



**EASTER MESSAGE 2013**



The Province Leadership Team sends Easter blessings to all of our readers. May this season in which we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection be filled with the promise of renewed life and the peace of Christ in our hearts. We take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a blessed Easter season. We are most grateful for your fraternal support and heartfelt prayers at this time. Be assured of our continued prayers for each of you.

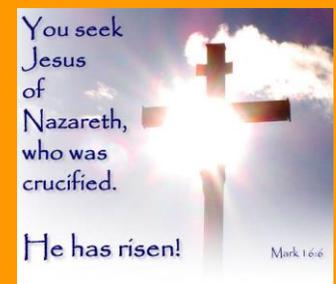
Happy Easter!

*Mark, Dan, Hugh, Ray, Barry, Kevin*

See the Easter Greeting from Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America at:  
<http://youtu.be/am7c14fJruM>

**In this issue:**

Cluster Meetings .... p. 2  
 OES ..... p. 5  
 Br. Rice, MI..... p. 10  
 Iona College ..... p. 11  
 ACND..... p. 12  
 Iona Grammar ..... p. 17  
 Ruah ..... p. 18



You must have peace in your hearts. Let no one be provoked to anger or scandal by you, but may they be drawn to peace and good will, to kindness and concord through your gentleness. We have been called to heal wounds, to bring together what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way.

St. Francis of Assisi

## CLT CLUSTER MEETING Vancouver, British Columbia



(left) Br. Jack Mostyn, Br. David Gibson

On February 16 and 17, nineteen brothers representing communities in California, Seattle, The Province Center and the Lower Mainland of British Columbia gathered at Vancouver College in Vancouver, BC to receive and discuss *The Proposition: A Way into the Future*.

Brothers Jack Mostyn and David Gibson from the Congregation Leadership Team facilitated the sessions in a most skillful manner. David and Jack presented the Proposition in a creative fashion and enabled the assembled brothers to participate fully in the process. Brothers expressed freely their reactions of hope, fear and disappointment. However, there was an overall sense that the Proposition was a genuine, life-giving way into the future.

## CLT CLUSTER MEETING Miami, Florida



- 1<sup>st</sup> Row (l to r) Brothers Jim Depiro, Mike LaFrance, Jack Mostyn, Bob Koppes, Jim van Koolbergen  
2<sup>nd</sup> Row (l to r) Brothers Jude Catalano, Arthur Gammara, David Gibson, Ray Vercruysse, Jim Fagan  
3<sup>rd</sup> Row (l to r) Brothers Conan Armstrong, Tom Draney, Charles Avendano, John Corcoran  
4<sup>th</sup> Row (l to r) Brothers Tim Granzotto, Jason Ford, Ben McDonough, Kevin Griffith

The gathering in Miami from February 23 – 24, 2013 was unique in that all the Brothers who attended were housed in the local community at Archbishop Curley-Notre Dame High School. This meant that the local Brothers had to vacate their rooms to make space for the visitors to sleep! Some of the community were found sleeping in the library, the TV room and other out-of-the-way places in the house. What generosity they showed in making all of us welcome and comfortable!

In response to the Proposition, one Brother said, “We have always been generous; we have always responded. My hope is that we will continue to be generous.” If the gesture of the community is anything to go by, there is no doubt but that the Brothers in Florida will respond with enthusiasm and generosity to the Way into the Future.

One comment summarized the sense of the group when a Brother said, “Now we have a plan!”

## CLT CLUSTER MEETING New Rochelle, New York

Forty-six Brothers gathered at Iona Prep School, north of New York city, over the weekend of February 16 and 17th February. Temperatures were below freezing but had not deterred Brothers travelling from as far afield as Ontario, Canada and Charleston, South Carolina. The Brothers at Iona Prep School and community made us all very welcome.

Brothers Francis Hall and Peter Dowling (from our Congregation Leadership Team) ably guided us through the process.

As the elements of the Proposition were described, a steady flow of perceptive and challenging questions emerged from the Brothers. A fundamental question was, "Does the Proposition involve a change in the very nature of the Congregation?" and "What is the process for this change?" Brothers expressed gratitude for being able to input into the process. We congratulate Peter and Francis for the excellent process they used that directly involved all the Brothers. It would be fair to say that the atmosphere and tone of the days were very positive and everyone felt listened to and part of the whole unfolding.

Later in the week the Proposition was shared with the Brothers at St Joseph's Care Center who showed great interest and promised their support. A Brother there spotted the theme of vulnerability and its relevance to our lives as we follow Jesus.





(l to r) Brothers Ray Vercruyssen, Jim Hamilton, Ken Chapman, Dennis Gunn



(l to r) Jerry McCarthy, Kevin Cawley, John Buckingham

## CLT CLUSTER MEETING Chicago, Illinois

### CHICAGO: A WAY INTO THE FUTURE GATHERING

Over the weekend of February 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup> nineteen people gathered in wintry Chicago to receive an explanation of the Proposition from Brothers Peter Dowling and Francis Hall from the Congregation Leadership Team. The event was generously hosted by St Laurence School in the Student Leadership Center, formerly the Brothers' residence. It had to be one of the best venues for these events across the world. The Brothers present were particularly happy to welcome Br Paul Michalenko, ST who will facilitate the 2014 Province Chapter and Robert Droel, a candidate for the Brothers, as participants over the weekend.

At the end of a day of lively interaction with questions flowing freely, a challenging question emerged: "What will the Brothers *bring* to the people they minister among?" Someone responded: "We bring our Brotherhood; we bring the love of God".

