



BROTHERS *of the* SACRED HEART

Vocation & Formation Newsletter

Spring 2008

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“Find Your Path” A Discernment Retreat (April 11-13)

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart will be sponsoring a discernment retreat April 11-13, 2008 at **Rosaryville Retreat Center** in Ponchatoula, LA. The retreat is open to men ages 17-35.

If you are searching for God’s will in your life and are considering what life choices he would have you make at this time, you may want to attend. The retreat will provide you time for reflection, listening to God’s voice, and discerning where God is calling you at this time.



You will also meet other Catholic men who are at important, decision-making points in their lives. In addition, you’ll be able to share with them and the Brothers of the Sacred Heart your dreams and hopes as you work through these important decisions.



Serving Youth in 32
Countries Around
the World

[Click here to contact a vocation director to register](#)



The Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart

Charism of the Founder
(Rule of Life #11)

The Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart owes its origin to the apostolic zeal of **Father Andre Coindre** for instructing neglected youth and bringing them to the knowledge and love of God.



The founding of our Institute was his response to the missionary needs of his time.

Father Coindre and his first followers realized that the religious life had value in itself and that through it the work of education would be better assured.



Coindre Leadership Program

Earlier this year ten new school staff members were accepted into the Coindre Leadership Program, which is a three-year intensive personal formation program designed to assist participants in deepening their understanding of the educational charism of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.



The program prepares its participants to mentor others in the charism to better ensure its continued expression in our schools. During the three-year program, each participant pledges himself/herself to approximately four hours of activity per month during the school year. Each hour-long activity consists of a directed reading focused on a particular topic related to the charism or to mentoring. After a series of readings

has been completed, the participant shares his/her reflections and experiences with a mentor chosen especially for him/her by the province.



So far, eleven participants from our schools throughout the U.S. have completed the program.

First Year Coindre Leadership Program Participants for 2008-2009		
Participant	School	Mentor
Mr. Bruce Daigle	Mount St. Charles	Br. Robert Croteau
Mrs. Diane Yannaco	St. Joseph	Mr. Larry Walsh
Mr. Edwin Brown	St. Columba's	Br. Raymond Hetu
Mr. Gerard O'Riordan	Msgr. McClancy	Br. Joseph Rocco
Mr. Greg Rando	Brother Martin	Br. Bernard Couvillion
Mr. Jason Hanks	Catholic High	Mr. John Devlin
Mrs. Linda Muratore	St. Joseph	Mr. Larry Walsh
Mrs. Michelle Chiasson	E.D. White	Br. Francis David
Mr. Robert Yunker	St. Joseph	Br. Joseph Rocco
Mr. Ryan Lechner	St. Joseph	Br. Joseph Rocco

A Brothers Vocation Prayer

My Lord and my God, you are Love itself, and the source of all love and goodness. Out of love you created me to know you, love you, and serve you in a unique way, as no one else can. I believe that you have a plan for my life, that you have a task reserved just for me. Your plan and your task are far better than any other I might choose: they will glorify you, fulfill the desires of my heart, and help those who are poor and without hope.

Lord, grant me the light I need to see the next step in that plan; grant me the generosity I need to set aside my own plans in favor of yours; and grant me the strength I need to never turn back.

Show me your will for me, O God, and help me to say with Mary, "I am the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word," and to say with Jesus, "Let not my will be done, but yours."

[click here for more prayers](#)

We Welcome New Members to Our Community

South America Report

The Lord continues to place in some young hearts the seeds of the consecrated life. The entry into the novitiate of six new candidates, all desirous of making that all-important initial step in fulfillment of their desire to give themselves to Christ in the Institute bears witness to this reality. In point of fact, on December 26, 2007 three aspirants from the province of **Brazil** began their novitiate ; they are: Mateus Lino, Geraldo Vieira Do Santo and Sergio Lenine Martins. The next day three aspirants from the province of **Columbia**, namely, Orlando Gonzales, Ricardo Martinez and José Leonar Botero, took the same step. The six young men will meet together in Lima, Peru where the common novitiate for the conference of Latin America/Spain is located. Let us accompany them with our prayers so their novitiate experience may be a determining influence in their lives.

First professions

On January 1, 2008 Brother Rogério Luiz da Silva, from the province of Brazil made his first profession. And the following January 12 Brothers Javier Martinez Pabon, Juan Esteban Santamaria Rodriguez and Handerson Vallejo Arenas followed suit.

