinnon, Raúl Pasman, Marcos Pérez Mendoza and Teo Zavalía, all from 5th Year secondary, took part in a day dedicated to “A Roof for My Country”. This is a non profit non

governmental organization which aims at providing proper homes for families which lack such and which live in marginalized neighbourhoods. Together with students from other secondary schools they shared a weekend dedicated to helping the most needy. One could see the enthusiasm and joy of these young people as they involved themselves, and one could note how moved they were as they steeped themselves in a reality far removed from their own daily experiences.

“For me it was a recreational and productive alternative for a weekend, both for having built and having met so many new people as well as experiencing a reality which we seldom see or we don’t want to see. Apart from the building, the different groups all got on very well together.”
Raúl Pasman, 5th Year student.



The young people building a house for the poor.

On 8th July we commemorated Independence Day. A school group and a group from the neighbourhood performed the traditional dances of our country as we commemorated the importance of liberty and democracy and the right to choose our own destiny. The group of dancers wore traditional costumes and they explained the purpose of each item of clothing.

The children of First Grade had the chance to visit the chapel accompanied by students in their final year in the College.

“This morning we had the opportunity to share a nice experience with the children of First Grade. We showed them the different things in and parts of the chapel and we ended with a prayer in common. It was really pleasant to be able to

share and pray together in the chapel.” Federico López, a student of 6th Year secondary.

On Saturday 9th July we had a *Fiesta* in the College gazebo for the handicapped children of the *Cosechando Alegría* (Harvesting Joy) Foundation. With students of Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years, as well as some ex pupils, parents and teachers of the College, there was an opportunity for dancing and fun.

Community Once36* – Cochabamba, Bol.

Greetings from the heart of Bolivia – Cochabamba! These days the white snows of the mountaintops around the city help to make the cold of winter all the more noticeable. The mornings get colder by the day and the sun sets earlier. As is the custom in Cochabamba, the Feast of St. John Baptist on 24th June is celebrated in the family and among friends. On the night of the 23rd the families come together to eat *panchos* (variation of hot dogs) prepared on a grill.

The same 23rd. Br Edward McArdle set off for a holiday in Ireland to spend some time with his family and friends. That night we celebrated the feast of St. John at home with some friends.



Br. Elser teaches basic computing to some children.

With the chill, not only colds but also school holidays come along. During the first week of July fiscal schools had holidays which have been prolonged for an extra week owing to the intense cold. The universities also have holidays which make the student Brothers happy; they are also satisfied with the results of the semester.

Br. Francisco Tuiro is availing of the winter holidays to take a required course in Quechua in the Catholic university. The course consists of intense classes for four hours a day. Br. Alberto Cumbreñas is helping out in the *Sayari warmi* (Arise, Woman) centre in the mornings and in the evenings he is in CEHM (Bro. Manolo Center).



Caption: Br. Xavier takes charge of helping children in the Br. Manolo Centre.

Br. Elser Llanos gives classes in computers and typewriting to the children of CEHM (Centro Hermano Manolo) in the mornings along with Br. Xavier Sullivan and María, a Peruvian missionary who helps out in the mornings in the offices of CEHM. In the evenings, movies with themes which allude to friendship, the importance of the family, honesty, etc. are shown to children. On Saturdays as is customary there are sports activities.

Mornings and evenings Brs. Dermot Cregan, Sául Velásquez, Francisco and Renato Llerena visit the homes of the CEHM children. (More information about CEHM is available at: www.centrohermanomanolo.blogspot.com).

The 17th Reunion of Young Consecrated persons was held in Trinidad, department of Beni from 6th to 10th of July. A total of 101 young religious from different congregations and different departments attended. Alberto went to the meeting in representation of the Christian Brothers and in his capacity as vice president of the regional council of Cochabamba. There were themes, dances, sharing and a series of activities which made these five days of meetings a veritable celebration.

Renato took part in a meeting of Franciscans International in Tarata, a town some kilometers distance from Cochabamba.

With less than a month to go before reaching 50 years in the Congregation, Br. Dermot is packing his bags to travel to Ireland to celebrate his Golden Jubilee and enjoy a holiday.

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San Martín Community -- Lima

We send our greetings to all the members of the Edmund Rice network and to other readers of this news bulletin.

Edmundian David Fontes, a former Brother who worked in the Peruvian cities of Monsefú, Chimbote and Arequipa, visited Peru for two weeks. David stayed with us for a few days before proceeding to Chimbote. When he returns to Lima, he will spend another week with us before returning to his home in California on Sunday 23rd July. David, who is a committed Christian professor and catechist is currently studying for a Masters in Family Catechesis, and he availed of his visit to investigate how this program of evangelization is being carried out in Peru. We feel grateful for his visit and for his interest and generosity with respect to the Congregation's mission in Peru.

Br. Thomas O'Connell also visited us recently. During his stay he accompanied the postulant Joel Regalado to his classes in the Conference of Religious in Peru and took full part in the activities of the local community. In his free time he paid visits to downtown Lima to walk around, have coffee and write poems and anecdotes concerning his daily experiences in his personal journal. His active, gentle and tranquil presence was a blessing for the community.

Guided by Br. Paul Keohane and supported by Br. Jim Glos and the other members of the community, a delegation of 27 members (21 students and six professors and parents) from St. Thomas More Collegiate, Vancouver, Canada, spent three fruitful days in our Fe y Alegría school and the Arriba Perú neighbourhood. During their stay, the Canadians built two houses for needy families and painted the interiors of other houses built by former pilgrim groups. They also had a campfire session with 25 students from Fe y Alegría which was an occasion for integration, joy and friendship.

