

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

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## Michael Garicoits, shepherd of God (1)

would get them safe and sound into Spain, 25 kms away, by secret paths in the mountains!

Mother Gratianne taught him, day by day, that God loved him and was waiting for him in Heaven. But in order to earn such a marvellous gift he had to be good, brave and generous. She never let the slightest misdemeanour go unchecked and would punish with a good spanking!

At such a school, our young man learned to walk straight, head held high, bright eyed. He is a playful young Basque lad, happy and determined. Father Arnaud would think of the time when this son would replace him on the farm. Mother Gratianne would cast a quizzical look on her eldest child, full of faults, qualities, intelligence and life. Saint or bandit?

(to be continued)

**Continues from page 3** ▶ For sure, there are other examples, which you can think of. I am not ignoring them, but I believe that very often they live more by love in an anonymous and discreet way. Yes, that is how it is.

The more by love... is the only thing which justifies our belonging to the congregation. It alone makes our vocation and our mission authentic. The desire for happiness, and the permanent call to conversion calls us to seriously examine our conscience to see if the wheat of love is not choked by the weeds of other motives, which destroy the dynamism and apostolic effectiveness of our mission. St Michael says to us: by love more than any other motive. This means there are motives other than love. Let us be vigilant.

Gaspar Fernandez Perez, SCJ



**On the schedule  
of the General  
Council**

**25-29 January 2007**

Meeting of the members of  
the Commission for the Rule  
of Life at the generalate.



# Family News

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



**A word from the  
Superior General**

**More by love!**

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A vocation is an experience that God loves me as I am, and that he doesn't cease to love me as I can experience in so many situations, and that he will always love me an fill me with happiness. Once this love is discovered it is impossible to remain indifferent: I wish to return this love, be it so little, and I decide in my turn to commit myself to him by consecrating my life to him. "Take me, take me..." said St Michael in paraphrasing St Ignatius.

Mission strikingly confirms this experience. I who know the happiness of being loved by God, I am not able to remain impassive, withdrawn within myself in profiting from it. I wish that all the world knows it and profits from it and that all receive the same happiness. Such is the essence of Mission. Although it arises from a personal experience of God's love, and reaches out to others, it is founded on love so that what is my supreme well-being, must be also that of others.

This certainty and this motive urges us to do even foolish things. The first was done by Jesus, who gave up his life for love, so that men might have life and that they might have it in abundance. Folly of the apostles was that of Paul which led him to travel across the Mediterranean with the same inspiration. The Folly of the martyrs. Folly of Francis Xavier, who left all and endured all so that those who were ignorant of God's love might know it. Such was the secret, which animated Mother Teresa of Calcutta that those who were dying in the street like dogs, died with dignity in

2007

**Best wishes !**

**105th year, n° 12**

**14th January  
2007**

*To be a sign  
of the love of  
Christ among  
people*

knowing that they were loved by someone. Such was the secret of Charles de Foucault, so that his presence among Muslims be a sign of the love of Christ in their midst.

More by love, rather than any other motive! said St Michael Garicoits. It is love alone, which led him to believe that God had chosen him to found the Congregation. He founded it only by love, and by that alone he obeyed the Bishop risking the dispersal of those he had called together. He obeyed with love, and died with the love on the cross of obedience.

More by love, the first members of the Society of Betharram set out for America 150 years ago. With love fathers Guimon, Harbustan, Sardoy, Larrouy and brother Fabian set out on their mission. Through love, the last two lost their life in looking after the sick with yellow fever in Buenos Aires. Through love amidst 1000 difficulties, fathers Barbe, Magendie and brother Joannes began the mission of education in the College of St Josephs.

Through love, the first members of the Society of Betharram went to China in 1921. In love they were expelled from it in 1949. Through love, they turned to Thailand, where they have created the diocese of Chieng Mai.

Beyond these glorious moments, inspired by More by love... , there are ... the hidden, unassuming moments lived by so many religious and lay people of Betharram both yesterday and today. They will never figure in historical accounts of the congregation, but they will find places in the great book of life: attention to a sick person, which brings them peace for a moment, the spiritual accompaniment of souls over the years in spite of its difficulties and their fatigue, the accompaniment of the young, even if it doesn't produce palpable fruit, devotion to the task of education even if one doesn't teach what one likes, working in the parish with its dark and bright sides, being misunderstood while being faithful to one's vocation



## *Michael Garicoits, God's shepherd (1)*



### **A strapping fellow**

160 years after his birth, let's take another look at the person of St Michael through the short story published in 1967 by Rose Dardenne, in the Catholic weekly for the young, *Fripounet*.

