

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

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Father Barbé's log (8)

use up the little life left him in hopeless efforts. As this was taking a long time, a sailor, with an unsteady hand, tried to grab the monster with an instrument called a ferret, but in vain. Already everyone was getting rather anxious. The captain who had been warned suddenly appeared on the scene. Silence everybody! With all the skill of a hardy sailor, he picked up a hook and threw it at the fish which he called a "tazar" and pierced it through and through. The poor brute continued to struggle in the water and finally was hoisted on board.

Now what is a "tazar"? It is quite simply a very big salmon. I would add two other things: first of all it would be largely sufficient for the dinner for the community in Betharram (80 souls); and secondly that a "tazar" at that time cost around 45F. In reality only a gourmet could pay that price.

(to be continued)

On the schedule of the General Council

11th September

Start of the journey to India of the Superior general, Fr. Gaspar Fernandez, accompanied by Fr. José Miranda

18th September - 7th October

Fr. Jean-Luc Morin, General Secretary-Bursar, will be taking part in the Betharramite Youth gathering in Rosario, and visiting the communities in Argentina and Brazil

October

Canonical visit of the Superior General to the Province of France



Father Etcheocopar writes...

to his family, 20 February 1866

Let us ask for each other the love of Jesus Crucified, the love of his cross. Let us meditate without ceasing on this boundless love, fixing our eyes and heart unceasingly on the wounds, the source of that love: let us fly from all in order to be enfolded in this love; let us fly from ourselves by renouncing ourselves, let us imprint on our souls the wounds of our Spouse with the same instrument of love, so that he may be in us, and we in him, and that he may live and reign in us.

NEF

104th year, n°8

14th September
2006

Family News

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



**A word from the
Superior General**

Unless the Lord builds the house

*Unless the Lord builds the house,
Those who build it labour in vain
Unless the Lord guards the city,
The guard keeps watch in vain. (Ps 127,1)*

Every time I recite this psalm, I apply it to the Congregation. I am deeply convinced that the Congregation was willed by the Sacred Heart of Jesus and that He will keep it in being. The Holy Spirit offered it to his Spouse, the Church to make her more beautiful. Without Betharram, the Church would be less beautiful.

When in the Argentine, a young man would apply to start his training, I always welcomed him by expressing the joy and gratitude of the whole Congregation, by telling him that he was a gift from God for the growth of Betharram and to perpetuate the grace of the charism in history.

Every vocation is a gift from God and must be asked for in personal and community prayer; it must be earned by fidelity to our vocation and to our own mission; it is to be revived through the joyful consistency of our life, in such a way as to attract others to the beauty of being a disciple of Christ; it must be sought and detected by a simple and joyful presence with the youth. It is to be held up as a way of life in which we rejoice in our praise of the Father and the service of the brethren; We must be daring enough to propose it to others so that they too may be radiantly happy.

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14.IX

Ave
Cruz
Sancta



*Bringing out
the commu-
nion in the
diversity of
charisms and
functions*

Time was that our Schools were the natural breeding ground for vocations to the Congregation. In each School there was a community responsible for discerning vocations. Today, except in Thailand where there are 28 postulants in Payao and 32 in the Junior Seminary in Bangkok, all the provinces and vice-provinces have chosen a Pastoral of vocations closely linked to their youth pastoral. Such a choice is more demanding, more committed. It supposes close collaboration among all the members; it brings into play the life of each religious and each community. It ought to be part of the pastoral activities of the local Church, bringing out the communion in the diversity of charisms and functions, linked to other aspects of the pastoral, e.g. the family, and in cooperation with all the other congregations in the diocese.

It is possible that the lack of vocations in certain places is due to the fact that our mentality and type of life still correspond to the old programs of the promoter of vocations of the faith school, even if we have chosen a pastoral of vocations better integrated into the projects of the local Churches. We need to reflect on this.

We often hear it said, sometimes ad nauseam, that there are no vocations in Europe. This is partly true, but not absolutely so, because the Movements and New Communities have vocations.

In our college, San Jose, in Asuncion (now 100 years old) there is very good pastoral work being done for several years. Three young men who were very committed in the college pastoral have begun their training for the priesthood in New Communities. Despite the love which is universally shown, I believe that this college has never given a single vocation to the Congregation. I believe that the pastoral of vocations and formation encouraged in the vice-province have done much for the promotion of the working class, but have not paid enough attention to the better off classes.