We are grateful for the great reception and food service given by Br Hugo Cáceres and the other Brothers of the Canto Grande community, and also for the reception by the administration of the school and the support of Prof. José Santacruz, who organized a number of activities for the Canadians' visit.

Two weeks ago Br. Williams Cunyas came along for a health checkup in the Stella Maris Clinic. His visit was short but agreeable.

The female associates of Blessed Edmund from the Fe y Alegría school visited us recently to meet with their adviser, Br. Paul Keohane. They spoke about their apostolates and they have agreed to visit Doctor Toni's place in Chaclacayo and a Children's Home in Ancón to get to know about

the work of these two centres. They are also making preparations for their participation in the convention of associates of Blessed Edmund, which will be held in January 2012 in Monsefú, on the northern coast of Peru.

Finally, Br. Carlos Flores has moved to Chimbote to join his new community. While he was finishing his studies in the CIMAS Computer Institute, Carlos took an active role in our community. We thank him for the years of life and service which he spent with us and we wish him success and happiness in his new apostolate in the Mundo Mejor community in Chimbote.



The new statue visited by the community which overlooks a high cliff on Lima's Pacific shoreline.

On Sunday 3rd July the community had a day out in Chorrillos to see the "Christ of the Pacific", the huge new statue which was inaugurated a short while ago in the Costa Verde of Lima.

The members of the Casa San Martín de Porres keep themselves very active in a variety of apostolic ways. Br. Paul, being a member of the Regional Leadership Team and community leader, accompanies the two postulants, is the contact person for the members of the Edmund Rice Network and principal coordinator of the immersion groups that come to Peru, so he is kept very busy and, at times, worried. He recently made pastoral visits to our communities in Chimbote and Moyobamba.

Br Jim Glos is busy with his responsibilities as bursar and, with the obstetrician, Karina Andrade, he prepares and produces sessions of *Sexual Health and Reproduction* with the students of Fe y Alegría. About a month ago he travelled to four small towns in the province of Yauyos where he gave courses on Environmental Education to students, teachers and citizens in general.

Br. Alberto Llanos, who teaches English classes full time in Fe y Alegría, is also studying at the Instituto Británico. He is the number one student in his class and, if he keeps that up, he may earn a scholarship to study in England.

The postulant, Joel Regalado also studies English in the Británico but, owing to circumstances of mid year holidays, he is leaving aside those studies for a month. Joel will shortly finish his first cycle of religious studies for postulants in the Conferencia Religiosa del Peru.

Communities – Asunción, Paraguay

Greetings from the great city of Asunción!

On 10th June, Br. Jack Casey returned to us having spent a short while in the Cardinal Newman Community (Buenos Aires). On his second day back, while walking to Mass, he missed his footing on the kerb and fell, breaking three ribs.

Thanks be to God he is getting better now after four weeks of almost total rest. He no longer feels pain and he is walking to the Bañado once again. We give a great welcome to Jack and we pray for his speedy and total cure.

Brs. Kevin Bernard and Miguel Córdova have finished their first semester as professors in the Institute of Religious Life. Miguel will continue with two groups and in his work with the juvenile vocational apostolate. Besides, he accompanies several young religious, some spiritually, some psychologically, and he does accompanying work with groups of young people in his program of formation at home. Kevin is now spending three weeks in Peru making the annual canonical visitation in the three communities on the Peruvian coast.

Br. Michael Lynch has just finished two programs involving young people living in community, studying and working with Michael in his pastoral ministry in the penitentiary for minors. Ignacio Salinas, urged by Michael and with the help of the Brothers as tutors, won a full State scholarship to attend the university. This program began on 11th July with a preparation program. For this reason Ignacio left the community to stay with his brother in their uncle's home. Congratulations to Ignacio on his success and to Michael for his accompaniment and work.

The other youth, Oscar Sanabria Bordón, has spent his life in situations so difficult that it would not be proper to describe them here. Thanks be to God Michael came to know his case just when Oscar turned 18. A lady judge asked Michael if the youth could live in community with him – a separate community but linked to the community in Asunción. Michael with his years of experience, his faith in the human being, his knowledge of the young man and his story, accepted to supervise him. Michel put all his energy into accompanying Oscar and building a community with him and Ignacio.

Since the 27th May Oscar lives in community and works and studies with Michael. He has since got a job as a bricklayer's helper on a construction site. Michael also succeeded in getting Oscar to meet his family. Now, after six weeks and a good, healthy experience of learning, unique for Oscar, he will go to live with Ignacio and after some time with an aunt. This is a great success for Michael and his ministry and he merits our gratitude for having achieved so much with one of the most needy of our world.



Ignacio Salinas, Br. Michael Lynch and Oscar Sanabria Bordón pose contentedly.

Finally Br. Carlos Fitzsimons continues in his life of insertion in the poor neighbourhood of Bañado Tacumbú where he is engaged in a number of different ministries. One of these is his participation in the program *A Roof for My Country* in which he with the two young men, Ignacio and Oscar, mentioned above work with another 500 young people divided into teams of four persons. Each team has the responsibility of building two houses in three days.

Besides his radio program and his classes teaching English, his principal ministry is to accompany young people at risk. We congratulate Carlos on his life style and on his work in favour of the most needy.



Congratulations to the Peruvians (July 28) and the Bolivians (August 8) who celebrate their respective anniversaries of independence from Spain.

Birthdays and Celebrations:

Renato Llerena 27 July
Rafael Inga 31 July

Holidays and Holydays

28 Jul Independence Day in Perú

31 July St. Ignatius of Loyola. (E. Rice's religious name)

06 August Independence Day in Bolivia

12 August: International Youth Day

15 August Asumption of Mary (The Brothers professed their annual vows for the first time in 1808 and Perpetual Vows in 1809).