No extraordinary revelations nor ambitions in this text, but, for us, it will be an opportunity to renew our affection for the Founder of Betharram.

His name is Michael Garicoits. Born in 1797 in the Basque country, he grew up on his father's little farm in the heart of the Pyrenees. At the age of six months, at the moment of his christening, he made history! The cold water on his forehead displeased him? And the paper against his tiny hands is going to bear the brunt of his displeasure. But the paper which he gleefully tears up is none other but a page from the Ritual, which the Parish priest is holding!

At the age of four he imagines taking the defence of his mother by throwing stones at a neighbour who has spoken ill of her. At the age of five, he nicks needles from a hawker's display; at the age of seven he uses his fists to take his little brother's apple; at the age of eleven he takes the head of a plot against the school master who is over generous in the use of his cane! And when the rest of the conspirators take fright and run off, he alone stands his ground and faces the music. Of course we wanted to flog you, but... I'm sorry, Sir!

As a young shepherd watching over his father's flock, he would pretend to be dead to attract the eagles, and when they dived on him, he would chase them off with his Basque stick, the "makhila". In a word, he was a joker, spirited, determined, strong headed; he was perfectly frank, and bravely upheld his responsibilities. There was the where with all to make a saint or a bandit; all depended on which way he turned.

His parents had no intention that he should become a bandit. In the Garicoits family they may have been hot-headed, but such ardour was to be for the service of God and his priests. In the evening parents and grandparents would relate how they fought and ran risks to come to help of priests pursued by the revolutionaries, and how they



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JANUARY

16	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Pierre Lagouardat
18	Joyeux anniversaire Feliz cumpleaños	F. Arnaud Ampo P. Antonio Cano
19	5 años de sacerdocio	P. Crispin Villalba
20	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Victor Batailles
23	Buon compleanno	P. Ennio Bianchi
25	Feliz cumpleaños 30 anos de profissão religiosa,	P. Luis Oteiza felitações, P. Sebastiao Pereira
26	Buon compleanno	P. Albino Trameri P. Mario Giussani
27	Happy birthday Feliz cumpleaños Happy birthday	Fr. Brian Boyle P. Carlos Rodriguez Br. Xavier Abraham Irudayaraj
28	Happy birthday	Fr. Biju Paul Alappat
29	Joyeux anniversaire 20 anos de profissão religiosa, felitações	P. André Grossard P. Vicente de Menezes P. Francisco José de Paula
30	Buon compleanno	P. Celeste Perlini P. Aldo Camesasca
31	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Jean Lanusse P. Mathieu Etchéniq

FEBRUARY

1	20 años de sacerdocio,	felicitades, P. Tarcisio Vera
2	Joyeux anniversaire 50 anos de profissão religiosa,	P. Jean Suberbille felitações, P. Antonio Scarpa
3	Buon compleanno	P. Alessandro del Grande P. Tarcisio Giacomelli
4	Feliz cumpleaños	P. Angelo Recalcati
7	70 años de profesión religiosa,	felicitades, Ho. Jean Cazaubon
8	Feliz cumpleaños Joyeux anniversaire	P. Eugenio Amitrano P. Firmin Bourguinat
10	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Henri Lataste
11	65 años de profesión religiosa,	felicitades, P. Julián Miguel
12	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Pierre Grech Fr. Raoul Thibaut Ségla
13	Buon compleanno	P. Giacomo Ghislanzoni P. Mario Longoni
14	Joyeux anniversaire Buon compleanno	F. Bertrand Belhartz F. Giuseppe Pozzi
17	Joyeux anniversaire	P. Jean-Luc Morin F Serge Braga Latta
18	Happy birthday	Br. Andrew Ferris

and to religious obedience, the passion with which one prepares children to meet Jesus in first Communion, so that they may know, love and want to imitate him, preparing couples for marriage, and the accompaniment of the young in youth clubs and in their homes.

More by love... is the hard work of formation implying frustrations in face of meager returns, courses of theology which demand much care in preparation and exposition not always appreciated, care in preparing homilies at funerals, often repeated yet so important for announcing the love of God, extra hours, extra work, fatigue brought on by love, because one feels unable to refuse; one has to do it, so many days consecrated to missionary animation, so many visits to sponsor children in the Third World, so many gestures of kindness, and so many steps to help the poor and the marginalized... and so much obscurity, powerlessness, and obstacles in missionary work, recognized and accepted by love.

