

News bulletin of the  
Congregation of the  
Sacred Heart of Jesus  
of Betharram

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## Father Barbé's log (6)

We are surrounded by eight boats. There is a silent struggle going on between the different crew members. Mankind is the same everywhere. "L'Étincelle" wasn't long in getting a good position and she managed to keep it for most of the morning. Long live France!

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** - We are all longing to get to Montevideo. Lo and behold, "L'Étincelle" is not at all concerned about our longings and is even beginning to dance in the funniest of fashions. It's all leaps and bounds, swaying enough to make one dizzy, all that without any music; in the midst of the groans of the passengers, for three days and three nights, and without even being able to move around. Isn't that unsociable behaviour? Fortunately we have become a bit like sailors, otherwise we would have met with some terrible accidents.

(to be continued)

## On the schedule of the General Council

14<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> July

The Superior General will be taking part in the meeting of the Betharramite educators in Paraguay

28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> July

The Superior General will take part in France in the celebration of Our Lady of Betharram, in the closure of the session for perpetual vows and in the meeting of the lay Fraternity *Me Voici*.



## ➡ Continues from page 3

We can repeat to each other what our dear Father Saint Michael wrote to a Daughter of the Cross: *Have no doubts that what you are going through right now, both interiorly and exteriorly, is the plan of his divine Providence. He is treating you as one of his best friends, as his dear spouse. Take heart! Always be faithful to Him out of love! You owe it to Him! In any case you have everything to gain.* (Correspondence, Vol. II, Letter 352, p. 185)

Gaspar Fernandez, SCJ



104<sup>th</sup> year, n° 6

14<sup>th</sup> June 2006

# Family News

News bulletin of the Congregation of the  
Sacred Heart of Jesus of Betharram



## A word from the Superior General

## Fidelity under siege

### In this issue

- Pages 4-7: Account of the meeting of the Lay Betharramites from Latin America
- Page 8: Bird's eye view of the congregation
- Page 11: The mission continues in Thailand
- Page 12: 5 mn with Fr. Angelo
- Page 15: Fr. Barbé's log (6)

23<sup>th</sup> of June:  
Let us praise



the Sacred Heart!

*Fidelity under siege* is the title of a conference given by a Jesuit Father Jose Maria Fernandez Martos, in November 2005 for the meeting of the Union of Superiors General. The topic of fidelity is at the heart of the preoccupations of Superiors General and formators. Consequently the formators were invited with their superiors for the meeting last November and again in May.

Fidelity to one's word and to a commitment is a human value. It is all the more so for Christians and consecrated souls in answer to the fidelity of a God always faithful to his promises as experienced by Israel, in the resurrection of Jesus, and in our own faith life. Fidelity is a duty, but it is also a gift from God. Therefore it is something to pray for, especially at the beginning of our commitments and in moments of trial.

The departure of some of our brothers these last few years has shaken us; those who have remained have begun to wonder about the real motive for these departures. There are other questions: why should we continue to be what we are? Are we who have remained any more faithful than those who have left? There is no question of doing merely an analysis of the reality. In the Congregation, the brothers who remain faithful to their vocation, day after day and without commotion, are by far the most numerous.



This reminds me of the words of the Pope addressed to the Superiors and Vicars General: *“In actual fact, the culture of this world has penetrated the minds and hearts of a great number of consecrated souls, who regard it as a means of access to modernity and a method of approaching today’s world. Consequently, side by side with genuine fervour, capable of bearing witness and of total self giving, consecrated life today is caught in the snares of mediocrity, middle-class ideas, and the mentality of the consumer society.”*

We share in the joys and difficulties of the age in which we live. Sometimes we even begin to think that perhaps faithfulness could be easier in other times and in other places. Yet withdrawn from the world, the Fathers of the desert fought against their inner demons which were nothing more than their own passions and desires. Basically, fidelity consists in recognizing that we were preferred and chosen by love. It is a struggle to correspond to a loving choice by renouncing everything *which is not his.... So as to find our all in Him alone.*

In order to be truly faithful, we must make use of the arms of love and discernment:

1. As St Michael used to say, first comes the love of God, of his holy will, and of our vocation which ensues. In other words, or as the Pope says: *“To be Christ’s means to be inflamed with his burning love, to be transformed by the splendour of his beauty. To be Christ’s means to keep alive in our heart the flame of love, constantly sustained by the depth of our faith, not only when our faith gives inner joy, but also when it is closely linked with problems, aridity, and suffering.”*

