



PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

A PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

Volume 7, Issue 5

March, 2012

Jericho House Ministries Hosts Area Youth

The following was printed in the Welland Tribune on Friday, February 24, 2012



**Br. Bill Carrothers
and
Sr. Jacquie Keefe**

Jericho House's philosophy of leadership is based on the belief that young people are already leaders and Jericho's efforts are geared towards helping to enhance the leadership that already exists and is being exercised by young people.

With this in mind, it was a natural decision to inaugurate the ministry at Jericho House Leadership, Justice and Spirituality Centre by this leadership in hosting the inaugural leadership symposium last year, the first event held at the centre.

The second annual symposium was held on Feb. 21. Students from five Niagara high schools and a student group from Hamilton participated in the event, which was facilitated by the Jericho Team and students from King's University College at the University of Western Ontario and from Niagara College, Welland.



Keynoter was Julie Mannell, graduate of Notre Dame College School and currently a student at McGill University. Drawing on her experiences of leadership, Julie spoke of personal and societal leadership growing from leadership within to leadership outward to the community, both local and global, was the theme of her address. Following a session in which participants gathered in sharing circles, a dialogue session with Mannell took place and participants spoke with her about leadership experiences and the learnings that had taken place. Listening and planning circles along with community-building activities and lunch completed the day.



Participants enjoyed interacting with Mannell, the Kings College and Niagara students, and with each other. They left feeling energized and inspired to continue leadership efforts within their schools and wider communities.

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“There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ.”

Benedict XVI

ARCHBISHOP CURLEY NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Miami, Florida

ACND Students Fast While Helping To Feed Miami's Homeless at "16th Annual HungerFest"



Ms. Lisa
Morales

During the last weekend in February **Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School** students fasted as a gesture of solidarity with Miami's poor at the school's "**16th Annual HungerFest.**" About 65 students abstained from food and drink (other than water) for 27 hours while bagging and delivering lunches to the **Camillus House, St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank, the Housing Assistance Center, the Women's House, Broward Rescue Mission, Sisters of Charity, Better Way, and the Miami Rescue Mission.** The students raised over \$3,000 for ACND's sister school in Haiti and the Christian Brothers' mission in Peru. They also set a new record by producing 3,575 bagged lunches – about 300 more than last year.

The HungerFest group washed cars for donations and collected money pledges and food from parents and neighbors throughout the local community and in six local grammar schools: **Holy Family, St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, Sts. Peter and Paul, St. Rose of Lima, and the Br. Rice Honors Academy.** Local businesses that also contributed were: **Lonny Paul**, Executive Editor of **Downtown Miami News** and VP of Marketing and Strategic Initiatives at **Systemax** and **Mike's at Venetia Restaurant and Irish Pub** in Downtown Miami, and the **Venetia Condo Association.**

The weekend also marked the opening of an exhibit featuring photographic works by HungerFest guest speaker, **Benjamin Rusnak**, titled, "**23 Degrees, Far From Paradise**" at ACND Prep's art gallery. Rusnak is a humanitarian photojournalist for the **Food for the Poor, Inc.** His work documents the lives of the poor in Latin America and the Caribbean. In an artist statement, Rusnak writes, "For the poor, there is a duality to life. In each person, each moment holds joy, pain, and a mourning for what is lost and a yearning for what may be. These lands represent a dream holiday to tourists, but they are only an elusive fantasy to millions of residents still hoping for the reality of paradise to become theirs."



Benjamin Rusnak's exhibit "23 Degrees, Far From Paradise"

Br. John Corcoran, ACND English teacher and organizer of the HungerFest, commented: "Mr. Rusnak's presentation was outstanding. He engaged the audience fully. The students were definitely quite affected by the powerful photographs of people who, as Mr. Rusnak made so movingly clear, are, except for the poverty and hardships they endure, so very much like us!"





*The Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue
at Iona College is pleased to partner with Greenfaith to host*

GROUND FOR HOPE - WESTCHESTER
MOBILIZING INTERFAITH ACTION FOR THE EARTH

Dear Friends,

The Iona Spirituality Institute and The Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona are proud to co-sponsor this very important and timely event for all our interfaith colleagues.

