



Bloodlines

Newsletter of the Atlantic Province
Autumn 2016

From the Provincial and Council

The provincial council met on August 25 at the Niagara mission house with all members in attendance. The agenda was taken up entirely by personnel issues with the exception of a report from Fr. Michael on his experience of the formation workshop he and Fr. Gregorio attended in Salzburg.

The provincial council met on November 25 at the Niagara mission house. All members were present and Frs. Peter and Patrick were also present for portions of the meeting. After an opening prayer the minutes of the last council meeting were approved.

The provincial began by distributing a series of documents including a report from the formators' workshop held in Salzburg; the introduction to the community life symposium to be held in Rome in July; the policy on members who are working in the apostolate of another C.P.P.S. unit approved at the Major Superiors meeting in Rome in September, and finally, summations of the recent district meetings held in the province.

The provincial and Fr. Patrick provided a report on the gala held in Toronto on October 21 to benefit the mission projects and an update on current needs in the field especially dormitories for the high school.

Fr. Mario informed the council of a proposed meeting of Latin American units to be held in Bogota, Colombia which the members of our Mexican district will attend with him.

In the afternoon session, Fr. Peter presented the council with the calendars for 2017 which was a joint effort between the USC and the mission office. Members affirmed this new form of collaboration.

Fr. Mario reported on a number of potential applicants for initial formation. It was agreed that two Filipino candidates should be forwarded applications immediately and Fr. Michael will see to this. Various suggestions for where they might live and how they would be formed were surfaced and the provincial will pursue the matter with persons and places proposed.

While strategies for the future of the province were on the agenda, Fr. John proposed an extended council meeting in March where a five-year plan for the province would be the sole item on the agenda with proposals to be placed on the agenda for the 2017 business assembly. This council meeting would be preceded by district meetings to discuss community life in the province per the aforementioned document on this topic. This proposal was accepted and the provincial will forward the document to the membership in anticipation of the district meetings and announce their dates and places.



Voice of the Founder

“Let us explain our position, let us pray, and that is how we will make progress. I do recognize, I repeat, that the communication of ideas is very beneficial.”

(Letters, #1771)



Provincial Business Assembly

May 29-June 2, 2017
St. Francis Centre; Caledon, ON

Provincial Retreat

June 11-15, 2018
Mt. Carmel Centre; Niagara Falls,
ON



In your charity please remember

Fr. Francisco Del Valle Milan C.PP.S.

Tina Finley (Mother of Fr. Jeff)

Sonia Menichelli (Sister of Fr. Augusto)

Dennis Mullins (Nephew of Fr. Gary)

Maria Concetta Nobili (Sister of Fr. Peter)

James Montgomery Raine III (Brother-in-law
of Fr. Phil)

Calendar

OCTOBER

- 1 Peter Nobili (I 1964)
- 7 John Zywolewski (D +1993)
- 19 Brendan Doherty (B 1940)
- 20 Jeffrey Finley (O 1990)
- 20 Augusto Menichelli (I 2004)
- 21 Josephat Msuya (I 2001)
- 22 James Reposkey (I 1972)
- 26 Gregorio Hernandez Cortes (O 2015)
- 29 ITALO-AMERICAN DELEGATION EST. - 1928
(Fr. Nicola Santoro – 1st superior)

NOVEMBER

- 4 Ronald Mahon (I 1975)
- 9 Oreste Cerbara (D +1990)
- 10 Patrick Sena (D +2012)
- 18 Gary Luiz (B 1950)
- 20 William Mnyagatwa (B 1946)

DECEMBER

- 3 FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER (Patron of the Congregation)
- 3 Brendan Doherty (I 1979)
- 3 John Colacino (I 1979)
- 3 Mario Cafarelli (I 1983)
- 3 Lui Santi (I 1983)
- 3 William Mnyagatwa (I 1992)
- 3 Sam D'Angelo (I 1998)
- 3 Alarey Abella (I 2006)
- 3 Michael Mateyk (I 2010)
- 3 Patrick Gilmurray (I 2011)
- 5 Augusto Menichelli (O 2005)
- 18 GASPAR DEL BUFALO BEATIFIED BY POPE ST. PIUS X (1904)
- 19 Richard Masciangelo (D +1994)
- 22 - Alaray Abella (B 1969)
- 28 - St. Gaspar Del Bufalo (+1837)