**Betharramerica
1856-2006**



**On board of the Three-Master
L'Etincelle en route for
Montevideo (8)**

Thursday 9th October - The *Benjamin Franklin* from Nantes and heading for the Island of Mauritius, drew alongside *L'Etincelle*. The two captains chatted for some time. The outcome for us is the certainty that some unseen hand continues to keep us far from our destination. Such a thought in no way upsets us; we are happy to adore the secrets of Divine Providence.

This is what we have learned: a good fortnight ago we were at the 25th degree parallel. Today we are only at the 22nd according to the two captains. What do you think about that? The *Benjamin Franklin* has reached the spot where we are in 23 days, and we are now 39 days at sea. There are some here who are losing their head at the thought.

Here is the most extraordinary part of the whole story. We are decidedly heading for Africa in a straight line, meaning to say quite simply that we are doing less than nothing.

At 3 o'clock our boat does a u-turn and the direction we are taking now is as surprising as the previous one. We are now going westwards. Don't criticise the crew; they can do nothing about it, absolutely nothing. God be praised!

Tuesday 14th October – Today, we have been doing, on average, 7 knots an hour. At this speed, in a fortnight's time we shall be under the walls of Montevideo. We had just had dinner when M. Harbustan announced that a fish had risen to the bait. We swung round and saw something lashing out in the water. What was it? A fish? Rubbish! It's a monster. Carefully they pulled on the rope, and the monster advanced with its great jaws hanging open. What are they trying to do? It's quite simple. They despair of being able to drag it on board with such a thin rope; so they decide to let the poor prisoner struggle in the water and so

Maritime trials
and
zoological
discoveries
for our
missionaries.
Is America
still far
away?...
Always
ahead!



2006

SEPTEMBER

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 15 | 20 ans de profession, félicitations | P. Philippe Hourcade |
| 16 | Buon compleanno | P. Egidio Zoia |
| 17 | 30° di professione, auguri | P. Maurizio Vismara P. Carlo Sosio |
| 18 | Buon compleanno | P. Romualdo Airaghi |
| 19 | Joyeux anniversaire Feliz cumpleaños | P. Raymond Descomps P. Constancio Lopez Morales |
| 20 | Buon compleanno | P. Livio Borghetti |
| 23 | 40° di professione, auguri | P. Tarcisio Giacomelli |
| 25 | Joyeux anniversaire Happy birthday | P. Jean Tipy Br. Anthony Vincent Masilamani |
| 26 | Feliz cumpleaños Bom aniversário | P. Rogelio Ramirez P. Henri Karam Amorim P. Wagner Azevedo dos Reis |
| 27 | Joyeux anniversaire 60° di professione, auguri | P. Patrick Moulié P. Ernesto Colli |
| 29 | 60 ans de prêtrise, félicitations | P. Raymond Laulom |
| 30 | Joyeux anniversaire Feliz cumpleaños | P. Michel Vignau P. Miguel Martinez Fuertes |

OCTOBER

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | 50° di professione, auguri Padri | Antonio Canavesi, Giuseppe Lietti |
| 3 | Happy birthday Buon compleanno | Fr. Edward Simpson P. Tobia Sosio |
| 4 | Feliz cumpleaños | P. Enrique Gavel |
| 5 | Buon compleanno Joyeux anniversaire | P. Angelo Paino F. Gérard Zugarramurdi |
| 6 | Happy birthday | Fr. Anthony Britto Rajan |
| 7 | Buon compleanno 55° di professione, auguri, Padri 40° de profesión, enhorabuenas | P. Piero Donini, P. Davide Villa, P. Mario Colombo Carlo Antonini, Angelo Paino, Ermanno Raserio, Carlo Luzzi P. Eleuterio Cabero |
| 8 | Feliz cumpleaños | P. Enrique Miranda |
| 9 | Buon compleanno | P. Tiziano Molteni |
| 12 | Happy birthday Feliz cumpleaños Happy birthday | Fr. Thomas Kelly P. Wilfrido Romero Br. John Paul Kitti Loakham |
| 13 | Happy birthday 50 ans de profession, félicitations | Br. Andrew Athit Nyomtham P. Joseph Saint-Pé |
| 15 | Feliz cumpleaños Happy birthday | P. Osvaldo Caniza Br. Wilfred Poulouse Perepadan |
| 20 | Buon compleanno | P. Anselmo Ghezzi P. Aurelio Riva |

Obviously, the Church doesn't expect us to have the same life style as the New Movements. But it is a fact that they throw out challenges to us on many fronts. They believe in Jesus Christ and love him passionately. With joy and enthusiasm they live out the "radicality" of their vocation and carry out their mission with ardour. They are not ashamed to propose their life style to the youth. How can such love, such joy, such enthusiasm and passion not communicate itself to the youth!