We must not forget the More by love.... of many lay people who go to bed late, because they are organizing a meeting, a camp, a time of reflection and recollection. Who doesn't count the unpaid extra hours in order to advance a project in a College? Who gives up a week or two in work away from family to accompany the young? Who gives up their rest, to organize fraternal reunions, or groups of lay Betharramites, in addition to their other apostolic engagements? Who freely, without accepting anything in return, gives time, to assist us in economic and legal matters? Who creates for nothing an Internet site of the Province, the parish or the school? Who gives up their own plans and takes on the missionary plan of the Province? Who creates associations to promote the initiatives for developments needed by our Society..? The availability of some lay people who at the first of call of a religious of Betharram leave everything and devote themselves to it without any hesitation as St Michael asks of his religious.



*So many works, so many visits, so many gestures of kindness*

 Follows on the last page

## Christmas in Bethlehem

Four African novices and the novice master have begun their canonical year in the Holy Land. The day after the Nativity they write from St Michael's Region.

We could never have imagined that one day we would be celebrating Christmas in Bethlehem. What a grace! What a joy! So as to enter more fully into this mystery, the novitiate had made a special preparation by a day's recollection in the shepherds' field, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the traditional novena.

Before the celebration of the Pontifical Midnight Mass, the town had welcomed the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Mgr Michel Sabbah, in the afternoon. On this solemn occasion there were pilgrims, tourists and inhabitants of the city of David. From the four corners of the globe there were people of all languages and nations, so many that they couldn't be counted!

The waiting, begun on the first Sunday of Advent, came to an end with the ringing of the bells accompanying the *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. In a celebration where beauty and solemnity were vying with each other, the Patriarch, assisted by several bishops and about a hundred priests, preached with vigour about peace, justice, freedom, and an end to the occupation. Once again, he said, Christmas had arrived in Bethlehem in a climate of violence and frustration, with the wall and road blocks on the ground and in people's hearts. According to him, the solution will come about from bringing the two peoples together, not from separating them. It is high time to allow one's self to be guided by the poor and humble God lying in the manger, the Incarnate Word who had become one of us today. It is the condition for the construction of a real brotherhood between Israelis and Palestinians, as among the inhabitants of the whole world.

The Incarnation of the Son of God has particular meaning for us, religious of Betharram. It is at the heart of the spirituality of our Founder, and should consequently be the foundation of our life. True enough, "it (the Incarnation)

boundlessness of charity in the limits of his position in his daily life. His example remains true today.

From the fact that the Gospel is always new and always good news, Betharramite spirituality profoundly takes flesh in the Gospel of the Heart of Jesus, and in a disposition of daily devotion and humility which is always real. The result of that is to be on one's guard against undue alterations, dilutions, being fossilised by mechanical and repeated slogans, without ever reaching any depth, or discovering one's roots.

How can the lay person be united with Christ, and through him into the mystery of God and the Trinity? In contemplating the Word of God, who responds to the appeal of his Father, through the prompting of the Spirit. Here I am I come to put into effect your merciful project of liberation. Here I am send me. May we make our own the dispositions of the Heart of Jesus, the Word of God humble and obedient. Let us follow the example of St Michael, who teaches us the dispositions of Jesus, who gives the key to live the Gospel and to understand it: through self-effacement, the giving up of one's own will.

He achieved this through his contemplation and love of the person of Jesus. He marvelled before this extraordinary spectacle of Christ, the Adorer of the Father and the Servant of Men.

He did this by having a lively consciousness that Jesus, the new man raised up through the Holy Spirit wishes to continue this mission as an Adorer of the Father and a Servant of Men through the lay people and through Him.

He does this when the lay people conform their hearts to the Heart of Jesus, with all their being and in all their actions which will proclaim: "it is no longer I that live. It is Christ, who lives in me." Then, and only then, will he be able to say with St Paul: "I would be most unfortunate if I do not announce the gospel; that good fortune which is mine to transmit to all."

Daniel Ramón Martín,SCJ



**Betharram, an evangelic source**

### A spirituality for today

The gathering of South American Betharramites at Ascuncion (Paraguay) is just over. To commemorate the event while waiting for a review in the next number, we propose a reading on our charism from Argentina.

