Spring Blessings

And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
PHILIPPIANS 4:19

PRAY

Loving God, we live in the mystery of the new life you promise in Jesus and the new life that surrounds us every spring. Help us connect with people we don’t usually see. Make us one whole and holy people. Amen.
Assignments /Appointments/ Announcements

The PLT has assigned Brother Ed Bergeron to Comunidad Juan Diego in Brownsville, TX, effective July 1, 2021. Ed will take on the role of President of the Guadalupe Regional Middle School, effective September 1, 2021.

The PLT has assigned Brother Spencer Tafuri to the Tampa Catholic Community in Tampa, FL, effective July 1, 2021. Spencer will be in ministry at Tampa Catholic High School.

With the transfer of Ed and Spencer to new communities and ministerial assignments, Brother Kevin Griffith (Province Leader) has informed Bishop Robert Guglielmone that the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America Province will be formally withdrawing from ministry at Saint John Parish in the Diocese of Charleston, SC, effective July 31, 2021. We thank Spencer, Ed and all those brothers who ministered in North Charleston these past twenty-four years for their steadfast commitment to the greater North Charleston community. Attached, please find a heartfelt letter from Ed Bergeron to the people of the parish announcing our departure. We offer Ed and Spencer our prayerful support during this time of transition, and we offer our prayers and blessings to all at St. John's Church as our Brothers take their leave.
The PLT thanks Mr. Michael Motyl for his many years of service as President of the Guadalupe Regional Middle School in Brownsville, TX. We offer Michael our prayerful support as he moves to full-time ministry as President of Saint Joseph's Academy in Brownsville.

The PLT has assigned Brother Jim DePiro to the Christian Brothers-Miami Community in Miami, FL effective July 1, 2021. Jim will minister at the St. Mary's Cathedral School as part of our Mission Frère-Miami initiative. We thank Jim for his many years of service in a variety of roles at St. Mary's Academy in Roseau, Dominica and we offer him our prayerful support as he transitions to Miami.

Vow Renewal

The PLT has approved Brother Robert Droel’s (CB - Madison, MS Community) request to renew his annual vows as a Christian Brother on June 01, 2021. We offer Rob our prayerful support as he continues to journey with us in Brotherhood.
The 2020-2021 Student Leadership ACTION Workshop took place virtually on April 22nd and April 23rd via ZOOM. The two-day event was sponsored by the Province Office of Educational Services and the ACTION Team. This year's program focused on telling the story of each participating school and on a particular advocacy project relative to the school. Please click below to be connected to the link highlighting each school's submission.

http://ercbna.org/Christian_Brothers.php?op=Article_Action+Workshop+2021

Advocacy in Action

In April, the Archdiocese of Chicago brought together representatives from 25 Catholic High Schools to address racial inequalities in response to last summer's murder of George Floyd and its aftermath. Click on the below link to view the recent article that appeared in Chicago Catholic - Newspaper of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Featured in the article is a “jamboard” created by Brother Rice High School (Chicago) to visually express what they need to do to improve racial inequality in their school. Saint Laurence High School in Burbank, IL also participated in this advocacy initiative. We congratulate both schools on their commitment to racial equality.

https://www.chicagocatholic.com/chicagoland/-/article/2021/04/21/catholic-high-school-students-address-racial-inequity
The Spirituality of Advocacy

Please click on the below link to view Brother Philip Pinto’s (former Congregation Leader) presentation on the Spirituality of Advocacy. Philip’s presentation which took place on April 22, 2021 was sponsored by Edmund Rice International in Geneva.

https://youtu.be/v5My5Al5HsE

Canadian Advocacy

On April 21, 2021, the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America Province added our support to Canada’s Federal Bill C-15 on Indigenous Rights at the urging of the Canadian Religious Conference. Please click on the below link for a detailed account of this Bill and its advocacy for the rights of Canada’s Indigenous People.