Instead of criticising European secular society and the life style of the New Communities, it would be better if we took a look at ourselves to see what is capital for our own conversion. Many practices in the New Communities were ours in days gone by. If we have lost them, wouldn't it be a good idea to recover them again. Furthermore, these movements came into being with the theology and ecclesiology of Vatican II. To include the laity in the charism is natural for them. We who were born in another ecclesial context are making efforts to adapt and to share our charism with the laity. This is a source of happiness!

We must do something to implement the broad lines of the program for the Pastoral of Vocations laid down by the General Council in Betharram in 2003: *The witness of a life; the joyful proposal of the beauty of a vocation; a structure...* so as to realise all these fine ideas. To achieve this all methods are good. If we don't assemble the youth to show them what our life is like and the treasure of our charism, how are they going to find out?

We cannot be resigned to being fruitless old bachelors. We are witnesses to the living God who raised his Son from the dead. We are the bearers of a new Life capable of renewing people and society. This is the fertility to which the psalm I cited above is summoning us.

*Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord,
The fruit of the womb a reward.
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
Are the sons of one's youth. (Ps 127,3-4)*

We must do something for vocations, we must show the youth the treasure of our charism



Gaspar Fernández Pérez, SCJ

Session for perpetual vows (2)

Some impressions of Betharram

Testimonies from Betharram, at the end of the Pyrenean chapter of the session for perpetual vows. The young professed who did not express themselves in the previous issue are now giving their account...

At the birthplace of the Congregation / Gabriel Phonchai Sukjai

I have lots of reasons for being happy at having been present at this session, namely a visit to the places where our Founder spent his life. I preferred the house where St Michael Garicoits was born at Ibarre. I felt as though I was with the Karians. The countryside, the atmosphere, the people's work reminded me of life at home. Ibarre is a rural village, calm, peaceful, where life is good.

There is something else that I loved – the visit to Anghelu's. They greeted us with great simplicity, as if we were part of the family. Straight away we had a lively conversation. I didn't know the language. I was delighted to have visited the house where St Michael worked as a servant.

This summer session helped me to understand and learn lots of things. Living with friends of different cultures and nationalities was for me a wonderful experience. I find it extraordinary that despite our differences we were able to get on together and to live in harmony. And yet the language barrier was a great obstacle and there were times when I was tempted to be discouraged. But our life in community was even greater.

Finally, community life is worthless without prayer. Closeness to God is necessary for its fulfilment. And so I greatly appreciated the moments of personal and community prayer in the different "Holy Places" of the congregation.

I thank God and the Superiors who afforded me the opportunity and all the brothers who took part in the session.

IN MEMORIAM

Spain

P. Leonardo Gallejones Gomez

In the summer of 1986, 20 years ago, Leonardo landed in my presbytery in Vilanova de Alcolea. He arrived from a college belonging to his Congregation in the Argentine. He was coming in a spirit of service, without any great pretensions, simply as a substitute.

He was always faithful in putting into practice the characteristics of his charism as Priest of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Betharram, the same as that sought by St Michael Garicoits: *Father, here I am, without delay, without reserve, without looking back. Father, here I am, to serve the plans of your love.*

We all know Leonardo; I repeat *we know* because our faith in the risen Christ helps us to say, that even if he is no longer bodily present with us, he is living in Christ the fullness of God the Father. He is living in and through Him, in our midst, in the communion of saints.

During his last days this was his prayer: *Lord, in you we have life, movement and being. Here I am. Take me!*

When he had some bright idea, nobody or nothing could make him keep quiet. Not even a Bishop... His suggestions and attitudes were crystal clear and were the result of his obvious fidelity to God, to Christ, to the Gospel and to the people whom he served. At times we were in a predicament. It was difficult to put up with, but despite everything he stuck to his guns because he was deeply rooted in the reality of the people and the diocese. And even if misunderstood, he tried to be near to all and to bring people nearer to Jesus Christ and the Gospel. To be closer to the people, he even became football manager, including a women's team. He would use the walkie-talkies of the pigeon hunters, even though they weren't exactly church goers.

Both with his shortcomings and his talents we were lucky to have him with us... Thanks to his family. Thanks to the Betharramites, here represented by Fr Gaspar and Bro. Theodore, and to those who have left their life here: Sinforiano, Fernando and now Leonardo...