After the mighty wind of the Holy Spirit at Second Vatican Council, catholic spirituality is characterised by a return to the letter and spirit of the Gospel of Christ, a return to its original sources.

As a complete manifestation of God's love, Jesus Christ is the good news of God, the eternal Word who has become the Word of man. Consequently, the spirituality of Betharram is a spirituality arising from this source: the subject of its admiration is neither more nor less than that contemplation of the Divine Word in his offering of himself to the Father in the service of freedom, freeing men, his brothers.

Here I am, I come to put into effect your merciful project of liberation. Here I am, send me. The mystery of the incarnation is the first stroke in the process of human freedom, a process which culminates in the Easter of Jesus.

From this beginning to that end, the different stages of the incarnation, over the course of 33 years takes its course within the daily life of Jesus. That daily life, which fashions his personality. A daily life which fashions the personality of every human being, whoever they are and wherever they live.

Is it not astonishing that genuine catholic spirituality emphasises the value of following Christ, the good news of God. To be a Christian is to be another Jesus, to identify oneself with him like St Paul. "For me to live is Christ."

St Michael Garicoits was not the kind of person who watered down the following Christ but is a saint, yesterday, today and for all times. In a period of great change, he knew how to discover the power of the Gospel. In so far as he loved passionately Jesus Christ and his gospel, he acted without reserve, without delay, and without return through love, uniquely exercising the

explains everything except itself. It exists for one sole purpose. If Christ is at the centre of the world, it is because his mission is to bring all men to God". (MS 103)

At the sight of the Infant-God, so weak and vulnerable, we cannot but be seized and drawn by Him. To celebrate Christmas in Bethlehem, in a land of forgiveness, but in a region victim of all kinds of conflicts, is to greet Jesus, Sun of Justice and Peace; it means experiencing the Father's love for all mankind; it means reviving in ourselves the joyful hope of salvation. Let us, therefore, day after day, become "mystics of the Incarnation".

Hervé Kouamé Kouakou, SCJ  
& the novices

*Father Etcheopar writes...* to his brothers Severin and Maxime,  
17<sup>th</sup> January 1862

*I wish you very happy New Year in all circumstances; healthwise, and harvestwise, etc. but especially in the business of your eternal salvation. Seek then first of all, says our divine Saviour Jesus Christ, the kingdom of God and his justice and the rest will be given to you in abundance. Let these words be for your instruction. What an advantageous and needed lesson it is! How little people know and follow it! In general they seek first fortune and pleasure, and then God if they feel like doing it. But what will happen in the end? They will lose both fortune, pleasure, and God, or at least true fortune, true pleasure, that is an honest contentment gained legitimately, and satisfaction that, causes no remorse. They lose peace of soul, more precious than all the gold in the world.*

*I wish, then, and hope that you will pray, this year,... more often and better than last year and that you will think more often, especially in times of temptation and trial of the Passion of Jesus Christ and the goodness of Our Blessed Lady. As you work hard to make a reasonable fortune, which is all very well. Remember what will it serve, if you lose your very soul? So not neglecting, what is temporal, work always for what is eternal.*

*News from Morocco***Peace on earth to men of goodwill**

Mgr Vincent Landel scj,  
Archbishop of Rabat, Morocco, addresses us in his circular letter 2007.

Once again it is good for me to make contact. Even if at a little distance I'm united with you by a proximity, which is quite extraordinary, and which is at the heart of our life.

One-day a German was sent to prison because he was distributing Bibles, and the following day in a respected weekly magazine a fine article appeared on religious liberty, and freedom of conscience. This shows that mentalities are stirring. Is there not a seed of hope? It is necessary for us to keep to reality at this time when the Pope made his discourse at Regensburg. Morocco was the only country which withdrew its ambassador for some days from The Holy See. What surprised me during this crisis was that the media, contrary to its usual practice, didn't try to contact and interview me.

With the annual drop in airline prices, tourists are becoming more numerous. In 2010 Morocco hopes to welcome 10 million. The country is no longer the same from north to the south. Each month, new buildings are noisily going up, new motorways are being constructed...which brings dreams to those who have gone elsewhere to travel.

Morocco is a magnificent country, which resembles an Eldorado for most of the people living in the Sahara. Also it is becoming more and more a corridor into Europe, with all the consequences that involves. Transit being more and more difficult each year to countries bordering the Mediterranean, migrants are departing more and more of the south. These days, many find their way to the Canaries and some to the coasts of Guinea.

