



# Vocation & Formation Newsletter Winter 2009-2010

## New Videos on Website, Youtube and Facebook

Three new videos on **Community Life**, **Prayer** and **Mission** have been developed and posted online. You can access the videos on our homepage, on Youtube and also on Facebook. We invite you to view these videos in order to get a better understanding of our life in community.

The videos were produced by **Creo Productions** out of Grand Rapids, MI. All footage took place at our formation community in Syracuse, NY.

### IN THIS ISSUE

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NCYC

Formation Update

Zambia Mission Trip

Send Us Your Questions and/or Prayer Requests

Serving Youth in 32 Countries Around the World

**We are United and Consecrated in the Heart of Jesus**  
about our missions around the world

Over the years, I have been called to bring young people to Christ at formation centers, adult faith centers, administrative, and most recently as campus minister at our high school in New York. In former ministry, that call has led me to a variety of roles: formation director, mission director, director of a local community, and even province leadership. The invitation - and the response - is one that never gets old or tired. It is an awesome challenge - one that has taken me down paths I would never have imagined or thought myself capable. Living the mission has helped me to grow as a Brother, in my understanding of how Christ invites to us and how we are invited to relate to each other.

Fr. Edward Schrak, SC  
Campus Minister/Teacher  
High McCloskey Memorial High School  
East Attitash, NY

**"A call to be a Brother is a vocation to be the living, human memory of Jesus"**

- Latest News
- September 7, 2009  
[Download New Prayer Card Here](#)
- August 27, 2009  
[December 2009 Dreamment Retreat Structure](#)
- May 6, 2009  
[Summer 2009 Newsletter](#)

[View all news...](#)

[Click here to check out Brother Patrick's blog...](#)

[Click here to pray the Via Crucis Devote](#)

See our three new short videos on Community Life, Mission and Prayer...



# Brothers of the Sacred Heart at NCYC

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart Vocation Team was among the many exhibitors at the **National Catholic Youth Conference** held in Kansas City which boasted record attendance. More than 22,500 teenagers accompanied by youth ministers and chaperones from dioceses around the country participated in the three-day event. It was high energy and lots of fun to meet so many enthusiastic young men and women.



## The Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart

### Charism of the Founders

“Look at the Savior in his crib... reflect on him in his mortal life; glean from him everything that you are to imitate as the religious men that you are, and have a care to practice well everything He came to teach us.”

Br. Polycarp, Second Founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, in a letter to a brother on Dec. 24, 1858

## Try one of these great discernment opportunities

Volunteer/Discernment Program  
Discernment Retreats

Live in Discernment (week, month, semester)  
Mission Trips (International and Domestic)  
Regular Spiritual Direction  
“Come and See” days and weekends

## LANDMARK STUDY ON U.S. CATHOLIC VOCATIONS REVEALS DRAMATIC CHANGES

New members bring increased ethnic, cultural diversity, strong desire for communal living, prayer, and Catholic identity  
Study surveyed 4,000 in training or final vows in U.S. religious communities since 1993

Chicago, Aug. 11, 2009—The demographic composition and preferred lifestyle of religious communities in the U.S. are undergoing dramatic changes according to a first-of-its-kind survey of newer members.

[Click here for full article from VISION](#)

# Kevin Piper to enter Novitiate in January

Kevin Piper's request to begin the novitiate in January 2010 has been approved. Congratulations, Kevin, and welcome to our Institute. With the beginning of the novitiate, Kevin becomes an official member of the Institute.

Kevin will make his novitiate in Syracuse, New York, with Br. Daniel St. Jacques serving as his novice director. As part of the novitiate, Kevin will also be participating in the Inter-community Novitiate Program in Ossining, New York. This program is sponsored by Region 2 of the Religious Formation Conference and consists of three three-day seminars with novices of other communities each semester. These seminars are on special topics related to the novitiate and led by noted presenters for each topic.

In the late afternoon of January 9, 2010 Kevin will formally be accepted into the novitiate with a liturgy at the Province Office in New Orleans.



## From Candidate to Postulant: A quick year in review

"I am first and foremost blessed to be part of such an incredible order. When I first came to Syracuse I was a bit nervous because I never would have imagined myself living in New York. I was welcomed into the Syracuse community with open arms and immediately felt at home."

"In my individual formation meetings, I was nervous, but my formation director really made me feel comfortable. I thoroughly enjoyed formation. I am enjoying it so much other people can see how happy I am."

"I also have had the opportunity to do some travelling in the New York Province and New England Province having the chance to meet more Brothers. The Brothers have welcomed me and it really makes me feel good about joining."

"With this first year behind me, I am looking forward to what my postulancy will bring and then my novitiate. I thank God for the blessings he is continuing to give me."

Kevin

Experience  
of God

Our Rule #177

The foremost  
goal of religious  
formation  
is to lead the  
person  
to an  
increasingly  
more intimate  
experience of  
God.

This can be  
done only  
if the apostolic  
dimension  
of our life is  
put into proper  
perspective.

We strive  
above all  
to integrate  
prayer and  
action.



Come  
be OUR  
brother

[brothersofthesacredheart.org](http://brothersofthesacredheart.org)



# Mission Trip to Philippines planned for June 2010

A mission trip to work with homeless children in Davao City, Philippines is scheduled for the first three weeks in June. Interested young men should contact us by [clicking here](#). More information to come.

# Summer 2009 Mission Trip to Zambia Serves Youth

This past June six young men (Robert Reichert, Chris Groh, Will McSweeney, Kyle Jackson, Nico Camero and Carl Musemeche) joined the brothers on a mission trip to St. Francis Secondary School in Zambia. While at the school projects included painting and repairs of the school chapel, repairing the main water line and some tutoring at night study periods.

Joining the group this year were the President and Principal of Brother Martin, John Devlin and Greg Rando, and Assistant Principal of Catholic High, Jason Hanks. Greg Rando's wife Bonnie also made the trip to this south central country in Africa.

Along with the work at St. Francis, the group also visited Br. Robert Shitima School. This new school built within the last five years is primarily for the street children of Kabwe, a town located one hour from the capital of Zambia.

The group would like to thank all those who made this trip possible through gifts of money and prayers. Mission work, especially to poor youth, has been an essential part of the brothers work since our founding in 1821. God Bless all who help us continue this tradition.



# Contact A Vocation Director

New England

Br. Dan

401.678.0075

[danstj@hotmail.com](mailto:danstj@hotmail.com)

New York

Br. Michael

732.718.8559

[mikemigacz@hotmail.com](mailto:mikemigacz@hotmail.com)

New Orleans

Br. Chris

504.352.9940

[brochris66@hotmail.com](mailto:brochris66@hotmail.com)



## Next Discernment Retreats

### In the South

**When:** Dec. 18-20, 2009

**Where:** Rosaryville Spirit Life Center in  
Ponchatoula, LA

**Who:** Men with a restless and  
searching heart

**Cost:** Only your time

### In the North

**When:** March 26-28, 2010

**Where:** Carmel Retreat Center in  
Mahwah, NJ

"Search Your Heart" Retreat is:

- Sponsored by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart Vocation Office
- A fresh, different atmosphere away from home, school, or job
- An experience in community living in a prayerful atmosphere
- Meeting with other young men who are experiencing a restless heart
- Sharing with a spiritual director how you see yourself, your prayer, your dreams
- Encountering the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your life every day!

[Click here to download Flyer and Application  
or just fill out the contact form on the website](#)



[www.brothersofthesacredheart.org](http://www.brothersofthesacredheart.org)

Click here to fill  
out our contact  
form for more  
information about  
our community



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