



The foundations of Mater Dei Wing, at the Kitchen, are being supported and raised by the injection of high-tech "mud" (a polyurethane mixture) in a process called "mud-jacking."



After drilling beneath the building foundations, these workmen seem to "sit idly – however they are literally raising the two storied Mater Dei Wing by pumping thousands of dollars of "high-tech mud" into the ground.

In addition, what started out to be a simple "clean-up job" in our laundry room, turned out to be more complicated as we uncovered a sagging roof, which needed to be properly supported. Most economically, a bearing wall was built; the entire ceiling was consequently replaced. We thank you for your kind assistance in covering the costs for the much needed repairs and these unexpected expenses that come up.

### ***Please Help Us Repair Our Buildings***

In the efforts to repair the sinking foundations of the some of the Seminary buildings, mud-jacking has begun and plans are being considered for the repair of the many cracks in the walls. Some generous donations have been received, for which we are grateful. We have not started to repair the damaged walls, neither have we replaced a window.



First Year Seminarian, Marlow Domdom from the Philippines assists Mr. Pekolj in hanging gyp-board in the laundry room.



# Southern Sentinel

*Regnavit a ligno Deus*

**HOLY CROSS SEMINARY**  
FATHERS OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X

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Rev. Vicente A. Griego  
Rector

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

The start of the academic year at Holy Cross Seminary occurs in the early part of Lent, which gives good reason for us to reconsider our end. The Seminary Year begins with a retreat in order to focus the mind and heart on the purpose of the Seminary. There is an objective – after all, the seminarian is meant to "get somewhere." At the start of Lent, we all would do well to take aim and to renew this purpose of the Christian life – no matter our state of life – after all, we each were made for heaven.

Taking for granted that we desire heaven, which is more or less understood to be the joy of seeing God face to face, we face the difficulty of persevering in this objective. Our last end, the reason of our being, the why we were created, determines us to a practical fidelity to religion, understood to be the means of reaching this heavenly goal. But, alas, we wounded mortals, and poor creatures of habit, too easily fall into a routine, too practical and with too little attention, devotion, or love: that is, more brutish than manly.

Astonishingly one can be *faithful* to the daily Rosary, but not *pray* attentively; one can *go* to Mass frequently, but not *assist* devoutly; one can *know* well what the virtues are, but not live virtuously. This alarming realization of our weakness which tends to such thoughtless routine should rouse us to reconsider our end with determination to re-vitalize zeal in living the faith – especially in the Holy Season of Lent.

Only intellectual beings are capable of adoring God. Hence, man's highest (and most privileged) work is to worship God, to sing His praises and to offer himself entirely to God's service in the varied walks of life, yet true to the privilege of adoration. The gift may not be so precious, but it is all we really have to offer; hence, we strive to perfection, in an effort to give the best we can. The poverty of our gift is made worthy by Christ, Who came to give Himself to us and for us, so that we may offer ourselves with Him to God. This is the work of Christ, to re-unite man with God, by His perfect and total adoration.

Man is enabled to share in Christ's redemptive and salvific sacrifice – our sufferings are meant to "supplement" those of Christ as St. Paul writes: ... *rejoice in my sufferings... and fill up those things that are wanting of the sufferings of Christ*, (I Col 1:24). Of course, Christ's Sacrifice is perfect, infinite and complete – but God has ordained that men should share in atoning for sin, offering sacrifice, adoring God, and thereby meriting the glory of heaven.

Understanding the nature of this privilege will fortify us to withstand public adversity to the humble fidelity of Christian living. A generous desire and serious effort to deny ourselves in the six weeks of Lent is praiseworthy, but how is the rest of the year? Public opinion is the great prophet of "Worldism," the religion of man.

The vain preaching of the world makes mockery of religious integrity in order to induce us to "make peace with the world;" otherwise, labels of hypocrisy and self-righteousness are violently pinned upon the non-compromising. As most wish to be thought well of, this isolation becomes trying. Here is a sacrifice one can worthily offer to heaven – for it is the same humiliation suffered by Christ in His own day and ever since...

When we step out of our convenient niches of home, or our parish, or even a select social group of Traditionalists, we become acutely aware of the isolation... we are then *alone*, outnumbered, and in principle, opposed to many ideas and practices around us! We become self-conscious of being different, aware that we somehow should not be comfortable in this or that given situation, conversation, or company. Because of this, we instinctively try to blend with our surroundings, in hopes of not being noticed. But if we really have been living faithfully, then our camouflage does not work. A bull in a china shop, even if wearing a Rolex watch and carrying a Prada handbag, is still a bull in a china shop. The camouflage doesn't work. The bull doesn't belong there.

The discomfort at being "different" makes us yearn for acceptance and wish to win the good estimation of others. So we begin the dialogue of "Look at what we have in common," and "See, my ideas are not that bad, if I can measure up to your standards, despite my religious views." In these words, God is relegated as an add on. But our very being was made to adore God, completely. In whose mansion do we wish to be "received:" God's or the world's?

*Behold this child is set for the fall, and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted* (Luke 2:34). Christianity's opposition to the false ideals of the modern world is ripe for confrontation! Why do we hide? Followers of Christ will be different from followers of worldlings – if not, are we really following Christ? Remember that Christ was crucified because He would not compromise His teaching. *He that is not with me, is against me: and he that gathereth not with me, scattereth...* (Mt 12:30).

If we wish to be with Christ and heirs of heaven, then let us courageously be for and of Christ. We must set our sights not only to "get through" Lent, but to go beyond it. Our goal is God and Lent is merely a special means to re-sight our aim by denying ourselves and thus, "making room" for Christ. Inheritance of Christ's heavenly Kingdom is bequeathed to those who are *familiar* with the Sacrifice of Christ – who live in the family of Christ Suffering. We cannot be mere spectators of Our Lord's Passion – we must be *participants*. Thus, we must enduringly walk with Our Lord in Lent... and always.

On another note, Fr. Dominique Bourmaud, after nearly eleven years of faithfully walking the halls of Holy Cross Seminary, from classroom to chapel to soccer field, in carrying out his teaching duties and serving numerous faithful in and



Fr. Bourmaud cuts his farewell cake on the eve of his departure from Holy Cross Seminary.

around Australia, now journeys to a new assignment. We bid farewell to Father, who will share his years of experience, for a little while, in Kenya and the budding mission work of the Society in Africa. Father's twenty five years of experience in the Seminaries of the Society will be greatly missed here at Holy Cross. May God bless him in his new adventure.

We welcome Fr. Christopher Curtis who joins the Seminary Faculty after two years of pastoral ministry in Rockdale, where he will certainly be missed. Also new to our Seminary staff is Brother Patrick, who returns to Holy Cross after nine years in the Philippines where he has assisted at Our Lady of Victories Church in Manila and at the Brothers' Novitiate in Iloilo.

In a special way I ask that you please keep all of us at Holy Cross Seminary in your prayers – that we keep our sights aimed heavenward. We assure you all of our prayers for your generous and continued support of the Seminary, especially in the Community's Daily Rosary. Thank you very much for your much needed financial and spiritual assistance. Please pray for many holy vocations. May Our Lord the eternal High Priest bless you and Our Lady of Consolation guide you in this grace filled Season of Lent.

In Christ the King,

Rev. Fr. Vicente A. Griego  
Rector, Holy Cross Seminary



The old clay sewer pipe is "lined" with an internal PVC pipe, eradicating drainage problems and allowing work to begin on the structural repairs of the buildings foundations.



Some workmen pose with the tools and product of their trade as they repair the buildings old sewer lines