The group was well aware that it was the very last group across the Congregation to participate in one of these events. At the closing prayer there was a strong sense of gratitude that "... we have been companioned by a grace-filled Presence, that has held us together and led us on" (Doris Klein).





Front: Robert Droel receives handouts from Br. Francis Hall (CLT); and, back Br. Tom Collins receives handouts from Br. Barry Lynch (PLT).



Small group discussion

## OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES New Rochelle, New York

### *Reflecting on the Earth as a Sacred Community*



**Sr. Ona  
Bessette,  
CND**

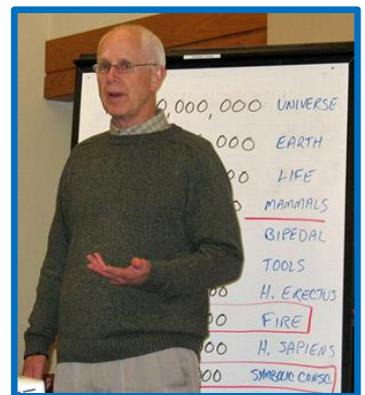
Justice coordinators, campus ministers, theology teachers, and mission coordinators from fourteen Edmund Rice Christian Brother schools gathered at Presentation Center in Los Gatos, CA February 5 – 8, 2013 for the third *Schools Justice Network Conference*. Participants came from Argentina, Canada, Uruguay, and the United States to learn and share on how our schools will deepen their commitment to Care for the Earth. Fr. Joseph Mitchell, CP was the guest speaker for the conference. Fr. Mitchell is the director of the Passionist Earth and Spirit Center in Louisville, KY. He is the author of the *Lent 4.5* – a seven week faith formation program in Christian Simplicity.

Imagine if the Earth were divided equally among all of us. Each person would receive 4.5 acres. Now imagine that everything you need – food, energy, home, clothing, gadgets – must come from those 4.5 acres. But it takes 22.3 acres to maintain the average American lifestyle. There is a new way of observing Lent that helps us care for God’s creation by taking steps toward using only our fair share of its resources. Moving in the direction of 4.5 is essential for anyone walking in the footsteps of Jesus today. ([www.lent4.5.org](http://www.lent4.5.org))

Fr. Mitchell challenged the participants to move into a new cosmology and engage in the Great Work of our time – “to make the transition from a period of human devastation of the Earth to a period when humans would be present to the planet in a mutually beneficial manner.” (Thomas Berry, CP).

The workshop focused on three central questions:

- How can we make sense of a world in transition? There is a major shift taking place in our understanding of the world. The workshop explored the central ideas and discoveries of the new cosmology: how things came to be and the role of the human within the cosmos.
- How do we develop a new intimacy with the world in which we live? Employing the observations and insights of Thomas Berry, Brian Swimme and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, participants investigated the implications of the unfolding universe have for our personal lives, our cultural institutions, and our ERCB Schools.



**Father Joseph Mitchell, CP**

- How can we be instruments of change, helping members of our school communities connect to the grandeur of existence and the mysterious Divine power from which it has all emerged?

Participants considered how to bring forth an environmentally sustainable, socially just and spiritually fulfilling human presence on the Earth. This is the Great Work of our historical moment. Ideas are germinating on how each school will contribute to this effort and challenge their communities to become agents of change for the healing of our world.

Participants in the conference went home with minds and hearts full. The conference was a banquet of information and now is the digesting and planning time for everyone. Initial ideas include:

- ☺ Work on the Environmental Impact of our daily actions
- ☺ Spend more time focusing on the environment
- ☺ Expand our working towards a sustainable school and link it more with the campus ministry
- ☺ Be more cosmologically friendly
- ☺ Not sure yet but something MUST happen!
- ☺ Begin to include Care for the Earth as a focal point in our ministry
- ☺ Be better able to meet and educate around the environment and creation
- ☺ Try to talk to other staff members about what I learnt, share ideas, and work together to start projects about how to "ground" these ideas.
- ☺ I will, in my classroom, cover the environment in a much more thorough way.
- ☺ Make a concerted effort to charge our teaching and worship with a new consciousness of the universe as divine manifestation and the Great Work we must do.

### What Can Be Done?

Each ERCB Schools has been encouraged to invite their school community to take a concrete action that will educate one another and protect our planet. Many schools have a *Green Team* or an *Eco-Justice Group* that spearhead awareness and sponsor programs that work within the school and the local community. These are valuable and needed activities, but the Schools Justice Network challenges each school to go deeper in their commitment to the Earth by participating in *The Saint Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor*.

***“The protection of the environment, and the safeguarding of resources and of the climate, oblige all ... to act jointly ... promoting solidarity with the weakest regions of the world” Pope Benedict XVI (Caritas in Veritate, no. 50)***

All across our country, Catholics are taking the St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor and joining the Catholic Climate Covenant. The St. Francis Pledge is a promise and a commitment by Catholic individuals, families, parishes, organizations and institutions to live our faith by protecting God’s Creation and advocating on behalf of people in poverty who face the harshest impacts of global climate change. To join the Covenant, you commit to act on each of the five elements of the St. Francis Pledge:

#### I/We Pledge to:

- **PRAY** and reflect on the duty to care for God’s Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable.
- **LEARN** about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.
- **ASSESS** how we — as individuals and in our families, parishes and other affiliations — contribute to climate change by our own energy use, consumption, waste, etc.
- **ACT** to change our choices and behaviors to reduce the ways we contribute to climate change.
- **ADVOCATE** for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.