On July 27th 2006, Fr. Leonardo passed away after a long disease. The parish priest of La Pobla, Fr. Manuel Martin Nebot, paid homage to him during the funeral celebrated in the parish of Benlloch (diocese of Castellon). Extracts.



Continues from
page 7



vanity nor money. No reward in this world. Love which sees everything; which gives itself entirely; which is happy and shares with the others the love of God so that they know the same happiness.

Betharram is a school of spirituality. Being a Betharramite, I can feel that God became love and loved me. To him goes my gratitude! Our spirituality is not very well-known. For many people, unfortunately, we are priests like any others. People do not perceive our religious dimension, the specific traits of the *Here I am* and the originality of *Fiat voluntas Dei*. At the same time, it is a joy to note that, for many people, the Betharramites are available, simple, generous, open-minded and committed.

We ought to show our identity by living the will of God in the little things of every-day life. It is not a matter of making a lot of things but of living any single moment with love, inspired by Christ. We ought to do what God wants, as He wants it, in our daily commitments. Like the apostle Paul we do not do the good we want to do, and we do the very thing we hate. A true inner fight! The religious of Betharram is a leaven in the dough. Joseph was not famous, just a decent carpenter filled with faith and hope. Mary had no prestigious titles. She lived in a poor house in Nazareth, the daughter of Zion who was able to say *Here I am*, the young handmaid who let the Word of God act within her and draw up His tent among mankind. The *Ecce ancilla...* so dear to saint Michel.

Jesus lived the experience of concealment. He came and lived in the world by doing good; he was disfigured when he walked up to the Calvary. Covered with blood and crowned with thorns, he suffered physically and spiritually. *He saved others, he cannot save himself..!* We happen also to be tired out, to be insignificant, even mocked, but let us do everything with love and joy. It is sufficient to be a sign of God, a call from the superiors... and we are back at work! Amidst the trials, we can feel the powerful hand of God which weaves the weft of the days. *It is when I am weak that I am strong!* God will come to help us!

Vicente de Menezes, SCJ

Like a family, in the SCJ Congregation / Arnaud Richard

What a joy to be back in Betharram! The sheer joy of the place itself, its beauty. Its situation. The joy of meeting up with my brothers again. It's always a great moment to be able to live in community with my elder brothers, pray with and for them, but also to thank them for being what they are, for their fidelity in their religious life and for their example.

There is the joy of being back again in Betharram, where our Congregation was founded, and so there is the daily joy of spiritual rebirth and renewed energy in the proximity to St Michael. What a joy to be imbued with the spirituality of the Sacred Heart and what a joy to be able to share it with others! How great is my happiness to spend time in the presence of the Heart of Christ and to transform my heart into Christ's Heart, wounded by love.



A land of contrasts and of brotherhood / Gérard Zugarramurdi

Two months session is no holiday! By way of introduction to recall two months preparation for my final vows! I have difficulty writing about the Holy Land where we spent 40 days. I have some images which I can recall: the desert and hills of Bethlehem, the colour of the olive trees, the colour of the dry stone, the special luminosity of the Mediterranean Sea, the prayerful faces of the Carmelites that we met.

The second part of the session in Betharram, in the footsteps of St Michael, was less of a novelty for the French. However, I was delighted to discover again the different places and communities. I have a special thought for the Fathers in the Nursing Home, our invigorating stop over with the *Servantes de Marie* in Anglet, and finally, two trips -Spanish or Basque- to Javier and Loyola to spice up my Spanish fibres, not forgetting, of course, a joyful meeting with the community of Mendelu.

In a word, for me the most important was recognizing each other as brothers from different countries and continents, but all belonging to the same Congregation, the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Betharram.

Training for formators

School of renewal

As a result of my experience in the community formation at Adiapadoume my superiors have given me the opportunity of taking a year out for formation at the Institute of Formators of the Clergy (IFEC) in Paris. This Institute is under the supervision of the Conference of Bishops of France. Actually, it is directed by diocesan priest and a religious sister. We were 17 persons in all, 16 priests, diocesan or religious and one sister. It is important to underline the diversity of the experiences of each: a rich source for our reflections and personal assessments.

The Institute is designed for priests and religious, who are in initial formation, in the seminary in the communities of formation, in ministries of accompaniments in the diocese. The group was constituted from directors of seminaries, general vicars, religious in ministry of formation. The objective of the formation is to help the participants to understand more clearly what is happening in the life of the people they accompany and of the young in formation, to understand also, what is at stake in the institutions for the pastoral situations, notably in the domain of formation and the implications for the formator and the effects that will on himself.