Perpetual Professions

The institute also has five new perpetually professed brothers. On December 1, 2007 Brother Louis François Coly, from the province of Senegal, made his consecration to the Lord for life in the institute, as did likewise on December 23, Brothers Mauricio Barragan Vargas, Jorge William Gardia Pavas and Wilbert Antonio Medina Wintaco of the province of Colombia. And finally, on January 1, 2008 came the moment for Brother Adir João Berton of the province of Brazil to follow their lead and pronounce the formula of profession himself.

The generosity of these fifteen young is a great sign. Let us support them with our prayers as we give thanks to the Lord who has filled our Institute with such blessings.

This news article was taken from our institute website at Coindre.org



Haiti and Oceania

Pictured at left: Our Novices from Haiti and Oceania

Augustin Obnel, Jean Ivon Lemorin (maître) Pierre-Marie François. Yveto Delbrun, Jean Patrick Voltaire, Arnaud Leingkone (Océ), Julio Remarque, Jean Eddy Colin. Guy Dalcé, Gérald Robert, Marc-Sony Chéry, René Raphaël Dimitri Batick (Océ)

Zambia 2008 Mission Trip

Four Steps to Hearing Your Call

Excerpts taken from an article written by Sr. Anita Louise Lowe, OSB
(Complete article found in [Vision Network for Catholic Vocations](#))

“When you seek to discover God’s call in your lives you enter a time of discernment. The dictionary defines discern as: to separate, to sort out, and to sift through. Discernment, then, is a time of sifting and sorting. Religious discernment is also a time to see with the eyes of your heart so that you can choose life in God.

It is a time when you allow yourselves to be open to God’s will, and it is an opportunity to allow your hearts to guide your mind more than only trusting your own reasoning.

Follow the four-step process. Take these steps as you go through the process of discernment:

BECOME AWARE

Has anyone ever suggested that I might want to consider being a brother? Has anyone recognized gifts and talents in me and called them forth? Do I acknowledge that these voices could be the voice of God leading me toward my vocation in life? How much time do I spend in prayer? Have I asked God for assistance as I strive to listen for my vocation in life? What do others have to say to me, about me?



CHOOSE WHAT YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE GOD’S WILL

What is the most loving choice I can make? What is the choice that will help me be most fully myself?



GATHER INFORMATION AND INVESTIGATE THE MANY AVAILABLE OPTIONS

What are my gifts? Where am I best suited to serve? What motives are driving me in my choices? Where am I resisting God’s invitation?

LOOK FOR CONFIRMATION OF YOUR CHOICE

What happens within me? Is there peace, even in the midst of some doubts? What happens when I share my voice with someone else? Do others say “Oh I can see you as...”? How do I understand negative responses that occur within me? Do I seek to find God’s voice in the voices of those who know me and who love me?

Discernment takes a lot of energy. Listening is not easy! Like Samuel, you are likely to hear God’s call several times before you realize who is calling. But, with the help of your friends, your families, and your communities of faith, you can find where God’s call is leading you. Your task is to listen, to listen well, and, once you’ve heard God’s voice, to follow it as did the disciples – following Jesus who asks you, “What are you seeking?”

On June 15 this summer students from [Bishop Guertin, Catholic High](#) and [Brother Martin](#) will travel with brothers and faculty members to Malole, Zambia to do work at [St. Francis Secondary School](#).



The primary focus of this year’s trip will be to make repairs and to paint the dorms for the students who live on the school grounds.

The group will also spend a few days at The Shitima School in Kabwe before departing Lusaka on July 10.



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Third of Zimbabweans Could Face Starvation

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, NOV. 6, 2007 (Zenit.org):- The secretary-general of Caritas called Zimbabwe a "tragedy," and she says the situation threatens to worsen as nearly one-third of the entire population faces the possibility of starvation.

More than 4 million people in Zimbabwe will face critically low levels of staple foods by early next year unless they receive food aid to survive over the next six months, Caritas reported. The aid organization plans to scale up its operations to provide food for more than 100,000 people until April.



Read the rest of the article at Zenit.org by [clicking here](#)



Delegation of Philippines Now Part of U.S. Federation

On May 1, 2008, the Delegation of the Philippines will come under the auspices of the US Federation while maintaining a canonical link with the Province of New York.

There are presently 15 brothers in the Philippines and 4 Novices.

Read more about the brothers in the Philippines and their ministry in the next issue.

Send us a Question
or Prayer Request
by [Clicking Here](#)

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