I'm a helpless witness to this drama. No one has found an answer, but it cannot last. In these circumstances, we try to make a reflection helping students to consider returning to their country; but in their condition of life, have they the courage to do it?... what pleases me is to see that in the

up the liturgy, the washing-up, the dining-room, the tidiness of the meeting, television and reception rooms.

*How did you adapt to this?*

- I must say, quite frankly, that at the beginning it was a little difficult, I had some problems with health, and then I had arrived at the Mater Christi Centre with some apprehension: I was unaware of what awaited me after this course, in contrast to a good number, who were destined to be responsible for the noviciate. However, there are things which do not change: I am a novice; at least, I can say I have deepened my noviciate experience.

*Besides, doing the course, did you discover during that year anything personally for yourself?*

- I decided to welcome this formation for myself. That my heart would be changed... and be more joyful in the ministry, which would be demanded of me, to profit from this course to be able to make peace with myself and give it to others. I am trying to live here by Christ in what I now do... without worrying about the things which happen to please or displeased me. The young, susceptible and perfectionist priest, the rebellious and spontaneous child needs to give way to the adult. In retrospect, I am very happy with what I have learnt. I see Mater Christi as a wonderful occasion to be polished up... I thank God for it. All things are possible to him who believes.

*In this time of greetings, what would you send to our readers?*

- The Word was made flesh, and has definitely dwelt amongst us. God said, St Michael Garicoits, has sent him to be *the attraction which leads us to his divine love, the model which shows the rules of love*. Let us welcome, the Word, this gift the Father offers to all men and women as a sign of his love. Let us become his disciples, and that the new year enables us to grow a little more in love for Christ and his passion for humanity.





## 5 MINUTES WITH... Father Sylvain

Fr Sylvain Dansou Hounkpatin from the delegation of the Ivory Coast, lives 400 km to the north of the Betharramite community of Dabakala. He explains why and how.

*Nef - After you were ordained priest in Benin this summer, you went to Burkina Faso after two months. For what purpose?*

- I have come to follow the formation course for formators to the consecrated life at the Mater Christi Centre at Bobo Dioulasso. It is running from October to June: its setting permits an intense community life. We have started with 35 people, 30 sisters and 5 men from religious orders, amongst which I am the youngest priest. In total, we are about 14 different nationalities.

The team that runs the centre is under the direction of a White Father, a Missionary in Africa, who is French. The programme is also presented by animators from the centre, and others who come from outside all dealing with issues in an African context: on the religious vocation through the Bible, the noviciate based on word of God, the stages of formation, accompaniment in formation, knowledge of oneself, human and spiritual growth, initiation into the noviciate, the human basis of the vows; the theology, charism, history and challenges of the consecrated life. There is also the practice of Lectio Divina and study of the spiritual masters. We had a week's retreat in March to renew our experience of faith and emphasise a time of personal integration.

*You spoke of community life. In what does that consist?*

- It's based on allotting the trainees into communities of five or six persons, living in the building with its own name, drawn from the litany of our Lady: mine was called *Source of Our Joy*. At the beginning of the year each community draws up its project of life, fixing its times of prayer, meetings, relaxation, etc. Besides, human intellectual and spiritual formation, we also do sports and much manual work. Each week, a community is responsible for drawing

Orient there is an awareness; I have been invited several times to speak on this phenomenon. My words have been heard, even if they have not always been understood.

As a bishop, I am continuing to travel through the Kingdom. During this term, I have succeeded to visit at least once all the communities. I have discovered new faces, Madagascans, South Africans and Gambians added to the already long list of present nationalities. This geographic diversity bears a strong witness; the coexistence of such ethnic diversity would be unthinkable elsewhere. This is one of the joys of my responsibility.

My great preoccupation is to make the church truly into a communion. Yet even at the exit of the church it is not easy for Westerners to mix with Africans. They are two separate worlds. We have the good fortune of universality, yet enclose ourselves in a lot of realities, which have nothing to show if we wish to create a Church! Each year it is necessary to recommence this work of making people aware of each other and welcoming the new arrivals.