The Schools Justice Network invites all schools, brothers, and collaborators in the mission of Blessed Edmund Rice to become an advocate for the Earth. Take the first step and learn more about the St. Francis Pledge at

[www.CatholicClimateCovenant.org](http://www.CatholicClimateCovenant.org). Together, let us be united in our actions and prayer to protect and defend the poor and fragile Earth that gives us life.

As you journey through these Lenten days consider some of the following ways to *fast from habits of consumption that harm God's creation*:

- ✿ Use real cups, cloth napkins, reusable shopping bags, and rags for cleaning.
- ✿ Use a refillable mug. Your daily coffee in disposable cups generate about 22 pounds of waste per year.
- ✿ Whenever possible, buy food grown and processed close to home. Transportation of food guzzles energy.
- ✿ Do without fast food and highly processed food for a week. If that's not possible, before biting into the burger, choose food that is produced sustainably and ethically.
- ✿ Lent = Fish! Select fish that's good for you and the oceans. Download a consumer's guide to sustainable seafood at [www.edf.org](http://www.edf.org)
- ✿ Reuse stuff. Our disposable culture encourages tossing out what could easily be fixed or reused.
- ✿ Clean closets. Discover what's forgotten. Donate anything not used for two years.
- ✿ Give up bottled water this Lent ... and beyond
- ✿ Fix leaky faucets and toilets. 1 drip per second = 3000 gallons of wasted water per year.
- ✿ Turn off water while brushing teeth and save 2 gallons per minute
- ✿ Use the shortest wash that will get the job done for dishwashing, laundry, and showers. Heating water is an energy guzzler.
- ✿ Use energy settings on the big four: refrigerator, dishwasher, clothes washer and dryer
- ✿ Walk to all locations within six blocks of your home
- ✿ Plan ahead – combine numerous small trips into one
- ✿ Abstain from over-scheduling your life.
- ✿ Read Psalm 104. Celebrate God's majesty revealed in creation.
- ✿ Get away. Consciously walk with God's natural world at least once a week.
- ✿ Give time to your community by working in a soup kitchen, caring for the homeless, or volunteering in an organization to help those in need.



Row 1 Joan Gorski (St. Laurence HS), Darren Yanko(Vancouver College), Tom Gambradella, (Bishop Hendricken HS), Jay Louis-Prescott (Br. Rice HS, MI)  
Row 2 Sister Ona Bessette, CND, (OES), Joseph Mitchell, CP (Passionist Earth and Spirit Center), Thane Hall, (Br. Rice HS, MI)  
Row 3 Olivier Manchoulas (Colegio Stella Maris, Uruguay), Stephen Valgos (Palma School), Daniel Devincenzi (Colegio Cardenal Newman, Argentina)  
Row 4 Bernie Kully (St. Thomas More Collegiate), Glennis Nucifora (Colegio Cardenal Newman), Frank DiCocco (Bergen Catholic HS)  
Row 5 Brother Stephen Casey, CFC (Office of Mission Education & Immersion), Davon Reyes (O'Dea HS)  
Row 6 Felipe Collado (Colegio Cardenal Newman), Christopher Boyle ( Catholic Memorial School), Pippa Bianco (Bishop Kearney HS), Brother Raymond Vercruysse, CFC (PLT)  
Row 7 Brother Paul Ickes, CFC (Br. Rice HS, IL), Jim Micheletti (Palma School)  
Missing Kevin Kelton (Iona Prep)

## Board Directors, Administrators Attend New “Partners” Workshop Sister Grace D'Amico, SSND, Associate Director, Office of Educational Services



Sr. Grace  
D'Amico,  
SSND

Thirty board directors and chief administrators attended one of three new *Partners in Christian Brothers Education Workshops* in January and February this year. Participants represented eight ERCB schools from California, British Columbia, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey and New York. As the Associate Director of the ERCB Office of Educational Services, I conducted the workshops on three consecutive Saturdays, January 26, February 1, and February 8, 2013 in New Jersey, British Columbia, and Michigan, respectively.

The Partners workshop incorporated many of the components of the former *Called and Gifted for Boards* workshops from the past, including the life of Blessed Edmund Rice, the history and vision of the Christian Brothers, responsibilities of boards and board members, and the relationship of school boards to the Church. In an effort to make what had been an orientation program for new board directors into one that would be relevant to more experienced members, I introduced some new features.

On the registration form I invited the participants to submit questions and issues for discussion. This gave me an opportunity to prepare some input and materials on topics that were especially relevant to the participants of a particular workshop. I invited directors who had attended previous *Called and Gifted* workshops to join us later in the afternoon. I witnessed lively discussion on topics like succession planning, or how to get alumni engaged in giving, or how to keep a school faithful to its mission as an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Catholic school.

Sometimes a participant would apologize for getting us off track, but often I would reply that these kinds of discussions are precisely what we need - an opportunity to share ideas, concerns, and questions, and spark future collaboration within the Edmund Rice School Consortium. Board directors really do see their respective school as different from other schools in their areas, and value their school's Catholicity and Christian Brother affiliation. Consequently, they truly appreciate an opportunity to interact with their peers from other ERCB schools.

One of the most moving aspects of the workshops for me was listening as board directors and administrators reflected on several episodes of Blessed Edmund's life, and began to see him as a real man, with real feelings, and who was able to turn hardships into important contributions to the Church and society, when he could easily have given up. I marveled at how comfortable these men and women were at sharing their thoughts and feelings about Edmund, and applying what they were learning to their own lives and to the schools they serve. Their desire to find ways to increase service opportunities and increase scholarship funding for needy students were just two examples of how Edmund's vision continues to inform their board work.

