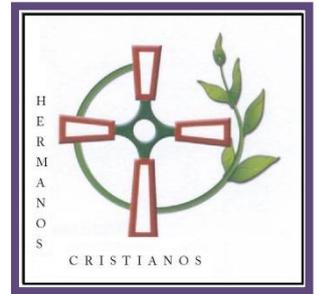


Latin American Newsletter

Monthly Bulletin from the Latin American Region
of the Christian Brothers

No. 73 – Year 8 – June, 2011



From our Leaders:

John Casey was in Africa for the meeting of the Congregation leaders.



left to right

Kevin Mullan, Peter Dowling, Hugh O'Neill, Philip Pinto, Richard Walsh
Placid Henriques, Vince Duggan, Juan Casey
Jack Mostyn, Francis Hall

Comunidad San Martín -- Lima

Greetings to all the Edmund Rice Family in South America! Winter is arriving and Lima is covered with a dense fog typical of this season. It makes the days colder and darker but our hearts continue to shine and irradiate the warmth of Jesus and Edmund, who are indispensable in the lives of every Brother.

From 14th to 21st of May we had the visit of the young missionaries from Newman College; they had their insertion experience here working in the construction of a house, visiting shelters for children and interacting well with the members of the community. Francisco Heredia, one of the boys, had a serious stomach infection and was interned in a local clinic for a few days; fortunately he got over the attack and was able to return to Buenos Aires together with his group.

Br John Prior visited us during May. He spent a few days in Lima before setting off for New York to enjoy a holiday and have medical check ups. We hope he will return soon full of health and vitality. We were also visited by Br. Ever Cieza from Moyobamba who was here during the first fortnight of June for routine medical check ups and to vote in the presidential elections held recently.

The month of June began with the celebration of the 249th birthday of Edmund Rice and we had over 30 guests (associates in Lima, friends and Brothers) to share prayer (which consisted in petitions before lighted candles) and to enjoy a birthday cake specially prepared for the occasion. Br. Hugo Cáceres closed the proceedings with a short talk about Edmund and his followers today.



Brothers, associates and friends assembled in the chapel to celebrate Edmund's birthday]

Br. Thomas O'Connell arrived in Lima on 2nd June and he will stay with us almost all this month; he accompanies the postulants in their classes in the Religious Conference. We had a visit from some Irish volunteers and a young Spaniard who work with abandoned children and the sick in Ancón and Chaclacayo. They had lunch with us.

On Saturday 11th June we received the sad news of the death of Br. Carlos Flores's uncle here in Lima. Paul Keohane and Jim Glos accompanied Carlos and his family at the wake and Carlos stayed with his family over the weekend accompanying them in their grief.

On Sunday 12 of June, there was a big Faith exhibition EXPO-FE in Fe y Alegría school. The Congregation had a large stand and a show illustrating the works of the Brothers in Peru and in the world. It was a great success. It was organized by Prof. José Rossel and his group of collaborators (all pupils of Third, Fourth and Fifth Years). It began with the procession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help accompanied by the school

band under the direction of Br. Carlos and teachers and students and the Brothers of the Lima communities all took part.



Joel, a postulant, explains the vocation of the Christian Brother to a parent during the Expo-Fe.

That very day Br. Richard Glatz arrived from Chimbote on his way to Rochester, NY in the United States to spend a holiday with his family. We also had a visit from the family of Br. Alberto Llanos. They visited the Expo-Fe and joined the community for lunch.

These days Br. Jim Glos is in Yuayos Province (mountains near Lima) running a program of teacher formation.

Comunidad Hno. Edmundo --Canto Grande, Lima

Our community continues its mission in the Fe y Alegría School #26 in Canto Grande. Living among the poor and educating their children is a great privilege which challenges us daily.

Thanks be to God we have our lay leaders (Gaby the Headmistress, and vice principals Fanny and Lourdes) in the school who together with the Brothers strive to form a good team.

With the results of the elections in Peru and the “no” to the return of the dictatorship and corruption of Fujimori we are all very pleased that at least 50% of the voters have preferred not to repeat history.

Our monthly retreat directed by Br. Elmer Hurtado helped us to review our commitment to the decisions of regional chapter and gave us the courage to propose some ideas for the next assembly (in December 2011). After the retreat we went out to dine and give a send off to Br. Michael O'Donnell who will be three months in the United States preaching in parishes of friendly priests in order to obtain funds for the mission of the Brothers in Peru.

On the first of June we celebrated the 249th birthday of Blessed Edmund Rice; the liturgy in

the school was very beautiful. With great energy, Br. Rafael Inga organized a group of students to prepare sweets, decorations and flowers for 1 600 pupils. Brs. Elmer and Luis Enrique put the final touches on the liturgy which turned out to be very inspiring. Br. Michael prepared materials for the teachers and students with words and illustrations of Edmund. Brs. Carlos Flores and Alberto Llanos of the Las Flores community took part to remind us that the ministry of the Brothers in Fe y Alegría has increased considerably.

Repair work continues in our residence: there is a new tiled floor in the reception and dining room; the visitors' bedrooms, which were inhabited by some strange creatures, have been greatly transformed. Soon the bathroom on the first floor will be unrecognizable.

If you visit us shortly, you probably won't recognize the house or even the way through the neighbourhood to get here. Do you remember that before arriving at bus stop #16 in Canto Grande there was a small hill which led to a dangerous curve? Well, the hill has been leveled and soon there will be a new dual carriageway. This reminds us of Isaiah “Every mountain and hill will be laid low” Is. 40,4)



Students of Fe y Alegría arrange the stands with Biblical messages and images of Jesus and Mary and the Saints in order to explain our faith to visitors.

