

May 2021

Council Corner # 12



Society of the Divine Word Southern Province of St. Augustine

OUR ANNUAL RETREAT May 31st to June 4th Bay St. Louis



As a Province, we are looking forward to coming together after two years. This, our RETREAT is not only an opportunity to deepen our relationship with GOD but also to come together as brothers in prayer and above all in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Our retreat begins on Monday not Sunday giving time for everybody to be present from the beginning (*one day less*). So do please make the effort to be present from the beginning and plan to leave on Friday morning. Everyone has received both vaccines and we have every good reason to celebrate as a Province.

There will be more free time than usual & also more opportunities to pray together as a Province. The presentation conferences will be *in-house* facilitators: i.e. members of our own province since we could not get anyone from outside due to the uncertainties of our time.

We will have a “*social*” each evening and we ask that you mingle rather than disappear with your own friends or country-men. There will be time for that also, but these moments are important to socialize and share in a more informal setting, our multiculturalism and internationality: so do please keep that in mind.

We continue to encourage wearing the mask and staying safe especially during the conferences, just to be sure.

You can find the schedule for the retreat days on the last page. Looking forward to seeing you all. Stay safe and be blessed.

Mike Somers, svd



God's vision,
our mission
unleashed

Newly Erected Vietnamese Parish of St. Joseph

Effective May 9, 2021, a new Vietnamese Parish will be canonically erected as St. Joseph Church in Tampa FL. Bishop Gregory Parkes will appoint Fr. Chien Dinh, SVD as Pastor of the soon-to-be newly established parish.

Congratulations to Fr. Chien as the Vietnamese community has flourished there since he was appointed three years ago. He is cordially inviting all of you who can possibly make it to join him on May the 9th for the inaugural mass at 10:00 am.

Thiệp Mời

Trong niềm hân hoan Tạ ơn và Ngợi khen Thiên Chúa toàn năng, Cộng Đoàn Công Giáo Việt-Nam Thánh Giuse trân trọng kính mời:

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đến tham dự Thánh lễ thánh hiến Nhà Thờ và Bàn Thờ mới cũng như công bố Sắc lệnh nâng Cộng Đoàn Công Giáo Việt-Nam Thánh Giuse lên thành giáo xứ (Parish) thuộc Giáo phận St. Petersburg, Florida, USA.

Lúc 10 giờ sáng vào ngày Chủ Nhật,
mùng 9 tháng 5 năm 2021

Do Đức Giám mục Giáo phận chủ sự
Đức Cha Gregory L. Parkes, D.D.

Sau Thánh lễ kính mời quý vị ở lại dùng tiệc mừng và thưởng thức văn nghệ với chúng tôi.



Trân trọng kính mời

Invitation Card



With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, we cordially invite you to participate in a Mass of Thanksgiving for the establishment of St. Joseph Vietnamese Parish and the consecration of our church building.

Sunday, May 9, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
5601 Hanley Road
Tampa, Florida 33634

Most Reverend Bishop Gregory L. Parkes, D.D.
Principal Celebrant

We hope that you will be able to join us for this joyous occasion!

FR. John Chien Dinh, SVD

Rev. Father Chien Xuan Dinh, SVD

Outdoor reception to follow



Staffing a new parish in Florida

Some months back Bishop William Wack asked us to staff a new parish in the Pensacola-Tallahassee diocese. Since then the Council has discerned the invitation and I have personally visited the parish, the Pastor and the Bishop. It is a neighboring parish to the west of our parish of St. Thomas the Apostle in Quincy FL.

We see it as a means to consolidate our presence in the diocese and have a more robust district there. The new parish of St. Francis of Assisi is located in Blountstown FL. It is a rural bilingual parish, the larger community being Hispanic with a smaller Anglo / African American mix.

We will appoint the new Pastor effective from July 1st.


Transfer of Fr. Ludger Josef Jessing to GER for Retirement

The Provincial Council discussed the request of our confrere Fr. Ludger Josef Jessing to return to his native Province of Germany for retirement.

Fr. Jessing has a large family back home and has always been very close to them, some celebrating their Golden Jubilee Anniversaries and other milestones in the next few years. Some months ago, he was sick with Covid-19, now fully recovered he longs to be close to his family. The Provincial Council granted his request. We thank him sincerely for his faithful services in the USS Province and for always been available where the need arose. Our prayers and blessings with him.

Prayers for our elderly and sick confreres

Fr. Mike Sucharski, who is in rehab , is making steady progress and we are hoping he will be well enough to take on parish duties soon. Fr. Darrell is also progressing, so much so that he will be back among us at the Bay community next week. Please keep them and all our elderly and sick confreres in your prayers.



"What does the Lord require of you but
to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

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Next Provincial Council Meeting

Next meeting of the Provincial Council will be held on May 18th, 2021 at the Bay.

Celebrate



May Birthdays

- 13- Father Mario Roberto Rasonabe
- 17- Bishop Terry Steib
- 26- Father Peter Phong Nguyen
- 26- Father Sebastian Myladiyil

Death Anniversaries

- 24- Father Mark Figaro, SVD



Jubilarians to be Celebrated during our Retreat



- March 23 - Fr. Eric Groner, SVD (25) Priesthood
- May 4 - Fr. Malcolm O'Leary, SVD (60) Priesthood
- Sept. 8 - Fr. Borgia Aubespain, SVD (65) Vows
- Sept. 8 - Fr. Ryszard Zawadzki, SVD (40) Vows
- Dec. 18 - Fr. Walter Bracken, SVD (50) Priesthood
- March 23 - Fr. Eric Groner, SVD (25) Priesthood



Retreat Schedule

Monday, May 31st—Arrival

5:30 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm	Rosary & Night Prayer (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)
7:30 pm	Social in Community Lounge in Residence

Tuesday, June 1st - Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021

8:00 am	Breakfast (<i>Residence Dining Room</i>)
9:00 am	Morning Prayer & Conference (<i>Retreat Chapel</i>)
10:00 am	Holy Hour (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)
11:15 am	Celebration of the Eucharist
12:00 pm	Lunch
4:00 pm	Conference (<i>Retreat Chapel</i>)
5:15 pm	Evening Prayer (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)
5:30 pm	Supper (<i>Residence Dining Room</i>)
7:00 pm	Rosary & Night Prayer (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)
7:30 pm	Social in Community Lounge in Residence

Thursday, June 3rd, 2021

8:00 am	Breakfast (<i>Residence Dining Room</i>)
9:00 am	Morning Prayer & Conference (<i>Retreat Chapel</i>)
11:00 am	Bible Sharing
12:00 pm	Lunch (<i>Residence Dining Room</i>)
3:00 pm	Provincial Information & Input (<i>Retreat Chapel</i>)
4:00 pm	Jubilee Mass (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)
5:00 pm	Social (<i>Community Lounge/Outside</i>)
5:30 pm	Banquet (<i>Residence Dining Room</i>)
7:30 pm	Rosary & Night Prayer (<i>St. Augustine's Chapel</i>)

Friday, June 4th, 2021 – Departure after Breakfast

Morning Prayer in private	
7:15 am	Mass (Community Chapel)
8:00 am	Breakfast

Note: *If for any reason you cannot make it, please let Joseph Dang & myself know.*