GROUND FOR HOPE-WESTCHESTER
Mobilizing Interfaith Action for the Earth

1. Workshops & resources to help religious groups launch environmental efforts
2. Earth Day resources and learning opportunities for faith communities
3. Connect with other religious-environmental leaders
4. Workshop choices - religious education, 'green' facility management, worship and advocacy

When: Sunday, March 11, 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Where: Spellman Hall, Iona College

For further information, contact Kathleen Deignan, CND, by emailing kpdeignan@iona.edu



Congratulations to Brother Ken Chapman of Iona College, whose art was highlighted in the remembrance booklet for the 25th World Day of Prayer for Peace held in Assisi, Italy.

Also, the Vatican published an Advent Reflection Book that includes several pieces of Ken's art work.

Later this year Ken's art will be on display at [Misericordia University](#), Dallas, PA.

PALMA SCHOOL

Salinas, CA

Special Needs Children Touch the Hearts of Palma School Students

In early February, a small group of ACTION Student Leaders and their Campus Minister, Jim Micheletti, shared a retreat day of service and reflection with some special children in San Luis Obispo, CA. At the *de Groot's Nursing House*, the Palma School students opened their hearts to minister to the medically fragile children cared for at this facility. This is not your typical nursing home; the de Groot's opened their home to the neediest of children so that they might be cared for in a family setting. There is a RN in the house at all times; two doctors and a dentist come to care for the children. Up to fifteen children may reside at this licensed home.

Jim Micheletti incorporated a theological reflection process that focuses on actions of service coupled with reflection which may lead to personal transformation for justice. The students began with Mass in the school chapel, offered service, and then took time to reflect on the experience. The following reflections capture the spirit of the day:

At the de Groot Home we served both the nurses and children living there. We "washed the feet" of these children, giving our quality time and attention. We weren't only serving the children. We were also serving God. God is inside these children and you could certainly see it in their bright spirits. At the de Groot Home I got to see the face of God through these children.

- Daniel Machado



(l to r) Evan Schivo, Andy Steitz, Daniel Machado, Tim Carroll, Henry Mirassou, and Matthias Lopez.



The amount of goodness and love that filled the home was pure yet hardly noticed by the world. Being with them makes us count our blessings. I made some children feel love and I felt love in my heart also. Jesus calls us to serve each other. These kids served me. They changed my life and showed me more clearly how valuable life is.

- Tim Carroll

This was one of my better days as a Campus Minister. I am feeling very blessed and have to share the good news.

- Jim Micheletti



ERCBNA

Justice Peace Integrity of Creation

Promoting social justice and eco-justice



RICE HIGH SCHOOL

New York, NY



It is with great pride and respect for Rice High School that we announce the establishment of a Rice High School alumni association. Our first slate of officers is comprised of Rich Collins '58, Jim Fallon '64, Steve Fitzgerald '63, and Karen Fredrickson, long - term Board Member.

The association has been designated a non-profit organization and is called the Rice High School Alumni Association, Inc.

The association's goals are to keep the Rice Raider spirit alive; provide a communications link with alumni and benefactors; and most importantly, to continue supporting the mission Blessed Edmund Rice started in 1802. Using the Rice email database, we will keep you informed on various topics, thus providing you a link to the Alumni Association and your fellow alumni.

Two of our 2004 alumni - Christon Harris and Germaine Green - have come forward with good intentions and ideas to continue Blessed Edmund's good works. They will be working with former Rice students now attending other schools to ensure the young men are adapting well to their new surroundings and also help them prepare for college. *Rice men being brothers!!* Please let us know at the email address indicated below if you have any suggestions for our alumni association to do positive things which could further Catholic education in NYC.

You might be interested to know that 78% of the displaced Rice students were enrolled in Catholic high schools last September. From all accounts, they have quickly adjusted to their new schools and are performing well. After the school year is completed, we will provide you with an update on their status. There was a positive article in the NY Post on January 28, 2012 titled **"Rice to Riches: Former Players from Closed Harlem Power Continuing School's Legacy"**. It talks about how our former basketball players are continuing the Rice tradition of winning and leadership.