Brs. Elmer and Rafael continue their university studies; Luis Enrique is making great progress in his studies of English in the British Academy and he has time for gymnasium visits! Soon he too will be unrecognizable! The big Catholic event of the neighbourhood was the Expo-Fe, where the students of our school showed their faith formation in a practical and artistic way. Thanks to Prof. José Santa Cruz, the religion team and the parents of families this activity has reached enormous proportions and great quality in the presentations.

Br. Hugo Cáceres is pleased because after two years of waiting the *Verbo Divino* publishing house in Spain will print his book, *Jesús el varón* (Jesus the man). Hopefully, it will be a best

seller! For all the Brothers and friends of the network who want to buy it there will be a discount of 5%...

Community La Esperanza – Chimbote, Perú

The month of June in Mundo Mejor secondary school is dedicated to Edmund Rice. The pupils receive a pastry in memory of Edmund's bakery; there are academic contests based on ER's life and a food collection called *Opening our Hearts to our Neighbour* which gathers tons of edibles which will be distributed in places of pastoral need outside the school.



The St. Toribio de Mogrovejo graduation class celebrated the feast of its patron with a paraliturgy, a social sharing and a collection of diapers and canned milk for the babies in neighboring maternity hospital.



Some members of the St. Toribio Promotion give nappies to the lady director of the Maternity centre.

Classes have begun in the PreMundo Academy for preparation of final year elementary students who want to study in our secondary school. Over 300 boys and girls are struggling for one of the desired vacancies. The classes continue each Saturday until 22nd October.

Br Vicent Peragine travelled to Monsefú for a meeting to organize the Convention of Associates in February next year.

The building of the house for the Brothers advances satisfactorily and this week the

Brothers have been able to use one of the rooms for lunch instead of being in the Technical Centre. We hope to move into the new residence at the latest during July.

MUNDO MEJOR TECHNICAL SCHOOL

The first group of modules finished successfully on 13th June and the next begins on 20th June. For the first time in a long time we have been unable to admit new students because all the professors are occupied with large groups which continue their studies. We will need to contract three more professors to complete the staff.

Br. Richard Glatz offered the diocese to build eight steel arches to be made by the students of the Welding specialty for the Corpus Christi procession; the students worked hard and eagerly to finish them on time.



Welders of CETPRO proud to have made the first of eight arches for the Corpus Christi procession.

The Professors of CETPRO will have a dinner together to celebrate Fathers' Day. Br. Richard will be away for a month to spend a holiday with his family in the U.S.A.

Brothers' Community -- Cardenal Newman - Buenos Aires

Our regional leader, Br. John Casey, arrived to make the annual canonical visitation. On finishing his stay here he set off from Ezeiza International Airport for Zambia (Africa) to join a meeting of the Congregation Leadership team with the five provincials.

Br. Thomas O'Connell is in Lima to replace Br. Paul Keohane who is on vacation in Ireland. Thomas will be back in Newman once Paul returns.

On 3rd June Brs. Patrick Payne and James Doherty journeyed to the monastery of St. Paul of

the Cross some 250 km away in Sarmiento for a day of formation and healing: "Miracles Do Happen". The speaker was Sister Bríd McKenna O.S.C., an Irish religious who was miraculously healed years ago. The monastery chapel was full of people. Sister Bríd spoke about her own vocation and cure. Her vocation is to give retreats to priests in different parts of the world. She was accompanied by Fr. Kevin Scallan C.V., who celebrated Mass.

Br. Jack Casey returned to Asunción having spent three months in Newman. We miss him and we wish him luck.

Cardenal Newman School - Buenos Aires

On Monday 5th, we celebrated Environment Day in the College. In the primary school, all the boys came dressed in green and during the first two hours of the morning they were engaged in activities to increase their consciousness of the need to care for the earth and awareness of all it gives us. In the secondary school there was a special morning prayer for the environment and a poem by Juan Carlos Chavez, *Yo plantaré mi arbol* (I will plant my tree), was read.



Fifth year students and their teacher participating in the Earth Day activities.

Here in the College we held the Mary Rice Olympics. It was a special day in which over 300 children with incapacities, from 18 different Foundations, were able to enjoy themselves at sports in the College.

Students of 5th and 6th Years of the secondary school helped all day so that the Olympics could be held. Apart from the different athletic events, there was an artistic section where they could work with plastic clay and there was also a radio program. Between the music and the nice atmosphere we all had a day of feast and fun.

CAST YOUR NETS WIDER

www.edmundrice.net

News from the Edmund Rice Network



An artistic participant in the Newman Special Olympics

On 24th May we commemorated the National Feast of 25th May. On just such a day as this in 1810 began the process of independence which culminated in the Declaration of Independence on 9th July 1816 when Argentina ceased to be a Spanish colony and became a free country.

There was a theatrical performance by students of our senior class joined by the girls of Sta. Inés College in honour of the occasion. (See photo.)

The choir of Colegio Santa Inés sang some songs together with the Newman choir. It was a moment of much emotion and significance for students, parents and teachers.

Students of First and Second Years secondary went camping in Sierra de los Padres in the Province of Buenos Aires. The boys had the opportunity to spend a nice time with their friends in a relaxed atmosphere. They engaged in many activities in the Sierras and they had the chance to appreciate nature.

On 31st May the Board of Management of the College had a meeting with Br. John Casey to tell of the work which the Newman family is doing with St. Peter Claver College, a very deprived parish school in a very needy area. They commented on the work that had been done up until now and engaged themselves to continue trying to give responses to that community which has so many needs.



Happy Independence Day, Argentina!

Birthdays:

Hugo Cáceres

15 July

Celebrations

18 June Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help begins

21 June Winter Solstice– New Year for the Aymara indigenous people (Bolivia & Peru)

27 June Our Lady of Perpetual Help

09 July – Argentina's Independence Day