2. Love the world where we have to live and for whose salvation we have to collaborate with Christ, our Master and Lord. Love and don’t condemn, seeing that nothing human can be foreign to us by virtue of the Incarnation. So said the Pope: *“We hand over our pettiness to the*

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*Love the world where we have to live and for whose salvation we have to collaborate with Christ*

Betharramerica  
1856-2006



**On board of the Three-Master  
L’Etincelle en route for  
Montevideo (5)**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** - 4:00 Today the crew served us one of those fish known as “bonites”. M. Guimon whispered in my ear “You know these sailors have wit and very good taste. They called this fish *Bonite*, and it is really very “*Buenito*” (good, in spanish).

7:30 We have just sung the Litanies and recited the Rosary as usual, but the air is so cool that we remain on deck to enjoy it. Then we saw a magnificent sight. Our boat was doing 8, 9, 10 knots an hour As you can imagine the sea was putting up with this speed against its will. It was groaning, murmuring, angry, and in its anger crashed its foaming waves against the side of our boat which laughed at the raging sea, returning these same waves now changed into sparkling white table cloths sprinkled with shining stars... Heavens! How beautiful it all is!

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** - The Cape Verde Islands are now behind us. The wind is good. Thanks to the torrid zone where we are now, no one feels like eating. On the other hand we are very thirsty. Oh! If only we could have a little of that water which you probably don’t appreciate, Gentlemen of the temperate zone, but we can never have here below everything we want. God does not want it so, and he is right.

3:00 What’s the cause of that outburst of joy on board the boat? A giant wave which rose above the vessel, bowled three men over. Lucky! That’s something which reminds me of my dear pupils in Betharram. They too could make fun of the mishaps which befell their friends. Gentlemen, since you know how to copy them in their little antics, why don’t you copy them in all the rest? You would be very happy and so would I!

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September** - M. Guimon and myself had a dip in the sea. Not to worry, it was in a bath-tub.

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*Continuing the journey of the American Betharramite. Thanks to the faith of the missionaries and the subtlety of Father Barbe.*

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2006

JUNE

17	Joyeux anniversaire 40° sacerdocio, enhorabuenas	P. Jean Laclau P. Jorge Murias
16	35° sacerdocio, enhorabuenas	P. Angelo Recalcati
18	45th of priest, congratulations	P. Thomas Kelly
24	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Dominique Etchépare
26	Joyeux anniversaire 40° sacerdocio, enhorabuenas	P. Jean Couret P. Miguel Martinez Fuertes
27	Bom aniversário 20th of priest, congratulation	Ir. Robson Antonio Leite P. Colin Fortune
28	Bom aniversário Feliz cumpleaños	Ir. Pedro Wladomiro Merlo P. Milciades Ortigoza Acosta
29	55 ans de sacerdoce, félicitations !  50 ans de sacerdoce, félicitations ! 45 ans de sacerdoce, félicitations !  40 ans de sacerdoce, félicitations !	P. Bernard Béhocaray P. Victor Batailles P. Dominique Etchépare P. Henri Lamasse P. Robert Daquo Mons. Ignacio Gogorza P. José Mirande P. Bernard Ségure P. Pierre Caset P. Henri Marsaa-Poey
30	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Jean Lambert

JULY

3	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Eugène Lhouerrou
4	Buon compleanno	P. Carlo Ruti P. Enrico Frigerio
5	Buon compleanno Joyeux anniversaire	P. Lino Gurini P. Jacky Moura
8	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Pierre Caset
6	Feliz cumpleaños	P. Gilberto Ortellado
11	Buon compleanno Joyeux anniversaire	P. Arialdo Urbani P. Joseph Ruspil
14	Bom aniversário	P. Joachim Soares Moreira
18	Buon compleanno Happy birthday	P. Giovanni Duca Fr. Mongkhon Charoentham

*Lord as a sacrifice pleasing to Him. Let it be a witness to the greatness of his Presence in an age which sorely needs to be filled with the richness of his grace."*

3. As the Pope states to love the world doesn't mean that we have to adapt to it or disintegrate in it: relativism, individualism, consumerism, means of communication... We cannot be gullible by taking sides with what is evil. The world needs the originality of the Gospel values, even though it criticises them and resists them. We cannot mimic the world with its non-values on the pretext that we ought to be credible. We would be deceiving others and deceiving ourselves.