Witnessing this kind of engagement with Edmund's experiences emphasized for me the importance of continuing to appointing board directors and school leaders who have religious faith themselves, and who, though they might not describe it this way, embrace their role as a "call." This will become even more important as we explore new forms of school governance, with the possibility of establishing a new Public Juridic Person that would assume canonical responsibility for the



Tom Dekar (Br. Rice, BH) Shaun Jacob (Br. Rice, Chicago), Tom VanDusen and Neal Kuehn (Br. Rice, BH) enjoy a break during the Partners workshop at Br. Rice, Bloomfield Hills.

schools in the name of the Church. “Partners in Christian Brother Education” is more than a new name; rather it expresses a spirit of collaboration so essential as lay persons take on an increasingly important role in the future.



**Workshop participants from Vancouver College, St. Thomas More Collegiate, Palma School, and Sister Grace D’Amico enjoy dinner together after the workshop at Vancouver College.**

This year we took the workshops farther on the road, hosting them in “new” schools within the three regions of the province. I wanted to give an “easy commute” to different schools, and as a result, more people attended than in the past several years. We at OES are very grateful to administrators and their assistants at Bergen Catholic, Oradell, New Jersey; Br. Rice, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; and Vancouver College, British Columbia; who hosted the 2012-13 series of workshops.

Participants included board members and in some cases chief administrators, from All Hallows, Bergen Catholic, Br. Rice (Bloomfield Hills), Br. Rice (Chicago), Palma, St. Laurence, St. Thomas More, and Vancouver College. I am very grateful to the very generous board members who after all, are volunteers, but gave time and energy in order to participate in these workshops so that they could better serve our Edmund Rice Christian Brother schools.

We may continue with a three year cycle to bring the workshop to various schools within each region. The next *Partners in Christian Brothers Education Workshop* is scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2013, at Catholic Memorial School in West Roxbury, Massachusetts. Registration materials, future dates, and locations will be posted on [www.edmundriceschools.org](http://www.edmundriceschools.org), once the new Edmund Rice Schools consortium website is launched.



### **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

## BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL

### Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Seventeen senior student-athletes from Brother Rice High School formally committed to play college athletics at multiple schools next fall during a ceremony recently that coincided with national signing day.

Among those who announced formal commitments were:

- **Griffin Anderson**, of Bloomfield Hills (football, University of Pennsylvania)
- **Russell Cicerone**, of Bloomfield Hills (soccer, University of Buffalo)
- **Kyle Gaines** of Oxford (golf, Detroit Mercy),
- **Matt Habrowski** (soccer, Notre Dame),
- **Kevin Henry**, of Bloomfield Hills (football, Fordham)
- **Sergio Perkovic**, of Bloomfield Hills (lacrosse, Notre Dame)
- **John Reschke** of Sterling Heights (football, Michigan State)

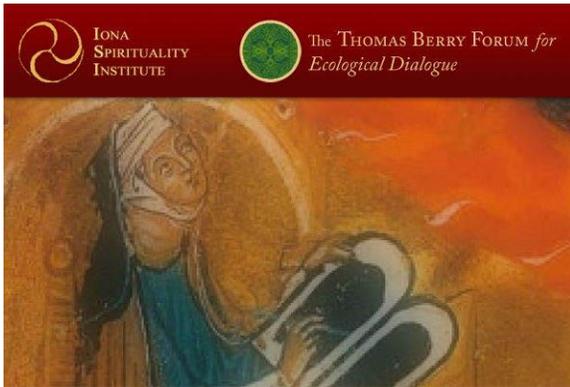
According to a news release, Brother Rice also recognized all of its student-athletes who have committed to participate in athletics at the next level, and to promote the outstanding institutions throughout the country that their student-athletes will attend. "It's important that we recognize these young men not just for their athletic accomplishments, but also for the great choices they've made in higher education," said Brother Rice's Principal, Brother Mike Segvich, in the release. "Notre Dame, Penn, Vassar, Fordham, Kalamazoo, Boston University ... it's a very impressive list."

Also recognized at the event were:

- **Kyle Bindi**, of Birmingham (football, Michigan Tech)
- **James Crowe**, of Bingham Farms (lacrosse, Mercyhurst)
- **J.P. Forester**, of Bloomfield Township (lacrosse, University of Richmond)
- **Kyle Marsh**, of Rochester (football, Hillsdale)
- **Cheyne Lacanaria**, of Brighton (football, Ohio Wesleyan)
- **Graham Macko**, of Orchard Lake (lacrosse, Bellarmine)
- **Greg Marzec**, of Livonia (lacrosse, Boston University)
- **Vincent Mencotti**, of Birmingham (squash, Vassar College)
- **Steve Simmons**, of Novi (baseball, Kalamazoo College)
- **John Plaskey**, of Beverly Hills, who will play lacrosse at Mercyhurst, was not in attendance.



IONA COLLEGE  
New Rochelle, New York



The Iona Spirituality Institute and The Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue invite you to celebrate the acclamation of a new Saint and Doctor of Sacred Wisdom

*Hildegard of Bingen*  
*Saturday, April 13, 2013*

with animators:

- Kathleen Deignan, CND, PhD, Professor of Religious Studies Iona College
- Christine Carlson, PhD, Associate Professor of English Literature Iona College

- Sandra Rivera, Sacred Dancer and Choreographer
- Kathy Weigand, Liturgical Music Director Iona College
- and the Culinary creativity of Chef Daniel Serafini of Chartwells who will recreate Hildegard's recipes for luncheon

On October 7th Hildegard joined the ranks of thirty-three "Doctors of the Church" – spiritual masters and mentors of sacred wisdom – among them, Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Catherine of Siena, and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. This daring German mystic of County Palatine of the Rhine was a Benedictine abbess and founder known for her visions, which she began to receive at the age of three, and which were recorded not just in the numerous books she composed, but also in an artistic collection that is stunning in its originality and vibrancy. Hildegard's exceptional musical and dramatic creativity contributed to the evolution of sacred song, enjoyed in the dozens of original pieces composed throughout her lifetime which in our day have achieved an immense popularity.