LAMA News

To view the latest news from our Latin America Mission Area, please visit the LAMA website at:

https://www.edmundorice.net/

https://www.edmundorice.net/en/
Virtual Immersion in Lima, Peru

The following schools have held virtual immersions in Lima, Peru since our last Province News: St. Laurence High School in Burbank, IL and St. Thomas More Collegiate in Burnaby, BC.
Office of Educational Services

The Province Office of Educational Services is seeking a full-time educator to take on the role of Associate Director. Attached, please find an advertisement detailing this role.

Religious Brothers Day

The fifth Annual Religious Brothers Day took place virtually on May 1, 2021. More than 177 Religious Brothers and invited guests from around the world participated. Brother Peter O’Loughlin from the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America Province served as chair for the event. Please click on the below link to view the program in its entirety.

http://religiousbrothers.org/virtual2021/
Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders

Please click on the below link to view a reflection entitled: *True North Reflections: Towards a Vision for Catholic Education and the Spiritual Journey*. The reflection is sponsored by Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders and it focuses on authenticity in mission.

https://educationbeyondborders.net/2021/03/31/authenticity-in-mission/

St. Thomas More Collegiate
60th Anniversary

On May 15, 2021, St. Thomas More Collegiate in Burnaby, BC celebrated its 60th Anniversary of educating the minds and hearts of the young in the greater Vancouver area. The virtual event was entitled: *A Celebration of STMC – 60 Years of Teaching, Learning and Service*. We congratulate all who have contributed to STMC’s success these past sixty years, and we ask God’s continued blessings on the STMC family community. Please click on the below link to view the festivities.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5_bJVTdVNw
Laudato Si’ Week 2021

Laudato Si’ Week 2021 will be celebrated May 16 - 24. This year’s theme focuses on the very positive message: “For we know that things can change.” (LS 13) Laudato Si’ Week celebrates the steps that the whole Church has made on its journey to ecological conversion. This year, it will also be a time to reflect on what the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us and how we might prepare for the future with hope. Click on the below link to view the events of the week.

https://laudatosiweek.org/

Jericho House Ecology Retreat

The tenth annual Jericho House Ecological Retreat will take place from August 08 - 14, 2021 at Jericho House in Wainfleet, ON. Please see the attached brochure for details.

Attachments

1. Letter regarding withdrawal from ministry in North Charleston, SC.
2. Office of Educational Services – Associate Director advertisement.
Calendar of Events

May 19, 2021 ............... Congregation Leadership Group ZOOM.
May 25, 2021 ............... Brothers Think Tank Meeting via ZOOM.
May 27, 2021 ............... Westcourt Corporation Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
June 01, 2021 ............... Brother Robert Droel - Vow renewal in Madison, MS.
June 02, 2021 ............... Archdiocese of Boston- Virtual Meeting of Major Superiors.
June 05, 2021 ............... World Environment Day.
June 06, 2021 ............... Initial Formation Reflection Day via ZOOM.
June 21, 2021 ............... Meeting of Province Treasurers via ZOOM.
June 22 - 25, 2021 ........... PLT Meetings in Elizabeth, NJ.

Please Pray For

- Our Brothers at St. Joseph’s Residence in New Rochelle, NY and other care facilities across the Province.
- Brother Ross Wielatz (Comunidad Juan Diego, Brownsville, TX), recovering from recent surgery.
- Brother Michael Binkley, as he continues to recover from a series of recent surgeries at the Cabrini Home in Dobbs Ferry, NY.
- Brother Richard DeMaria, as he has now entered hospice care at the St. Cabrini Home in Dobbs Ferry, NY.
- Barbara Colford Connors, sister of Brother Bill Colford (Africa), as she recovers from surgery.
- Brother Buddy Bechner (Iona Prep Community) as he addresses recent health concerns.
- Stephen Samp, brother of Brother Sebastian Samp (St. Damien Community, Honolulu, HI) as he continues to battle cancer.

Repose of the Soul of …

† Mr. Desmond Kyne, Edmund Rice Icon artist, who died recently in the United Kingdom.
† Edmundian Frank (Antonio ’56) Isgro.
In Memory of Mr. Desmond Kyne
Edmund Rice Icon Artist