4. We must remain faithful to our vocation and our vocation is the Gospel: For us God is indispensable; truth, respectful of differences, the spirit of responsibility and of service, forgiveness, communion, brotherly love, preference for the weakest... these are values which will always be at logger heads with the mode of thought of the world in which we live (Cf. the list of the works of the spirit and the works of self indulgence in Galatians 5,19-23). This is where the prophetic dimension of our vocation finds its roots.

5. Only subtle discernment will prevent us from being deceived by what looks like something good. This is why we must be ever on our guard, finding in our everyday life real on-going formation. At the same time we must enhance our mission, work, duties of our station in life, prayer, style of our consecrated life, and brotherhood. Conversion and ongoing formation go hand in hand.

6. To be faithful, it is necessary to be accompanied by a spiritual director, by the superior and the brothers in community; they are there for that. So, instead of retreating into subjectivity which always approves the whims of the individual, we can rely on an objectivity which will expose us to the needs of others with great dedication. Let us be faithful solely to the love of Christ and to all peoples.



*We must remain faithful to our vocation and our vocation is the Gospel*

1

Meeting of the Lay Betharramite Associates of Latin America

« Did not our hearts burn within us?... » (Lk 24:32)

The Lay Associates of the Region Father Etchecopar had a meeting at Passa Quatro (Brazil) from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April. Account by a participant.

*How could be summed up in a few words all the love received?* This is the obsessive question I have on my mind since I came back, and which is growing sharper and sharper as emotions are calming down and the event is progressively becoming part of the world of memories. Over a month ago the twelve lay delegates of the Province of the Rio de La Plata, accompanied by Fr. Enrique Miranda (Provincial) and Bruno Ierullo (General Councillor), flew to Brazil full of expectations.

We thought that we would easily get over the obstacle of language, but it was not that easy at all; in fact, coming back home, we just mixed Spanish with Portuguese words, after having repeated over the day *Ta bon* ('m fine), *obrigado* (thank you), *boa noite* (good night), *cafesinho* (small coffee), etc.

The accommodation by the families was undoubtedly a strong point of our stay: we felt at home thanks to the availability of our hosts who put everything, and more than that (!), at our disposal. We were as warmly and efficiently welcomed at the Saint-Michel middle school in Passa Quatro: under the coordination of Fr. Vicente, Fr. Joaquim and an efficient team of lay members helped, entertained and 'pampered' us.

The aim of the meeting was to help the different countries or realities "tune up" through the lectures of Fr. Mirande and Mrs Helena Catunda who helped us reflect in depth on the spirituality and the charisma of Betharram. Workshops allowed us to spot the numerous elements in common between those realities. This enabled us to think for the future of a collection of documents, a sort of "Rule of life" for the Betharramite laity of the Region.

We started with an entertaining evening gathering, with an act presenting the life of Saint Michael... Unfortunately

become a virtual and interactive place in which the Province, like any other responsible organization, presents its service offer. The official site of the Episcopal Conference is a brilliant example of that.

***How can such a cybercommunity broaden and enrich the way of being a religious community?*** - In 1971, the instruction *Communio et progressio* emphasised that the modern media offer new ways of confronting people with the message of the Gospel. Paul VI deemed that the Church would feel guilty before God if it would not use these means for the evangelisation. John Paul II called the media *the first Areopagus of the modern age*, and declared that *it is not enough to use the media simply to spread the Christian message and the Church's authentic teaching. It is also necessary to integrate that message into the 'new culture' created by modern communications...*

***Your community is on the Net. What are the activities of the San Giuseppe House?*** - Our house is a spiritual centre which welcomes persons who are questioning themselves or want to take some time to renew themselves and deepen their faith. It mainly consists in offering parish groups or religious communities a suitable place for reflection or prayer, for one or several days.

***In your opinion, what kind of projects, in the field of communication, should be carried out both for your own ministry and the Congregation?*** - The cyberspace cannot but strengthen, even spread, the reality of the community, by multiplying the opportunities of exchange and dialogue. This is the way to be explored for our congregation. From that point of view, I would propose first of all to gather those who have something to say on this issue and can make a contribution for a thorough knowledge of our realities. I would then make all the religious be informed of the advantages of the new technologies.



From the account of Father Gaspar Fernandez's visitation

course, differences of age, formation, and culture exist between the two groups. The revival of Betharramite life is very real with all the risks, problems and contradictions involved – so much light and shade of a charism which is taking root in another culture. Such a process is never easy, and demands a good back up in order to promote the evangelical and charismatic virtues inherited from St Michael.