Join us to honor and explore the legacy of this "Teutonic Prophetess" who speaks with great timeliness in her courageous ability to discern the signs of the times, her love for creation, her feminine reading of sacred mysteries, her medicine and healing arts, her poetry, her visionary prophecy, her innovative and original reading of sacred scripture and teaching, her defense of the dignity of outliers and unbelievers, her reformation spirit, her leadership in founding a new community of creative women, and her coining a new, secret language – "lingua incognita" – to speak of the Unspeakable Mystery in a uniquely feminine way.

We will also honor this "Sybil of the Rhine" as the well acclaimed female patron of the environment and the natural world while we explore her wisdom, sing her songs, and even taste some of her wholesome recipes (!) in this day of contemplative inquiry, dialogue and playful engagement with one of the most interesting and potent women of history.

Where: Arrigoni Chapel of Iona College  
When: Saturday, April 13, 2013,  
9:30 AM registration till 4:30 PM  
Offering: \$35 includes luncheon  
of some of Hildegard's recipes  
RSVP: required [kdeignan@iona.edu](mailto:kdeignan@iona.edu)  
or 914 633 2590

*Love overflows in all things,  
from the planetary depths  
to her highest dwelling place  
beyond the stars,  
and love is surpassing herself in all  
things,  
because she has given the kiss of peace  
to the highest King.  
- Hildegard of Bingen*

# ARCHBISHOP CURLEY NOTRE DAME PREP

## Miami, Florida

### Engage the Future, Celebrate Life, and Mindful of the Past: “Winning Competition Designs for Rebuilding the Notre Dame de L’Assomption Cathedral, Port-au-Prince, Haiti”



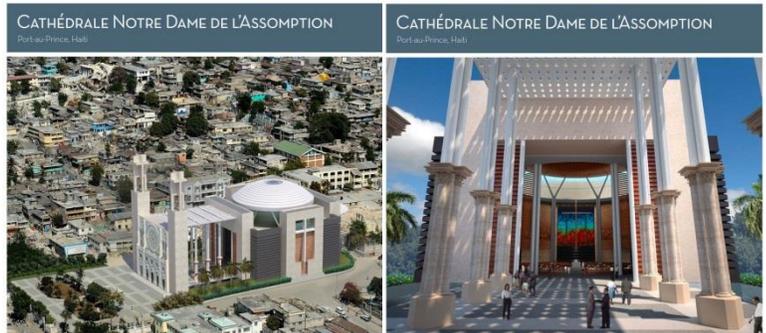
**Ms. Lisa  
Morales**

Archbishop of Miami, Thomas Wenski along with delegates from the Archdiocese of Miami, the University of Miami School of Architecture, and Miami’s Haitian community attended an opening exhibition celebrating the works formally on view at the University of Miami: “Winning Competition Designs for Rebuilding the Notre Dame de L’Assomption Cathedral, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.” The event begins was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 with an introduction by the Archbishop at the ACND Gallery of Art at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame.

“We are honored to host the University of Miami’s exhibit. It is our school and gallery’s mission to connect our Haitian students and their families, as well as the community at large with the people who spearhead projects such as this one,” states ACND’s Principal, Douglas Romanik. “On January 12, 2010, we closed ‘Invictus: Haiti Unconquered’ – an exhibition of photographic works by Miami Herald photojournalist and one of our former graduates, Carl Juste. Although his depiction of the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake was a sensitive subject, it proved to be a didactic approach to exhibition. We hope that UM’s show will be equally powerful and call our community to action. The new Cathedral will be a symbol of hope for all of us.”

#### The Competition and Exhibit History:

Last fall, architects from throughout the world answered the invitation launched by the Archbishop of Port-au-Prince Mgr. Guyre Poulard to help build a new cathedral for the nation’s capital. The competition, which drew 134 submissions, was organized by the Archdiocese of Port-au-Prince and Faith and Form Magazine. In his petition, Mgr. Poulard stated: “The ideal design must engage the future and celebrate life. Still, it must be mindful of the past and memorialize the thousands who died and were injured in the earthquake of January 12, 2010.”



An exhibition opening took place at the Jorge M. Perez Architecture Center Irvin Korach Gallery on January 17, 2013 with opening remarks by Haitian writer and juror Edwidge Danticat. The exhibit was curated by Joachim Perez and School of Architecture Dean, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk was the lead juror of the six member selection jury.

In a statement released to the Herald this past December, Dean Plater-Zyberk stated: “The panel unanimously agreed that the final choice is memorable, elegant and dignified, yet welcoming to the greater community of Port-au-Prince and those who visit.”

Appropriately, “Place de la Cathedral View” – part of the first-place submission headed by Puerto Rican architect Segundo Cardona, FAIA (SCF Arquitectos, LLP) is described by the team: “At the end of the main axis, the chapel is defined by a glowing, color-filled glass wall. This exuberant concentration of light and color

will also serve as backdrop for a cross floating over the altar. Pixels of color recreate the earth in red, life in green, and sky or heaven in blue. This sequence of color also recreates the Haitian flag.”