JANUARY

- 4 Ronald Mahon (B 1951)
- 6 St. Gaspar Del Bufalo (B 1786)
- 6 Carlo Della Vecchia (I 1953)

- 6 Luciano Baiocchi (I 1953)
- 11 Nicola Santoro (D +1941)
- 11 Dominic Jung (B 1961)
- 12 Venerable John Merlini (+1873)
- 15 Lui Santi (O 1994)

FEBRUARY

- 1 Phillip Smith (I 1976)
- 4 Memorial of St. Maria De Mattias
- 6 Ronald Wiecek (B 1944)
- 6 Albert De Pascale (D +2001)

From the Provincial

Meeting of Major Superiors

The 2016 Meeting of Major Superiors took place from September 11-September 18 in Rome. The Italian Province welcomed the participants at the *Collegio* on Via Narni.

The General Council identified several agenda items. Many of these were related to the Pastoral Plan of the General Curia. The agenda included:

- Follow-up on the Cup, Cross, and Covenant Symposium
- Discussion of the planned Woundedness Retreat in 2018
- Brief discussion of Missionary Identity & Renewal of Commitments
- Brief follow-up from the Formators Workshop
- Discussion of the 2017 Community Life Symposium
- Update on the Circle Training program
- Formation & Orientation for all unit directors
- Reimagining and Reconfiguring process

A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to the Reimagining and Reconfiguring Process. During the sessions devoted to this topic the General Curia offered input and there was opportunity for individual units to report on their situation as well as discuss both the personnel and financial issues related to this topic.

Decisions Voted on at the 2016 Meeting of Major Superiors

1. Unanimously (20-0) approved a new *Policy on a Member Working in the Apostolate of Another C.P.P.S. Unit*.
2. Unanimously (20-0) approved a revision to the *Criteria for Reconfiguring a Province or Vicariate: A Choice for Life*.
3. Unanimously (20-0) approved the Italian Province's request to sell land in Kerala, India.

Joint Meeting of the North American Councils

A joint meeting of the North American councils was held at the Cenacle Retreat House in Chicago from September 27-28. The desired outcome from this meeting was to build relationships among the participants that promote understanding and ease collaboration; come to a common “reading of the times” and promote the long-term vitality and viability of the Congregation in North America. Would we do this together or separately? There was also a desire to come to an agreement on a plan for the next steps to be taken.

District Meeting Summaries

Toronto District Meeting November 7, 2016

The meeting was held at the Merlini Study Centre. Present were Mario Cafarelli (Provincial Director), Samuel D’Angelo (Recorder), Luigino Santi, Alarey Abella, Michael Mateyk, James Reposkey, Brendan Doherty, Peter Nobili, Carlo Della Vecchia, Anthony Canterucci, Phillip Smith, William Mnyagatwa. Absent: Luciano Baiocchi, Augusto Menichelli

Mario Cafarelli began the meeting with a prayer. He then summarized the purpose of the meeting, which was to invite the members to re-imagine the Province’s future, to consider what the Province can become, and to reflect on what the Province members can do to better reflect the charism of our Institute.

In an effort to begin the re-imagining process for the North American units, a meeting was held of the Provincial Leadership Teams of the Kansas City, Cincinnati and Atlantic Provinces in Chicago, Illinois. During that meeting, the histories of the various provinces were discussed, as were the effects of an aging membership with few vocations and a lack of passion among some members of the units who are comfortable in maintaining the status quo. The re-imagining, in general, was prompted by a decline of membership in the units located in Europe, Latin America, and North America. It was proposed by the Moderator General, William Nordenbrock, that each of the units in these regions look at the viability of the unit and that, if need be, they might consider becoming one unit.

One possible option mentioned during that meeting was to merge the Cincinnati and Kansas City Provinces together, as they have a shared history before they were divided. The question of what the Atlantic Province would be open to considering was also raised, as this Province does not have a shared history as part of the American Province.