This year a fresh stage for formation is opening. It will be under the responsibility of three religious from the community of Sampran: Fathers Chan, superior, Tidkham and Suthon. Fathers Monghkon and Perlini, responsible for the junior seminarians in Payao, will join them and together they will become the Vice-Provincial team of “formators”.



### 5 MINUTES WITH... FATHER ANGELO

*Nef - Angelo, you are well-versed in new technologies: what importance do they have in your life and your ministry?* - Since I am a priest, I am fully concerned by communication, as someone who wants to communicate the Word of God. Thus I deemed that I needed to better use the means at my disposal. The study of the medias turned very quickly into a passion; these means allow me now to better pass on my message, especially when I talk to the children or young people who are our hosts for a time of reflection. Moreover, I use these technologies during the retreats for religious sisters, during parish groups' meetings, or at the adults' catechesis sessions. I am convinced that these means are a plus which helps to reach those who listen to me, and it prompts me to polish the presentation of the material.

*Most recently, the betharram.it website has been updated. What is the point in using such a media for a Province?* - The main advantage of Internet lies in the possibility of overcoming the limits of space and time. The site should

Fr. Angelo Riva is the bursar of the San Giuseppe Community. He has also achieved studies in communication. After his article on Internet in *Presenza Betharramita* (magazine of the Italian Province), the *Nef* wanted to develop further this topical issue.

many participants were late and arrived at the death of the saint (!). On the day after, the evening was dedicated to a show for each country. Argentina started with a round of dance steps: rehearsal, performance, bow... resulting in an outburst of hilarity!

The meeting ended of course with the best of conclusions: the Mass, celebrated at Passa Quatro's Cathedral. The chants, the participation of the children and above all of a crowd of faithful... made it a moment full of emotion. Then the final piece in the evening: dance party in a parish place.

I hope that I managed to give you back not only the facts but also the effect in us. May the flame lighted in our hearts encourage us to go forward in our vocation as Lay Betharramites.

Diego Canton

2

### Prayer for the meeting of the lay Betharramites

**Oh God of kindness,  
 here we are to do your will  
 instantly, unreservedly, irrevocably,  
 out of love rather than for any other motive.  
 Guide us, Lay Betharramites of  
 the Region Auguste Etchecopar, over our meeting.  
 Teach us how to do the good and to find our happiness in it;  
 By being close to the poor may we reach you.  
 On the footsteps of Jesus, following the example  
 of Saint Michael Garicoits,  
 and faithful to the calls of the Church,  
 may we be ready to serve the men and women of today.  
 May the Virgin of the Beautiful Branch, first Christian,  
 faithful and beloved disciple of the Lord, show us the way  
 with joy and hope. Amen.**

## 3

## Hints for a spirituality of Lay Betharramite

Notes for reflection which can be meditated on by the religious too

## AIMS

- **To do God's will F.V.D. (*fiat voluntas Dei*)**

Obey God the Father like his Son did, like sons, out of love rather than for any other motive;

With the brothers and sisters share our happiness of knowing that we are beloved sons and daughters.

- **Be aware that we belong in a special manner to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

The Sacred Heart is the central focus motivating our existence - offering us to the Father at the exact moment of the Incarnation; - being faithful till death to that initial offering.

As we said earlier, do God's will through him, with him and in him.

## ESSENTIAL MERITS

- **Humility**

In the presence of his Creator, the creature is but dust and ashes, nothing. Adopt the radical detachment of the Son of God (Ph 2,5-11). We are merely servants. Let's be discreet (quiet) and *gentle*.

- **Obedience**

"A spirit of obedience is the very reason for our Congregation's existence" (DS 196). Its model is the Heart of the Son, filial obedience for love's sake. Like Abraham, he never put personal aims before the plan of God. Unlimited obedience: without delay (neither with undue haste), without preconditions (nor with undue waste), with no going back (nor with inflexibility), **with devotion**.

- **Charity**

Charity is obvious: God is love and the Sacred Heart of Christ is the expression of this love. With one hand we welcome the Father's love. With the other, we reply to the need of love which the Holy Spirit instils within us. Would it not be possible to join our two hands in the silence of our soul? The Heart of Jesus is the way, the truth and the life for everything concerning love. His "here I am" goes from the Crib to the Cross.