Yves Savain, Haitian-born businessman, directed the competition process and is organizing the event at ACND Prep.

Other finalists are: Second Place, Diego Ramos and Team, [Estudio Kaleido \(Mexico\) www.estudiokaleido.com](http://www.estudiokaleido.com); Third Place, Steven Fett and Team, [Monteleone Research and Design \(Miami\), www.sustainablecivicart.com](http://www.sustainablecivicart.com); and Honorable Mention, Prof. Teófilo Victoria and Team, [De la Guardia Victoria Architects & Urbanists, Inc. \(Coral Gables\), www.dlgvarchitects.com](http://www.dlgvarchitects.com).

The ACND Gallery of Art (established in 2007) is offered as an expression of solidarity with its neighbors in the historic Buena Vista, Brentwood and Little Haiti sections of the upper east side of Miami as well as the developing areas of the Design District, Wynwood Arts District, and the Downtown Arts and Entertainment District. Each exhibit is designed to provide an opportunity for educational enrichment through the promotion of thought and discussion. For more information on past and future exhibits, visit [www.acnd.net](http://www.acnd.net).

### **ACND Prep Junior is Disney Dreamers Academy Winner**



Aisha Louis, a Hollywood, FL resident and 17 year old junior from Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep, is one of the three South Florida students who have been selected to participate in the Disney Dreamers Academy with comedian Steve Harvey and Essence Magazine. Now in its sixth year, the program will take place from March 7 to 10, 2013 at the Walt Disney World Resort. From 5,000 applications, Aisha was among the 100 selected students from all over the country who have demonstrated that, with hard work and a little magic, dreams can come true.

Although she knew that the winners had been announced, Aisha hesitated before looking at the Disney Dreamers Academy website. “Earlier that day I read that the list had been posted, but I was so nervous to look at it,” comments Aisha. “Finally, while in second period, I went on my iPad and looked at the list. Once I saw my name, I was elated and thanked God that I was one of the one hundred chosen for this honor. I could not stop smiling and I was so grateful to have won this once in a lifetime opportunity.”

Aisha is a self-motivated student who aspires to study at Columbia University and become an Obstetrician-Gynecologist. She heard about the program while watching the “Dinner: Impossible” show on the Food Network and immediately went online and looked for more information. Aisha’s AP English Teacher, Mrs. Beth Love, offered guidance on how to tell her story and express her passions and dreams – something that Aisha would need to demonstrate in the three required essays.

“I’ve always had a love for infants and new life and I knew that I wanted to pursue that as a career,” comments Aisha. “When doing research for a profession, I found that an obstetrician-gynecologist was the perfect fit for me. I looked up schools too and found that Columbia University has a great OB-GYN program along with being an amazing, top ranked school and so I decided that that’s where I want to go.”

Disney Dreamers Academy students will engage in multiple activities including interaction with a range of industry professional to an immersive introduction to various career paths. Academy students participate in workshops on a variety of subjects including entertainment, entrepreneurship, the medical field, culinary arts and creative inspiration from Walt Disney Imagineering, the creative gurus behind Disney Parks’ theme parks and attractions.

“Disney dreamers Academy will be very beneficial to me because it will offer me exposure and inspiration,” she concludes. “Many times, people have dreams but don’t have the motivation or education needed to pursue them. This program will give me the chance to receive valuable lessons and information from people who have risen above their circumstances and have become great, as we all have the power to do.”

**Vwajai Mwen Ayiti: My reflections on Haiti**  
**Brother Jim DePiro, ACND Community, Miami, Florida**

On Thursday, February 14, 2013, I joined five others on a mission trip to Haiti. The group, Amor en Accion, is a lay missionary group in the Archdiocese of Miami; it has been in existence for about 40 years. Since the late 1970’s the Archdiocese of Miami has adopted the diocese of Port de Paix (located in the northwest of Haiti) as its sister diocese. This part of Haiti is the poorest. Imagine being the poorest part of the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere!

We landed at Toussaint L’Ouvature Airport in Port au Prince and then began our trek to the city of Port de Paix. This brought us north through St. Marc and Gonaives. Once out of Gonaives, the roads were unpaved and dusty. In the mountain town of Gros Morne, we made a stop at the house of the Religious Sisters of Jesus and Mary. As is often the case, plans were changed due to delays; rather than moving on to Port de Paix, we stayed there for the night because the roads henceforth would be dirt, hilly, riddled with holes, rocks, and farm animals. So, early on Friday morning, we headed to our destination – the Cathedral of Port de Paix. The city of Port de Paix is heavily congested; there is little room to walk safely. Homelessness and malnutrition are clearly evident; children in the streets and not in school; young men and women hanging around and not employed. Several young boys would hang out by the gates of the Cathedral entrance waiting to open or shut the gates and make friends with the visitors as they asked for something to eat. “Blan”, “grangou” were oftentimes heard; open hands at the stomach indicated they were hungry. “Kijan ou rele?”, I would ask. “Benji” became my friend for two days.



Without generators or solar panels, electricity is hit and miss. Friday night between 11 PM and 1 AM electricity was on; a clamor went up in the neighborhood as all rushed to outlets to recharge batteries and use whatever appliances one may have had. Later that afternoon, we took tours to the Daughters of Wisdom who run a nursing school and a primary school for girls; then a trip to the local hospital; then the school of the De LaSalle brothers, a site for a proposed agricultural school; and then to Amor en Accion school. This school has several hundred students cramped into tiny quarters with no lights, few resources, but staffed with dedicated adults who want to educate these young people. There is an estimate that less than 15% of the youth population attends school regularly, with more in the primary levels and less in the upper levels. Many of the teachers themselves don’t have more than that!