To do this, this year of formation proposes training in spiritual discernment, review and analysis of situations lived by the participants, guided study of philosophical and theological texts and acquaintance with the spiritual masters and adapted contributions from the human sciences (psychology, sociology, the pedagogy), and pastoral care. One must underline the importance given to living and working as a group. Each participant is invited to live a spiritual experience.

I have appreciated this time of formation, which has allowed me to relive my experience in formation, to be

community have daily community prayer also. Cultural dimension because there are different tribes, each tribe has its own culture and tradition. Therefore I am learning and appreciating the different cultural heritage in India. So in this way these little experience is enriching my personal growth in my religious life and in my vocation.

Did this experience open (is opening) new prospects for Betharram in India?

- I think with my limited experience I can definitely say that there is scope for Betharram in this place. I can even say that if Betharram is willing it can certainly do it. I believe that surely the Holy Spirit will inspire to start a new mission in this part of India.

Today what makes you happy in your life as professed member of Betharram?

I still remember the motto which I took during my profession on 14th may 2001 “ A Betharramite is a spiritual commando who is ready to go for any operation where no one dares to go”. And I still remember the sermon of Fr. Enrico on that day. That day it was my dream and today it is my life and it makes me really happy. On that day I never realized the difficulties but today I experience at the mission. Today I can say that I am trying to live the motto, which I promised, so it makes me happy as a professed member of Betharram. Further more the spirituality sacred heart, “More for love than any other reason”, and the words of St. Michael , “here I am Instantly unreser-vedly irrevocably” always makes me do the things with full dedication and devotion this makes happy and glad to be a professed member of this congregation.





5 MINUTES WITH... Brother Pascal Ravi

About 2000 km (as the crow flies), or 3 days (by train) away from the community of Bangalore, our Indian Brother, Pascal Ravi, 26 years old, is living one year regency in Gauripur (Assam), close to the border with Bangladesh. An experience of mission far from his Brethren, yet at the heart of the message of St Michael.

What does this year of Regency consists of?

- This year of regency consists mainly of the personal growth with special reference to intellectual dimension and spiritual dimension.

What did you discover (are discovering) about the life of the people and about the mission of the Church in this part of India?

- About the people I discovered that there are different tribes, different cultures and different languages. The society is very much individualistic; there is always a kind of fear among the people. It is here the Church plays a vital role in bringing them together and trying to create an atmosphere of love peace and harmony. This place is also very much prone to different kinds of diseases so the Church also takes care of the health of the people and also it provides education to the children.

How does this experience is enrich (is enriching) the growth of your vocation?

- Ministry here in this place is mainly to be the warden of the hostel, teaching in the school, and faith formation in the villages etc... It is really enriching me personally in my intellectual, spiritual and cultural dimensions. Openly speaking to take classes we need to prepare ourselves whether it is for higher or lower classes. When it is for higher classes it is very much essential so it is enriching in my intellectual dimension. Spiritual dimension because when you are new to the place and you have no one to be guided and supported like that of in the formation house, so you really need to pray a lot. I am personally convinced about the power in the holy Eucharist and in personal prayer. I am really strengthened every day. We here as a

renewed spiritually and to rediscover the reality of the Church of France. Quite clearly the formation relies essentially on the actual life of the Church in France with her questions and challenges in facing the future.

The Institute has allowed me to work interiorly, and to renew myself personally. I accept in my religious and priestly life the importance of renewal, the importance of taking stock in all pastoral work or in all accompaniments for a better discernment and the need of always rooting one's life in the life of the Holy Spirit Without this interior master, the greatest doctors can teach us nothing. If our whole being had only one clear direction; putting ourselves under the care of the Spirit of Love.

Reinterpretation of the charism

The hidden treasure (Mt 13,44-46)

Betharram is a sign of God. Betharram is a path to human, Christian, religious and priestly fulfilment. Betharram is a lifestyle centred on the contemplation of Christ. *The Word became flesh and dwelt among us... You did not want sacrifices but you prepared a body for me. Then I said, here I come, O Lord, to do your will...* Christ in the Word, in the Eucharist, in the fraternal life, in the silence, in the solidarity, in the dream of a better world, in the religious community, in the poor.