We have received authorization from the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee to march in the upcoming Parade on Saturday, March 17, 2012. We hope to have a large contingent of alumni marching up Fifth Avenue behind the Rice banner. Our place of assembly will be 45th Street between Madison and Vanderbilt Avenues at 12:20 pm. All Rice participants will be expected to wear Rice sashes. If you don't have one, you can purchase a sash at the Parade at a cost of \$10. As always, marchers will be required to abide by the official St. Patrick's Day Marching Rules and Dress Code which are as follows:

- Business dress code.
- Green hats, sneakers, or other "odd ball" dress are not permitted.
- No animals or mascots.
- No eating, drinking or smoking in the Line of March.
- After we reach Fifth Avenue, stragglers will not be allowed to join our unit.
- Clothing with advertising is not an appropriate form of dress.
- No children's pull or push wagon are permitted.

To sign up for the March, please contact Karen Fredrickson at: ricehighalumni@gmail.com by Friday, March 9th.

Hope to see you on the 17th!!

Or call Steve Fitzgerald '63 [914 319 1371](tel:9143191371) or email swf441335@aol.com

EDMUND RICE TODAY

What is Being Born?

Edmund at 250: Faithful to the Future

As the 250th Anniversary of Blessed Edmund Rice's birth approaches on 1st June, 2012, a number of celebrations are in the planning stages, particularly around such privileged locations in the life of Edmund – Mount Sion, Waterford where Edmund's vision was first realized, and Callan in Kilkenny, the site of his birth in 1762.

On Friday, 1st of June, 2012, a day-long event is being planned at Mt. Sion. Gathering with the leadership of both the Presentation Brothers and the Christian Brothers from around the world, will be Brothers from both communities, representatives from the various branches of the Edmund Rice Network, such as the Life Centres, the Lantern Centre, Edmund Rice Camps, the Edmund Rice Schools Trust, Presentation Brothers' Schools Trust, to name a few.

The festival day will include prayer, a keynote address by historian Daire Keogh, author of *Edmund Rice and the First Christian Brothers*, a presentation by the Mt. Sion primary school students, time to visit displays representing the various ministries and programs of the Edmund Rice Network throughout the European Province, a vision for the future of the Edmund Rice charism with Congregation Leaders Martin Kenneally and Philip Pinto. Lunch and time for socializing and visits to the museum will also be available.

In the evening, we conclude our day with prayer and reflection. We will gather in the Edmund Rice Chapel to celebrate Evening Prayer followed by a concert of sacred music with performances by local Waterford musicians.

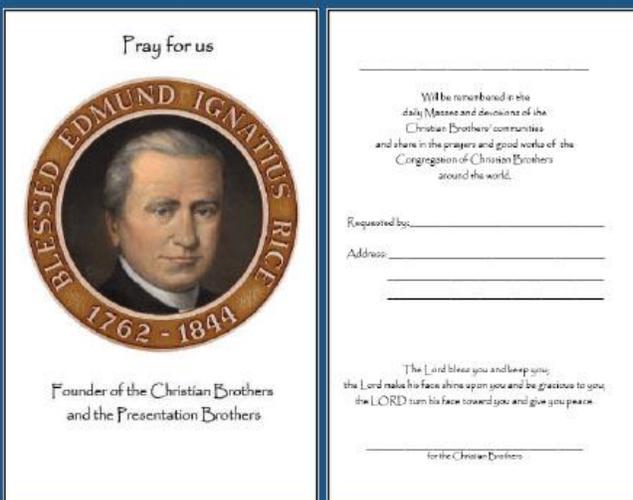
On Saturday, 2nd of June, the Brothers' community at Callan, will be hosting a celebration of the Eucharist. Details are still to be determined, but will be made available in due time.