It was also noted that the delegation in Mexico is being viewed as separate from the discussions and the statistics of the Atlantic Province and that they are being asked to consider their future as part of a Latin American Unit.

The Kansas City Province has already begun this process of re-imagining and they have reached a consensus to work toward greater lay involvement in the life and ministry of the Province.

One member commented that the process of re-imagining was not a part of the vision statement adopted by the last General Assembly. He found that problematic as well as an over-concern with numbers.

Mario Cafarelli then asked each member to reflect and respond to the questions: Where do you find yourself now? As an individual, are you content, disappointed, discouraged, or frustrated?

Each member was allowed to respond openly to the questions. Below is the summary of how the members present felt at this time:

Content: 9 Frustrated 7 Disappointed 3 Discouraged 2

Some members selected more than one category of feeling.

One member felt that to turn things around, the Vocations Director should travel frequently and thoroughly vet any potential candidates.

Another member felt that the Province lacks a corporate identity that is attractive to potential candidates.

Another member felt that the General Leadership is not looking to animate the conversation, but is looking for death.

Another member felt that the lack of vocations was the result of too close of an identification of our ministry with the life and work of diocesan priests.

Another member felt frustrated that he was unable to fulfill his dream of preaching missions and giving retreats.

Another member felt that the members were not honest enough with each other when we have these kinds of gatherings, so that nothing really gets resolved.

Another failed to see the value in retirement and felt that the older members are often left to do nothing of importance.

Another member felt there were jealousies and racial biases that are beneath the surface of our interactions with others, which potential candidates can see.

Another member felt there is a lack of leadership, because there have been attempts in the past to implement five year plans, which are never advanced in any serious way.

Another member felt that it was unfair of the Moderator General to divorce the Mexican members from a discussion of the future of this Province, since they are just as much a part of this Province as all of those present. It was further pointed out that the Moderator General had commended the Atlantic Province at its last retreat for being culturally diverse in its membership and suggested it

as a model for other units. Why would he not want to allow the Mexicans to remain a part of this Province's future and thus continue to enhance the Province's multicultural dimension?

Another member was initially attracted to the family spirit of the Province, although at times, the member feels unwelcome. He urged greater hospitality among the members.

Another member reflected on how we treat the elderly of our community, stating that even though we have a place for retirement, none of the retirees reside there.

Another member encouraged cross-border and cross-province cooperation and exchange of personnel.

Another member feels that the membership is complacent about the lack of vocations.

Another member remarked that sometimes members resist transfers by the leadership only to find out that the transfer was beneficial in the end. So why resist in the first place?

Another member remarked that we all should have a missionary spirit and be willing to move.

Another member felt that all the members need to be honest among themselves and not hold on to resentments, which show up in passive-aggressive behaviors.

After a break, the Provincial Director invited us to consider whether the Congregation's charism is still viable today.

One member suggested that all members commit to undertaking a ministry by the entire community, such as facilitating retreats at the Gaspar Mission House in Niagara Falls. Each member could commit to facilitating one retreat there per year. It would give us a corporate identity. Some members were in favor of the proposal.

Another member felt that members needed to foster devotions to the Precious Blood in our ministries and places of work.

Another member felt the need to create an intentional community where we can have a "Casa di Accoglienza, a place of hospitality for visitors as well as for our own members. The Merlini Mission House seems to be particularly suited for this to happen.

Another member suggested a workshop such as "Divine Renovation" to reinvigorate our sense of mission.

Mario Cafarelli asked for a show of hands on whether we see the Province as still viable. All responded affirmatively. The members would like to still collaborate with other units of the Congregation and if amalgamation happens, it should happen naturally in the future and not be forced today.

A member noted the legal ramifications of amalgamation with regard to designation of assets of the unit.

When the conversation was over, the gathered members agreed to the following:

- That every effort will be made to make our houses, places of hospitality, reconciliation, compassion and understanding.
- Every effort be made to foster vocations.
- That the Province will collaborate with the other North American Units at some level of formation and with human resources.