No matter what school we visited, education was a priority – no matter how poor or how much the family had to struggle, very little was more important than an education. There is a story told by a local pastor that when brought to the school, a lawyer said, “What good is only an eighth grade education?” The school’s director brought a teacher over, who himself had only an eighth grade education. His answer: That means I can read the Scriptures and assist others at home or others in my neighborhood or village that don’t go to school. A clash between first and third world understanding of education: Bettering myself or bettering my community! Despite the lack of basic school supplies, the children were happy and the adults fulfilled.

On Saturday, February 16, we took a ride to Ile de la Tortue off the northern coast of Haiti. We walked to the dock where we waited for the “ferry” to arrive. While waiting for the “ferry” to arrive, I noticed a group of boys – somewhere between the ages of 10 and 16 – just standing around the docks shoeless, shirtless, hungry and not in school. A light went off in my head: This is what Edmund Rice faced in 1802 on the docks of Waterford.



When our “captain” was ready, we boarded this re-made fishing trawler and headed to the island. The 50 minute sailboat ride was enhanced by a group of evangelicals that sang several songs as their prayer. “Traverse Lame Wouj” was my favorite. The refrain, “Bondye lage men li pou mwen ka traverse lamer wouj” captured the spirituality of the women. “God extends his hand so that I can cross the Red Sea.”

The island population of about 30,000 people on an island that is 40 miles long and 7 miles wide share one parish with two priests, five primary schools, one middle school and one high school (all run by the De LaSalle brothers) and one hospital. Three sisters from Tanzania run the hospital, and they desperately try to find a doctor that will stay for any length of time. No surgery can be performed; a dentist is available several times a week; medicine can be dispensed when available and the emergency room is busy. A number of locals help staff the maternity wing and the “consultation” room. Candido, the doctor in our group, is looking into assisting the hospital in acquiring necessary equipment and materials. But since the roads up from Port au Prince are rough and the island is mountainous, the delivery of supplies can take weeks and the cost is high. The return “ferry” ride took over 90 minutes because the wind died down and the “captain” wanted to conserve fuel.

After Sunday Liturgy in the Cathedral, we headed west to Mol St. Nikola – a small village on the western tip of the northern peninsula. It rained most of the day, so the ride through the mountainous, rural country side was muddy, slow and treacherous. It brought us to places such as Jean Rabel and Mawouj. At one point, I saw a group of people returning from church with their chairs in hand!



At Mol, there is a wonderful young priest who has taken up several projects, including securing funds to build houses to help locals relocate after the earthquake in Port au Prince. The upper floor of the school, with funds from Amor en Accion, was rebuilt several years ago after Hurricane Thomas destroyed it. The parish includes three Italian sisters who assist in pastoral care as well as a group of first year seminarians focusing on their spirituality and improving their French.



Tuesday morning we headed back to Gros Morne by a southern route. This mountainous journey brought us through some very beautiful parts of the island, but to also very isolated and poverty stricken areas. Women and children on donkeys carting their wares to market; riverbeds that served as both laundromat and public bath; children on the roadside standing around watching, waiting for something to happen. A common sight

was young children walking to school; out of the hillsides they would come, usually walking in groups with school bags on their backs and smiles on their faces. But for every one we saw, there were too many others that did not go at all. We came to a small place called Ti Rivye, up in the hills. Two Filipino sisters, one sister from India and an Italian priest from Milan support a parish, a primary school and a dispensary. They have secured funds to rebuild the school, parish and dispensary because what they do have is falling down the mountain!

After that we continued on to Gros Morne. Arriving around dinner time, we camped out for the night. On Wednesday, we had two stops on our agenda: the public hospital and the “Tent School,” the latter captured my interest. Once again, the hospital, the only one with ‘full service’ was falling apart and lacked many funds to perform routine services. The local parish priest, a Monfort father, heads the board. In Haiti, the government is not afraid to team up with religious groups to provide basic services; it’s a unique partnership. Later, we traveled with a young priest up through the mountains to his parish and to see this ‘Tent School’. This primary school is just that, a tent. Secured by UNICEF, the tent, and the bamboo addition in the back, exists because about five years ago, several young children drowned in a flash flood on the long journey to or from school. With very few supplies, resources or personnel, the school provides a basic primary education to 120 youngsters. One of the members of the group with which I was traveling was an engineer/architect from Port au Prince. At once, she began to work on plans to build a more permanent structure built from local materials; this would allow things to happen more quickly and at a more reasonable cost. The young man who is the director of the school is also involved in construction in the village. Having a foreman on the scene is a plus in building efforts in rural Haiti since many times short cuts are taken, oftentimes to tragic ends.



On Thursday, February 21, we began the trek to Port-au-Prince to catch our 1:30pm flight back to Miami. We began at 7:15, hoping that the four hour journey took only the four hours; luckily, it did. Traveling south from Gros Morne through Gonaives was a beautiful ride; through the mountains along the waterfront through a place called Anse Rouge. Upon entering Gonaives, the roads became paved, but congested. The driver had to watch other vehicles like motorbikes, Tap Taps (small trucks used as buses), children walking, and other drivers who fully believe that motor vehicle laws are merely suggestions! We continued along the road through places like L’estere Largue - the salt mining area - and St. Marc. Upon entering Port-au-Prince, one could still see the devastation of the 2010 earthquake. We did not drive through the city since the airport is just north of the city, but in the distance one could still see neighborhoods still down and tent cities still up. Certainly a lot more work to do!

