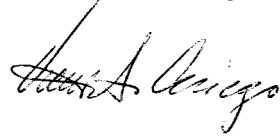


from Sri Lanka and soon an additional Brother from the Philippines, bringing our community of Religious Brothers to six. May God grant us many men who will give themselves in Religion to assist the priests in the spiritual warfare. We also welcome Fr. Johannes Grün to Holy Cross Seminary. Father recently arrived, bringing his many years of experience in the apostolate, and quickly began teaching and training our future priests. Deo gratias!

You will find a form enclosed in this months Newsletter for you to return to the Seminary if you wish to include the names of the faithfully departed in our daily Masses throughout the month of November.

Dear friends, pray that we remain faithful to the duty of living Christ and that all in Holy Cross Seminary seek manly fortitude in the Holy Rosary and true devotion to Mary. In this way men will be fortified in their training to remain loyal to Christ our King and so honour our Queen. May we stand fast under the standard of Our Lady – prepared to fight with the courage of Our Lord. *To the King, men, to the King!*

In Christ the King,



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

Help Holy Cross Seminary:

We need your help to purchase linen for new Altar and Mass linens. We are also in need of replacing many worn sets of sacred vestments for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Thank you for your generous help.



Work continues on the Cemetery Chapel with the installation of the tile floor

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY CROSS SEMINARY

Our sincere apologies for any inconveniences that may have resulted due to the errors in last month's Southern Sentinel "Upcoming Events." Here follows correct and updated announcements.

- **Ordinations to the Priesthood and the Diaconate and the Clerical Tonsure:** Saturday, December 27, 2008
- **Men's Five Day Ignatian Retreat:** Monday, December 29, 2008 to Saturday, January 3, 2009
- **Women's Five Day Ignatian Retreat:** Monday, January 5, 2009 to Saturday, January 10, 2009
- **Men's Five Day Marian Retreat:** Monday, January 12, 2008 to Saturday, January 17, 2009
- **Please note** that the Women's Five Day Ignatian Retreat scheduled for January 26 to 31, 2009, is no longer offered.
- **Crusade Boys Camp:** Saturday, January 3, 2009 to Saturday, January 10, 2009 in Brisbane area. Please contact Fr. Bourmaud for details.



Southern Sentinel

Regnavit a ligno Deus

HOLY CROSS SEMINARY
FATHERS OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X

P.O. Box 417 Goulburn, N.S.W. 2580 AUSTRALIA
Phone (02) 4829 5177 • Fax (02) 4829 5173
www.HolyCrossSeminary.com holycross@bordnet.com.au



October 2008

No. 60

J.M.J.
October 7, 2008

Father Vicente A. Griego
Rector

Dear Friends & Benefactors,

With what great joy we ought to celebrate the anniversary of the Victories of the Blessed Virgin Mary! The victories of the Immaculata give great honour to God and shower abundant blessings upon mankind, for her victories either draw men nearer to or help them return to the King of kings, Our Lord and Saviour! This is the victory of our Lady over the devil and the enemies of God.



The Battle of Lepanto with the saints interceding before the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Christian fleet as it faces overwhelming odds against the Ottoman Fleet. By Paolo Veronese, c. 1572

Our duty to join the ongoing battle against the enemies of God and His children is best accomplished when we take up the banner of the Blessed and Victorious Virgin Mary, our greatest Protectress! Hence, seminary training, under the auspices of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will best prepare men to lead the faithful of Christ in the spiritual combat, as did our Divine Lord after His early years spent in the peace, calm and recollection of the home of Mary, Mother of priests. These necessary qualities of the seminary atmosphere help to forge the seminarian in the discipline and mould of Christ, in order to prepare a young man to enter the battle of living and leading the Christian life without losing his peaceful union with Christ and virile fortitude.

The Church Militant does not train for a warfare of physical weapons and human tactics. Catholic warfare is one of the spirit, as Leo XIII explains in *Supremi Apostolatus Officio*, on devotion of the Rosary, September 1, 1883: "You have before your eyes... the trials to which the Church is daily exposed; Christian piety, public morality, nay, even faith itself, the supreme good and beginning of all the other virtues, all are daily menaced with the greatest perils."

We face these same threats today with the rampant evils unceasingly luring men away from fidelity to Our Lord and King. Attacks abound from secular

agencies upon the rudiments of ordered Christian family life. Although we must oppose the enemies of God in all realms, we will be fruitless without equal or greater effort in the spiritual realm.

The victory of Lepanto in 1571, for instance, was not achieved merely by having the “greatest naval forces under the command of a brilliantly trained Catholic Admiral of the Christian Fleet.” It was a victory of the Holy Rosary! This did not mean that the sailors simply knelt on deck and prayed. Indeed, they and the whole of Christendom prayed, but the men of the Christian fleet also did their duties of state – they fought intensely and valiantly. In addition to their military duty, prayer was absolutely necessary. Leo XIII speaks of this prayer, which assures victory:

“We constantly seek for help from Heaven – the sole means of effecting anything – that our labours and our care may obtain their wished for object. We deem that there could be no surer and more efficacious means to this end than by religion and piety to obtain the favour of the great Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, and the guardian of our peace...”