The meeting concluded at 3:15 pm.

Niagara District Meeting November 11, 2016

The district meeting was held on Friday, November 11 at the Niagara Parkway. Present were Fr. Mario Cafarelli, Fr. John Colacino, Fr. Ron Wiecek, Fr. Gary Luiz, Fr. Patrick Gilmurray, Fr. Josaphat of the Tanzanian Province, and Fr. Joseph Grasso via Skype. Absent were Fr. Tim Coday, Fr. Jeff Finley, Fr. Dominic Jung, and Fr. Ronald Mahon.

The Provincial began with a summary of the September meeting of the three provincial councils held in September in Chicago. Following this, each member present gave a statement of his history and experiences with the Atlantic Province, his hopes and frustrations, as well as his sense of future directions both for the Province itself and keeping in mind the Moderator General's call for a reimagining of the Congregation in North America.

After lunch, the discussion became more specific with regard to proposals for reconfiguring the three North American provinces. A consensus emerged that, given the very different histories of the Atlantic Province relative to Cincinnati and Kansas City, that a formal merger into a single region or unit was neither viable nor desirable. This feeling did not, however, preclude potential or renewed forms of collaboration, e.g. with some aspects of formation, cross listing of ministerial openings, a common newsletter, etc.

Those present returned instead to the General's observation at our last assembly that our province, given its diversity, could model for the church and congregation at large a "multicultural communion." It was felt that we could be more conscious and intentional about this with respect to vocation recruitment in particular. It was also felt that Canada was the ideal context for furthering this distinctive identity and mission of the province given its own commitment to multiculturalism. The United States and Mexico, however, would remain important contributors to this project.

Around the Province

Welcome to Fr. Josephat John Msuya C.P.P.S.



We welcome Fr. Josephat from the Tanzanian Province who will be ministering among us at St. Michael's parish in Fort Erie, Ont. He has provided the following biographical outline:

Date of Birth: March 26, 1967 the first of nine children to John Joseph Msuya and Anisia Peter Salema)

Date of baptism: 28 January 28, 1968

Entered Precious Blood formation house in Dodoma: August, 1992

Diploma in Philosophy: June 1996 from the Salvatorian Institute of Philosophy and Theology

Special Formation: August 1996-July 1997

Diploma in Theology: June 2000 from the Salvatorian Institute of Philosophy and Theology

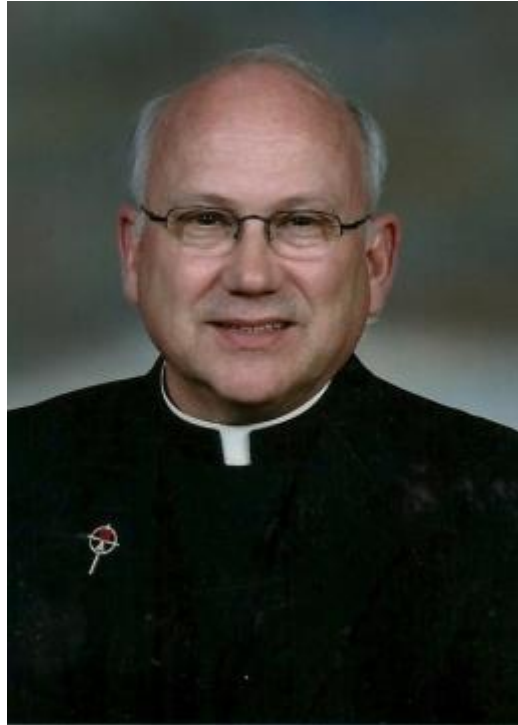
Definitive incorporation: October 21, 2001

Diaconate ordination: December 8, 2001

Priesthood ordination: July 30, 2002

Fr. Josephat has served as associate pastor at the Tegeta and Boko parishes in Dar es salaam and as pastor of Body and Blood of Christ parish in Morogoro after which he returned as pastor of Tegeta parish in Dar es Salaam. He has served most recently as spiritual director of St. Gaspar's College, the Precious Blood major seminary.