For three days Rabat has become in a way the capital of the church in Africa. At my invitation in the setting of a Symposium for the Episcopal conference for Africa and Madagascar, 15 bishops have come to reflect on the future. In the conversations around a cup of coffee, the life of a great part of Africa has been reviewed. This also permits those south of the Sahara to take into account how we live in the Church of the Maghreb. At first, they were more than astonished and three days after they were very surprised. So much the better, if this has been achieved!

One year has passed and while contemplating the infant in the manger. may we be ready to welcome, whatever may come to pass. Let us try to discern seeds of hope even if sometimes there are shadows. During this year maybe the continent of Africa, will be recognised, accepted in its reality, and accompanied in its complexity. Let us look upon it with kindly regard.

Vincent Landel,SCJ

## Betharram international

**Newsmakers** ■ Now that the new presentation of the NEF goes into its 2nd year, we thank our translators without which our monthly rendezvous wouldn't take place: Fr Miguel Martinez for the Spanish edition, Fr Dominic Innamorati and Sister Jeanne for the English, Fr Ernesto Colli, for the Italian, and without forgetting Fr Jose Mirande for the Brazilian edition and other translators at the Generalate. To translate is sometimes to betray, but it's always in the service of communication. This service is priceless, the proof is that it's free.



*Saint  
Michael Region*

## Province of France Delegation of the Ivory Coast

**You ask for a programme** ■ The SCJ Lay Associates are not short of ideas. Here are two examples, among others. In France, the Fraternalite Me Voici is polishing up its theme for the year: to draw from the source for its common mission. In the last number of the *Fraternel*, Fr Henri Lamasse, representing our Society and the Council of the Fraternity sees a necessary renewal with precise works from its original mission: that of the word of God saying to the Father: "*here I am... send me... to do your will!*" linked to these dispositions of the Sacred Heart go "charity, humility, gentleness, obedience and devotion."

In the midst of the uncertainty, which afflicts the Ivory Coast, The Fraternity Ne Me has chosen as its focus: "to live a fraternal life in that world of violence." The lay members of the Ivory Coast have assigned themselves five objectives: to understand and to live the spirituality of St Michael; to give witness to Jesus, who is meek and humble heart; to reinforce the bonds, and the vitality of the brotherhood; to consolidate relations with Betharramite religious; to invite Christians to join the Betharramite family. To this effect a programme is being made for meeting socially and considering hospitality, recollection and reflection considering nonviolence as found in the teaching of St Michael, the conditions for peace according to the teachings of the Church, (conflict resolution, etc). Wishing Betharramites in both countries a successful enterprise and a hopeful year.

## Province of Italy Central Africa

**20 years...** ■ The mission of Central Africa is about to blow out 20 candles. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1986 Fathers Arialdo

Urbani and Antonio Canavesi pitched their tent at Niem. More precisely, they occupied the sacristy of a little Church of that village, while waiting for more appropriate accommodation. Since then the religious have not ceased to build for others: schools, dispensaries, chapels and a brotherhood for half a dozen young people of the country who are actually preparing to become members of our society.

## Province of the Rio de la Plata

**Mission of hope** ■ The summer mission of Santiago del Estero forges ahead. From the 4<sup>th</sup> of January, and for the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive year, lay people and religious stride across a parish as big as an English county, somewhat like pilgrims. Apart from Fr Sergio Gouarnalusse, parish priest of Nueva Esperanza and the Barreiro couple, longstanding animators, everyone else, is from the Province of Rio de la Plata which has undertaken this enterprise of evangelisation and human development. In the wake of ELAB, and of 150 years after the first steps on the continent, the mission in America is sailing before the wind.

## Vice Province of Brazil

**Newly professed on the 150th anniversary** ■ On January 5<sup>th</sup> 2007 the meeting of the SCJ South American Provinces (ELAB) at Asuncion was even more joyful. During the Farewell Mass which closed the commemoration of our arrival in South America, three young Brazilians, Br Marcelo Rodriguez da Silva and the novices Francisco dos Santos and Eder Chaves Goncalves made their vows. Congratulations to those professed on the 150th anniversary!

## On my route

by Suzanne Artus, *Fraternité Me voici*

Whence shall I get the courage to continue on my route? By walking!  
Whence shall I get the patience to continue on my route? By walking!  
Whence shall I get the strength to continue on my route? By walking!  
Whence shall I get the joy to continue on my route? By walking!  
Whence shall I get the love to continue on my route? By walking!

**In the footsteps of Saint Michael, forward always!**



*Fr. Etchecopar  
Region*