Our love too will be boundless and will set us free. United

## Betharram in Thailand

## The Mission, more than ever

For some years now, the Congregation has been looking to the Vice-Province of Thailand with great hope. There are already 12 young priests who are giving fresh impetus to all the work carried out by the missionaries, with great devotion, for more than 50 years.

In Thailand, Betharram opted for the poor, living with them and like them in the mountain regions, "in the most difficult of places where others didn't want to go" as St Michael Garicoits would have said. The Chapels and schools were of utter simplicity, just like the local dwelling houses.

The missionaries possessed nothing of their own; everything was destined for charitable works and for the organisation of the local Church, the diocese of Chiang Mai. They didn't think of themselves so as to think of the needs of the people. Once the mission had been established like a real "flying camp", the Congregation was on the verge of withdrawing. But the Lord, in his mercy, attracted many vocations as a reward for so much effort and humility. It was God's will that the charism of St Michael Garicoits should continue to live on in the service of that Church and society.

On the eve of his departure, the Superior General, accompanied by Fathers Pensa, Chan and Tidkham paid a visit to the Papal Nuncio and the Cardinal in Bangkok. These latter showed that they knew the Betharram Fathers very well and that they had great esteem for their quiet and efficient activity. Encouraged and proud of belonging to a family of such zealous and simple missionaries, our visitors undertook to continue on the same path.

The Vice-Province is not lacking in vitality. Amongst religious of different generations, there is great mutual respect, acceptance and affection. The young members have great admiration for their seniors. The seniors entrust the most difficult tasks to the young members. Of



Sutherland and Bro. Andrew Ferris. In the appointment letter of May 29<sup>th</sup>, the Superior general took the opportunity to encourage the creation of a bursar's office and thanked Fr. Ted Simpson and Bro. Michael Richards (outgoing councillors) for their valuable work.

### Vice-Province of Thailand

**Karian Olympic games** ■ From May 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> took place the 9th Olympic games in Maipon, at Fr. Rodriguez's community. Over 500 young people, coming from different parishes and three geographical areas, gathered for sportive events, leisure time and reflection. Fr. Tidkham presided over the opening mass, concelebrating with eleven priests. In the evening, an informal talk on "Christian faith as a value of the Karen tradition" allowed the young people and the inhabitants of the villages to have a debate on different ways of life, the relationship between town and countryside, the sense of belonging to a culture... The fact that all our young priests took part in the meeting shows the relevance of such initiative and what is at stake: the future of the mission and the presence of Betharram by the new generations. Already on the schedule: the next meeting in 2007!

### APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL SUPERIORS

The Fathers Joseph Ruspil (Betharram Notre-Dame, 3<sup>rd</sup> mandate), Henri Lamasse (Limoges, 3<sup>rd</sup> m.) and Michel Vignau (Pau, 2<sup>nd</sup> m.) have been confirmed in their function by the Province of France, after the approval of the General Council.

### ADMISSION TO PRIESTHOOD

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 7<sup>th</sup>, after presentation of the applications by the Provinces of England and France, the General Council have admitted to priesthood Bro. Shaju Kalappurackal (Bangalore) and Bro. Sylvain Dansou Hounkpatin (Pau).

### DISPENSATION FROM THE VOWS

At his request submitted on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Bro. Peter Sorasak Lawbi, from the Vice-Province of Thailand, has been dispensed from his temporary vows.

with our neighbour in the heart of Jesus. Preferential choice of the disadvantaged (the sick) in word and in deed; gentleness not to be confused with weakness.

### • Take our place at the school of the inner Master

We are his helpers. He does nothing without our help. Just the same, let's bear in mind that he is the master builder, we are only the tools; let's keep in contact.

### • Keep to the limits of our position

which is decided by the authorities, the duty of our station in life, the liturgy, providential events.

### • Working together

Be submitted to God, while at the same time be in contact and on good terms with all.

### • In the image of the Heart of Jesus

Without delay: *idonei*, capable, strengthened by the power of God through prayer; *expediti*, totally liberated from all attachment to other creatures; *expositi*, exposed, open to the calls from God.

Unreserved: total enthusiasm, yet under control, able to communicate *corde magno et animo* willingly and with all one's heart.

No looking back: perseverance and growth to the end.

### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

José Mirande, SCJ

The whole contribution is available on...  
<http://www.geocities.com/athens/aegean/2812/erfb/mistica.doc>

*Father Etcheccpar...* on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1899 on the feast of the Sacred Heart

*Our Founder used to say: "Our little Society was founded for the formation of priests imbued with the sentiments of the Divine Heart, his humility, his obedience, his charity unto death, a death on the Cross!" And whenever any one asked him "What is an authentic member of your Institute like?" he would reply: "He who is so deeply united to the Divine Heart that he is constantly saying as he offers himself in sacrifice, Here I am, without delay, without reserve, for ever, till death if needs be, but through love and for love!"*

*O Divine Heart, you are and must be the soul of our soul, the love of our love, the heart of our heart! Deus cordis mei! You are and must be our consolation and our joy in all our struggles and sacrifices.*



## Generalate House

**Audience in Vatican** ■ On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Benedict XVI sent the following message to all the religious, through the Superiors general and their Vicars gathered in Rome: “My thoughts are now turned with much gratitude to all the religious men and women (...) who spread in the Church and in the world the *good odour* of Christ.” The Pope had a particular thought for “those who are in difficulty, who are old or sick, who pass through moments of crisis or solitude, who suffer and feel lost, as well as for the young who, today, knock at your doors and want to offer themselves to Jesus Christ, in the radicality of the Gospel.”

This meeting was a great moment of joy, encouragement and comfort. The Pope stressed on the tension proper to Consecrated Life: to belong to Christ giving everything up in a world where the pastel tones have taken the upper hand over the clear and bright colours. He revived by the religious the flame of the love for Christ, and asked them to live authority and obedience in a more evangelic manner. A call of the Pope to meditate: consecrated people are “called to be in the world a credible and bright sign of the Gospel and its paradoxes, without conforming themselves to the spirit of the world, rather by transforming themselves and constantly renewing their commitment, in order to be able to discern better the will of God.”

**A Roman Labour** ■ Result of one year work of our archivist, Roberto Cornara: the two first sections of the *Writings (Opera omnia)* of Fr. Etchecopar have just been published; more precisely, the Spiritual Writings, of personal inspiration, and the Correspondence, which forms the most important part of the whole collection. About 2000 letters, written from 1838 to 1897, have been gathered into several tomes (about 2500 pages); each tome is provided with an index and biographical notes about the addressees. A last volume is being studied: collecting all the historical information from the correspondence, it should enrich the biography of Fr. Etchecopar and the story of the Congregation. All these documents are available in PDF, on simple request to the Generalate House.

## Province of Italy

**Leaving Santa Rosa** ■ Considering the difficulties in running the Santa Rosa parish the Council of the Province decided to hand over the parish to the diocesan clergy. The new parish priest will be introduced on June 18<sup>th</sup> to the parishioners by the Episcopal Vicar of the area, Mgr Dieci. A page is over, after about 40 years of Betharramite presence in a northern quarter of Rome.

## Vice-Province of Brazil

**The new Seleção\* is taking the field** ■ On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Superior general and his Council appointed, until the creation of the future regions, Father Vicente de Menezes, Viceprovincial of Brazil, Fr. Francisco de Paula (vicar) and Fr. Henri Karam Amorim (bursar). The religious of the Vice-Province will now have to elect two religious to complete the new team of Brazil. \* In sports: national team.

## Province of the Rio de la Plata

**Ecumenicalism and sport** ■ After the *Family News* of May, Fr. Gilbert Koffi Kouman got a write-up on Argentine press. The daily news papers *El Liberal* (Santiago) and *La Nación* (Buenos Aires) interviewed him a few days before the start of the Football World Cup in which the Ivory Coast and Argentina belong to the same pool. Regarding the match on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, Fr. Gilbert assured with a smile that he would not pray for the victory of his home country but for a smooth confrontation between the two teams. Besides, are we not all the sons of God? The prayer of the Betharramite Religious of San Roque, the most Argentine of the Ivorian Fathers, was fulfilled on June 10<sup>th</sup> with a match lawfully won by 2 to 1 (by the South-Americans).

## Province of England

**A reorganised Council** ■ In conformity with the decisions of the 2005 General Chapter (Acts 51), the mandate of the Provincial, Fr. Austin Hughes, has been extended until the creation of the regions. He will be supported by Fr. Colin Fortune (assistant), Fr. Anton Madej (bursar) and two new councillors: Bro. Gerard



*Saint Michael*  
Region



*Fr. Etchecopar*  
Region



*Blessed Mariam*  
Region