Member Profile



No longer do I hear the placid tides of the Humber River as I stroll along its banks. These have been replaced with the rumbling sounds of streetcars as they roll by and shake the building. The number of steps leading into the church building state it clearly, “Toto, I don’t think I’m in Kansas or, for that matter, near the Humber River anymore!” On July 1, I moved from the community at St. Roch’s Parish to the first church the Archdiocese of Toronto asked our CPPS missionaries to serve in 1968. St. Alphonsus Parish is now home, while St. Clair Avenue has replaced Islington Avenue. St. Clair Avenue, ever full of life and vitality, the surrounding parks, now tantalize my sense of adventure and serve as my walking grounds. Public transportation (bus, streetcar or subway), easily available, now opens for me the entire city of downtown Toronto as if it was next door.

St. Alphonsus is not new to any community member. This bastion, or fortress as I like to call it, originally built in 1903, had been around long before the Archdiocese purchased it in early 1966. The first pastor, Father Giuseppe Carraro, a diocesan priest, was here only two years when Fathers Luciano Biaocchi and Mario Bufalini made this church, originally belonging to the Presbyterian Church and later United Church of Canada, a home for our CPPS family. In the last 50 years this particular place has not only been a centre for countless guests but has housed the Provincial Office, the Mission Centre and still provides a Day Care Centre for small children, directed by the Carmelite Missionary Sisters of St. Teresa of Lisieux since 1966 who have their convent on the fourth floor.

I preface this profile by giving the background because both the age and the location present new challenges that the parish community must face for its continued growth and development. I have been called to serve as a catalyst for that change. The parish community, a mixture of people from the Philippines, Italy, Portugal, as well as various countries of Central and Latin American, Asia and Africa is a mini United Nations. The task of renewing a viable Christian community has been made easier because of the tremendous efforts of our missionaries these past 50 years. I thank them all.

However, the physical challenges remain! Within two days of my arrival I telephoned and spoke with diocesan officials as well as an architect to learn how we better make people comfortable and welcome. How do we make this site a place of welcome to those who are in any way disabled? The main doors of the church building actually face Vaughan Road on the west, but the doors through which the majority of people enter, face St. Clair Ave. on the south, one of the busiest thorough- fares in Toronto. Each entrance has at least 8 steps to climb in order to reach the door, and, upon entering the building, one is confronted with yet another set of at least 8 stairs just to arrive on the main floor. For someone using a walker, this obviously is a major hurdle. Currently, a person in a wheelchair cannot enter the church. Perhaps that is why I had to phone calls complaining about inability to enter for elderly, wheel-chaired people. What a welcome after being here only 5 days! Soothing those rough tempers was the easy task. With the building being on the Registry of historical buildings since 2008, as well as lack of space on both the south and the west preventing the construction of ramps, limitations abound. However, all is not hopeless. With my sense of adventure and coming from the “Plains” or Midwest USA, and working in a collaborative manner, we are determined not only to help people feel “at home”, but also allow the physical structure help us intensify our attempts to deepen our sense of belonging to a faith-filled community. Resources are available and with a strong determination on the part of all, one day this dream will become reality.

I happen to love history, and look upon it as “wisdom of the ages” from which I continue to learn. My own past has helped place me here. Teaching, parish experience in the Midwest, serving in community ministries both in the USA and Italy have helped give me the courage to face these new and formidable tasks. Though I don’t live on the “yellow brick road”, I can see it from here! That is what makes this new adventure meaningful. As a child in Catholic grade school where the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth (Kansas) taught us, “look ahead to the good that is meant to be”, I continue to believe that despite the obstacles, the good that is, will be made better with listening ears, open hearts, and hands willing to serve and build. With the wisdom of St. Gaspar, the common sense of Ven. John Merlini, and a healthy dose of humour, the horizon looks good.

Toronto Gala (Hannah-Maria Ma)

On Friday, October 21, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood Atlantic Province hosted a gala fundraising dinner in support of C.PP.S. Mission Projects at the Fontana Primavera Event Centre in Vaughan, ON.