The Blessed Mother of God has always been to the children of God their consolation and strength in facing the sorrows and difficulties of spiritual combat. It is she who wondrously draws the fatigued wayfarer nearer and nearer to the Kingdom of Our Lord, where peace and life are full and secure for ever.

Leo XIII continues: “It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troublous times to fly for refuge to Mary, and to seek for peace in her maternal goodness. ...this devotion, like a most powerful warlike weapon, would be the means of putting the enemy to flight, and of confounding their audacity and mad impiety. ...Many wanderers also [return] to the way of salvation, and the wrath of the impious [is] restrained by the arms of those Catholics who [have] determined to repel their violence.”

Under the world’s continual threats against Christian life, we must cry to Our Heavenly Mother, hope with confidence in her Maternal intercession, and with careful effort do our best. This is not an excuse to spiritual passivism, or Quietism, “I’ll pray and let God do ‘everything.’” On the contrary, the Christian warrior will necessarily be called to engage the world, but in a supernatural manner. He must live for the peace of heaven while he fights for God here on earth. Our Lady will come to his aid in the perils of battle. Hence, we happily celebrate the feast of Our Lady’s victories over the enemies of Christian life. So today, we have confidence that she will assist us in conquering our enemies and that she will direct us to becoming truly and eternally the children of God.

“We, who seek a remedy for similar evils, do not doubt therefore that the prayer introduced by that most blessed man [St. Dominic] with so much advantage to the Catholic world, will have the greatest effect in removing the calamities of our times also. ...We earnestly exhort all Christians to give themselves to the recital of the pious devotion of the Rosary publicly, or privately in their own house and family, and that unceasingly...” (Leo XIII, *Supremi Apostolatus Officio*)



Anistas Santa Cruz, now Brother Francis, has his religious habit blessed by Fr. Griego during the ceremony which begins his training as a novice.

Desiring victory as the enemies have breached the very walls of Holy Mother Church, the Society of St. Pius X is promoting a campaign to encourage greater zeal in the daily recital of the Holy Rosary. The enemy has swarmed in, wreaking havoc and destruction among the children of God meant to be kept safe behind the fortified walls until they would be readied for the battle without. The battle is upon us. Prepared or not, now we must fight. The Holy Rosary is our victory. God has chosen that we be led into the battle by Our Lord, and in turn, by His priests.

There are few brave and well equipped leaders to hold together the overwhelmed Christians engaged in the battle – and few the courageous followers to heed the commands of these “field commissioned officers” of Christ’s Church to hold the breach and engage the enemy.

Although the impeccable Citadel of God’s Holy Church stands impervious to the heavy attack, the members of the Church Militant often begin to weaken in their courage and confidence and resolve. A sad example of this is the all too common slackening of discipline in the Christian home. Parents have weakened in their resolve to resist compromise with the world. The enemy enters with deceptive allurements and enticing distractions, which suffocate the love of God. Honourable supernatural charity is replaced with shameful self-love. The result is devastating – not only is family life reduced to little more than a convenient place to eat and sleep, but the whole of society becomes a group of egocentric individuals vying for primacy. Spoiled self love begets death – generous self sacrifice gives birth to life.

Parents, fight for your children’s lives, by fighting for the integrity of Christian life! Parents must take the authoritative lead in their families. Likewise, all are in need of priests, who lead in holiness and doctrine in the ferocious spiritual and moral battle at hand. The crisis we face today is one of a loss of authority founded in fidelity to God. Christ is the exemplar – we need men to follow in His footsteps. But where shall they come from? From your homes, my dear friends! Your homes must be ones in which respect for authority is fostered, immorality is prohibited and the prayer life of Christ is vibrant.

Let the Holy Rosary weld together your families in remaining faithful to Our Lord and Our Lady. Families bound together with the Holy Rosary will bring forth men sure, strong and willing to engage in the demanding training of the holy Priesthood and the religious life. These shall be the “captains” formed in the image of Christ, our Master and King – from the homes of your families, to the home of Mary where new Christs will once again be raised, then to the battle field of life to lead the Christian faithful to victory. Christ leads the way, we must follow.

Pray, my dear friends, pray for many, holy priests! Your prayers are most urgently needed.

Here in Holy Cross Seminary, we recently celebrated with joy the renewal of vows in religion by Bro. John and the beginning of Bro. Francis’s novitiate. We also welcome a new postulant



Brother John and the sacred ministers and servers after the Mass in which Brother renewed his religious vows.