The Haitian people have a wonderful spirit; they have the ability to come through anything; as a people, they have faced so much. There is a Haitian saying, “Deyo mon, gen mon.” Beyond the mountain, there is another mountain. Once a tragedy or situation is overcome, another one faces you – so start climbing! The faith of the people is simple, but meaningful. We have a lot to learn.

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# IONA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## New Rochelle, New York

### Green for a cause at Iona Grammar School

Shades of green were very much in evidence as Iona Grammar School in New Rochelle NY dedicated a dress down day to “Color for a Cause.” The cause was the Guadalupe Regional Middle School, a tuition-free school conducted by the Congregation Christian Brothers for gifted students from economically challenged families near the Mexican border in Brownsville, Texas.

The Iona students from kindergarten through eighth grade exchanged contributions for the privilege of sporting any of the green items found in their wardrobes.

The attached pictures illustrate the results.

The Iona School founded in 1919 will be re-uniting its grammar and prep school sections this fall to form Westchester’s only K-12 Catholic Academy for Boys. Brother Thomas Leto, CFC , currently President of Iona Prep, will be the President of the combined schools. Mr. Joseph Blanco, assistant headmaster at Iona Grammar will be the site administrator on the Grammar School campus.



Mr. Joseph Blanco, Iona Grammar School administrator are “wearing the green” for Guadalupe Regional Middle School in Brownsville, Texas.



The smiles of second grade students brighten the Color for a Cause day at Iona Grammar School in New Rochelle, NY. In support of the Guadalupe Regional Middle School in Brownsville, Texas.

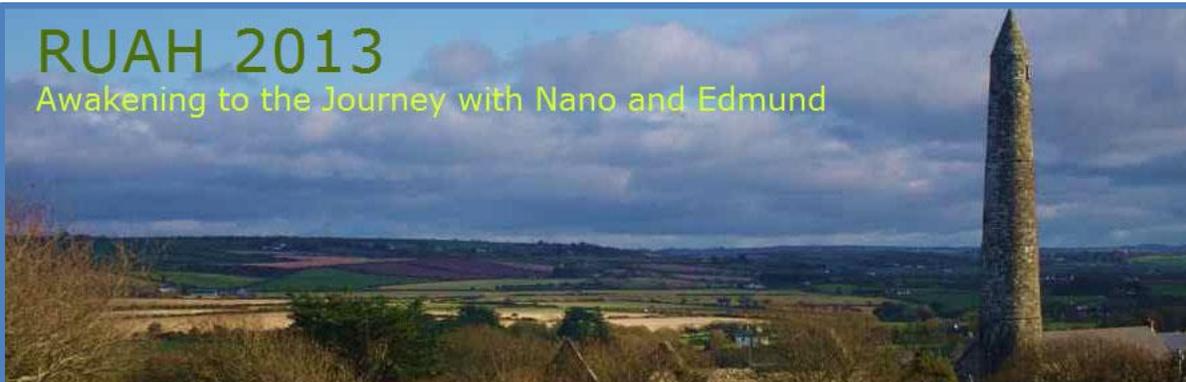


Kindergarten students also participated in Color for a Cause.

The following request was received from Brother John Buckingham:  
My email account was recently “hacked” and you may have received a bogus message from me asking for funds. The “hack” also destroyed all my email addresses, so I had no way to contact those on my list. Please note that my new email address is [gordonbuckingham2013@yahoo.ca](mailto:gordonbuckingham2013@yahoo.ca)

# RUAH 2013

Awakening to the Journey with Nano and Edmund



## RUAH Programme 2013

Awaken to the Heritage and Spirituality of Nano and Edmund

The RUAH 2013 Team is delighted to invite you to our programme for 2013. You can download an application form from the Downloads page here. We look forward to supporting you as you begin your journey to Ireland in June 2013.

The programme for 2013 will include the following thematic strands:

- Awakening to the Journey of Faith as we celebrate the Year of Faith
- Awakening to the Journey of the Heart
- Awakening to the Journey with the Divine
- Awakening to the Story of the Universe
- Awakening to the Call of God's Poor

The focus of this website will be to keep you informed, to take on board your comments and shape the programme as far as possible in light of your wishes. We, the team, are fully engaged at the moment in building the programme. Much of the work is very advanced and there is much that is in place.

We know that you will be excited by what is offered and you may find the programme a unique personal and spiritual challenge.



Photo: Donal Leader

Share the excitement.

The journey begins now!



## 4 DIETARY OR HEALTH NEEDS

*State what your needs are:*

## 5 PERSON TO BE CONTACTED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

NAME			
ADDRESS			
TELEPHONE		MOBILE	
EMAIL		FAX	

Please forward the **completed and signed forms (Application Form, Statement of Waiver) and a non-refundable deposit of €250** (or its equivalent in US Dollars or Sterling), in cheques or drafts payable to **Christian Brothers**, to Br. Pat Madigan, RUAH Financial Administrator, Edmund Rice House, North Richmond Street, Dublin 1, Ireland, **before 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013**.

Please supply two passport size photographs, with the name by which you wish to be known, written on the reverse side of each photograph.

Should you wish, you may submit your application form (as a scanned attachment or a MS Word document) by email while submitting separately the Statement of Waiver and the non-refundable deposit by regular postal mail.

**Further Enquiries: Email [ruah2013@gmail.com](mailto:ruah2013@gmail.com)**

**Further Information will be made available on the website [www.ruah2013.net](http://www.ruah2013.net)**