Be a Part of THEIR Future was a celebration bringing together close to 400 people to thank them for being part of the past 40 years and invite them to move forward with them, particularly as we embark upon building much needed dormitories for our students.

Kicking off the night was a resounding praise and drumming session from the Swahili Catholic Congregation of St. Roch's. Their joy and energy set a beautiful tone for the evening to follow. The event was emceed by CTV's Paul Bliss and featured speakers who each contributed lovely and compelling testimony about their time and work in the mission field.

Father Mario Cafarelli, C.PP.S. welcomed everyone, gave a brief history of the Mission Projects and acknowledged the work of Brother Anthony Canterucci, C.PP.S. who founded and lead the organization for close to 40 years. He then introduced the dormitory concept to attendees and our plans for moving forward in a sustainable manner.

Father Timothy Coday, C.PP.S. then spoke of the Water Project. He shared some beautiful, humbling and compelling moments of his 30 years in Tanzania and his work as Manager of both the Water Project and our Mission Project Schools. His moving accounts of those he encountered in the mission field was a beautiful way to encapsulate the driving purpose behind the work of the Mission Projects. We were also blessed to have Father Tim say grace in Swahili before dinner started.

Tina Giustizia, a member of the C.PP.S. Mission Projects Committee, who helped organize the gala evening then recounted her years of connection with Tanzania. She gave a first-hand account of how much impact the support from us here has had on the lives of our brothers and sisters, while also touching on how transformative the experience of taking a mission trip can be. Members of the Gagliano family then took to the stage to express their appreciation for all the work that Brother Anthony did on behalf of so many supporters over the years to help lift those in need a world away.

Our special guest, Grammy and Juno-award winning singer Liberty Silver, delighted the audience by filling the room with soulful sounds. She was truly a wonderful presence, intrinsic to the night's celebratory and welcoming atmosphere.

Father Francesco Bartoloni, C.P.P.S. traveled from Tanzania to celebrate with us and truly bring the mission fields home to those of us at the gala. He told us about the schools, the students and what life is like for many who attend our schools, unabashed in describing the hardships while highlighting the tenacity and genuine joy the students have at school. He clearly and passionately articulated the real need for the dormitories, particularly for the young girls who attend John Merlini. He did not shy away from discussing the real challenges faced not only by the students but also their families, the teachers and staff of the schools all working to provide a safe and secure place for the students to learn and grow while also illustrating how gratifying it is to see the students succeed.

Our key-note speaker was Mr. Ted van der Zalm, who built up the Water Project from its humble beginnings, dedicating years of his life to helping his brothers and sisters in Tanzania in every possible way he could. As a young man, Brother Anthony asked him to go to Tanzania and drill wells, something Ted knew nothing about. But his heart, faith, and drive were far more important than his know-how and skill set.

He told of how he learned every aspect of drilling and the ins and outs of running the Water Project. The moving stories he shared of his time brought more than a few tears to our guests' eyes. Mr. van der Zalm grew the organization exponentially and more importantly, he established the strong reputation that C.P.P.S. Mission Projects enjoys to this day. His approach to the work and those he encountered solidified the notion that the Mission Projects is part of the community, living amongst those they are serving with respect and compassion.

It was a truly wonderful evening filled with lots of reconnections made as guests came from Kamloops, Calgary and beyond to share in the celebration. There were even some surprises, like the impromptu donation challenge led by Ken Singh of Atlas Shipping, a long-time supporter of the Mission Projects. As the night came to a close the Swahili Catholic Congregation led everyone in one more walk of praise and dancing, followed by guests hitting the dance floor to work off their wonderful meal. Feedback from attendees has been very gracious and enthusiastic. The Atlantic Province should be very proud of the event they hosted on behalf of the Mission Projects.

Further information can be found at:

<https://cppsmissionprojects.ngo/be-a-part-of-their-future-gala-dinner-and-dance/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/22609528@N08/sets/72157674355986551>



The Provincial welcomes those in attendance



Fr. Francesco Bartoloni addresses the gathering



Fr. Tim Coday speaks about the Water Project



Fr. William enjoying the post-dinner festivities