As part of the 250th celebrations, an "Edmund Rice Summer School" will take place at the Edmund Rice Heritage Centre, Mt. Sion on the 24th and 25th of August, 2012. Focused on the Edmund Rice Network, the purpose of the summer school states, in part: *"The Edmund Rice tradition is part of a wider tradition rooted in the Judeo-Christian story of creation and human purpose and existence. The Summer School provides the opportunity to reflect on the story which has been foundational to the development of the participating organizations. It is an invitation 'to dare to be creative' within that tradition and to carry forward those elements which are consistent with the Universe Story now emerging from religious, scientific and economic sources."*

"Edmund Rice Today: What is Being Born?" is the theme around the birthday celebrations. While we share a common memory in the person of Edmund Rice and celebrate that memory, we are also aware that this is an "active memory" - one that is alive and compelling as it sends us forth, faithful to the future!

CAST YOUR NET WIDER
www.edmundrice.net
your global net for your global network

Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer Cards



Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer Cards are a beautiful way to assure loved ones of your prayerful support. Our Prayer Card is a singular expression in honor of some special occasion or at a sorrowful time for a bereaved relative or friend.

The benefactor's donation (payable to the Christian Brothers Foundation) benefits the ministries of the Christian Brothers.

If you would like a set of Prayer Cards, please contact:

Prayer Cards
Christian Brothers Foundation
33 Pryer Terrace
New Rochelle, NY 10804

alb@cbinstitute.org



Jericho House, Wainfleet, Ontario

Jericho House Youth Leadership, Justice & Spirituality Center is an ecumenical and interfaith retreat center in the Catholic tradition. An ideal location for retreats, meetings, conferences, and seminars.

Info: Jericho House, 10845 Rathfon Road, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5V4;

P: 905-834-0553, F: 905-834-5230

www.jerichohouse.org

The Jericho House Team:

Sister Jacquie Keefe, cssf, Brother Bill Carrothers, cfc, Mr. Gary Bowron

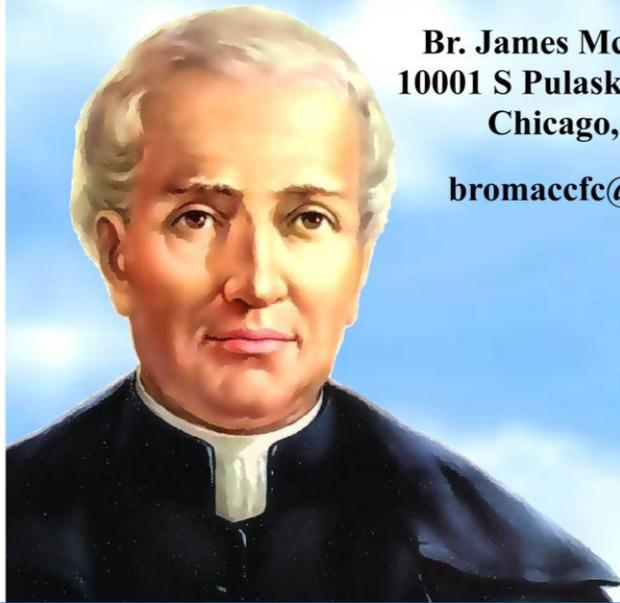
250 Invitations for Edmund's 250th Birthday

June 1, 2012 will mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Blessed Edmund Rice.

Between now and then, help us invite 250 men to consider becoming Brothers.

You know someone who you think might make a good Christian Brother.

Send his name and address, or e-mail address to:



Br. James McDonald, CFC
10001 S Pulaski Road, Rm 111
Chicago, IL 60655

bromaccfc@yahoo.com

In the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice, the founder, the Congregation of Christian Brothers is an international community of vowed religious brothers living and praying in community and missioned by the church for Christian education. The men the Christian Brothers seek to join with them are Catholic men who sense a call to live in fraternal community and who wish to minister in the educational apostolates of the Church, especially to youth. They are men with the religious inspiration and dedication necessary to live a life of consecrated celibacy and who, through vows of poverty and obedience, place their gifts, talents, and possessions at the disposal of the community in order to meet the needs of God's people. Please contact one of the Brothers listed above.

More information on the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers at these links:

Global Edmund Rice Network
Edmund Rice Christian Brothers NA
Edmund Rice International
Christian Brothers Vocations
Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation

www.edmundrice.net
www.ercbna.org
www.edmundriceinternational.org
www.cfcvocations.org
www.edmundriceinternational.org/jpic