In the charism entrusted by God to Saint Michel there is all that is necessary to attain the evangelic, personal and community perfection. Our founder made the experience of Christ who embraced the will of God, who lived most of his life as an ordinary citizen of Nazareth, and who drank from the bitter cup so as to show full obedience. Saint Michel made Jesus' simplicity and perseverance his own. He discovered that love was the spring of his whole being. He was driven by nothing else. Neither

Jean-Dominique Delgue, SCJ

The Betharramite Family in Brazil, religious and lay people, gathered from the 21st to the 24th of August in Ubatuba for a time of prayer, of brotherhood and sharing. Starting point for meditation proposed by the Vice-provincial Superior.

Follows 
on p. 12



Saint Michael
Region

Province of France Ivory Coast

Son of the Benin and priest of Betharram ■ There was a great number of faithful on August 7th in Agbanto, to the west of Cotonou, for the ordination of the native son, Sylvain Dansou Hounkpatin. Our Brother was surrounded by the Betharramites from the Ivory Coast, the Provincial, his former parish priest in Pau, a theologian friend of his, and Mgr Marcel Agboton who laid his hands on him. The young priest has taken his way to Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso), where he'll be attending a course for formators.

Best wishes! ■ On September 10th, Bro. Gerard Zugarramurdi pronounced the perpetual vows at the sanctuary of Betharram, under the gaze of Our Lady. On September 14th, Bro. Serge Latta did the same thing in Adiapodoumé, in Saint-Bernard's church. Same venue, same day for the first profession of his "younger brothers", Brice Hervé Kouadio, Elisée Sika Mambo and Emile Gentil Kamba (from the Italian Province, RCA). Our *best wishes of happiness* to the newly professed members... who follow on their way in the Ivory Coast.

Province of Italy

Final Profession ■ On September 26th, Bro. Simone Panzeri is going to make his final commitment in the Congregation. The celebration will be taking place at the parish of the Sacred Heart in Lissone. When the Province is happy, the whole Family rejoices!

150 years of mission in America Paraguay

Regional meeting for those responsible for education ■ In the framework of the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the Betharramite presence in Latin America, those in charge of education in the Fr. Etchecopar Region gathered from July 17th to 19th in Asunción (Paraguay). Two elements were particularly appreciated: the conference by the Superior general on the Betharramite spirituality and the celebrations.

The atmosphere was very pleasant, the organisation remarkable, the sharing of experiences enriching. The young took part in the meeting as well through modern dance shows, performed in a modern spirit, expressing the courage amidst trials and trust in God. 15 schools sent their delegation: 6 in Argentine, 1 in Uruguay, 5 in Paraguay and 3 in Brazil, to represent thousands



Fr. Etchecopar
Region

of people, among them: students, teachers, administrative staff and families. That just shows our responsibility for the evangelization in the education world!

Vice-Province of Brazil

An accomplished mission ■ From July 24th to 30th, in Desterro de Entre Rios (Minas Gerais) - 150 km away from Belo Horizonte and 300 from Passa Quatro - a missionary week took place. 8000 people live in this parish structured in 28 rural communities. Access to health care, education and work is hardly provided. 5 Religious, helped by 6 postulants and 7 committed lay people came to help the parish priest, allowing quite a number of visits and activities for human promotion.

The objectives were clear: to share the charism of Betharram; to live a significant experience of mission; close to humble people, to learn how to follow Christ. The mission is accomplished, or so it seems from the reports of the postulants of Passa Quatro: "To go to mission means to say yes; to walk energetically for the others; to go from one place to another in order to go towards the others; the mission is to answer: Yes, without reserve, without return, out of Love. The mission is to say Here I am, to make the experience of Jesus, by stretching out one's hand to the neighbour, by a fraternal hug, by sharing the bread: a dish of rice and beans, a cup of coffee and the Eucharist".

Waiting for... Rosario ■ from August 18th to 20th, 40 young people from our parishes and schools in Brazil, 7 postulants, 3 scholastics, a deacon and 3 Fathers have joyfully swept into the College Saint-Michael in Passa Quatro for moments of Faith and celebrations: A foretaste of the regional gathering which will give those young the opportunity to meet their peers from Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina, at the very beginning of the austral spring in Rosario de Santa Fe (September 21-24)...

Province of England Delegation of India

A new priest for India ■ On September 16th, Bro. Shaju Paul Kalappurackal will receive the sacred orders from Mgr Andrews Thazhath, auxiliary bishop of Trissur. "*The Lord has done great things for me*", as it is remembered in the invitation card. We will keep the future Fr. Shaju in our prayers .



Blessed Miriam
Region