

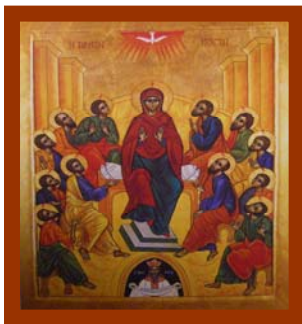
### Provincial Appeal (not for \$)

We're approaching the time of the Assembly, as you're all aware. It's a great opportunity for us to make our Society become more truly what it was created to be. As we all know by reflection on the words of our Founder and by Society experience, this convocation is not meant as a business meeting of the Province, but as a time of inspiration from God, and of earnest effort on our part, to make our community, spirit and mission come more to life. Fr Menard urges us ahead by reminding us to safeguard our fidelity both to the Spirit of the Gospel, and to the intention of the Founder himself, - by a "continuous spiritual renewal which consists, fundamentally, in an attitude of diligent attention, and docility to the Holy Spirit." There's no time like the present, in preparation for the Assembly, and then again, during the Assembly itself, for us to make this our first priority. Fr Menard also says, our "seeking out, forming and sustaining spiritual leaders, priests or laymen, and our establishing and directing Centers of Prayer, of Renewal in the Spirit, our dedicating ourselves to the pastoral care of the poor, territories, parishes, etc. are rightly understood only by contemplating the Eucharist made by the Church. And the Church made by the Eucharist." In other words, he wants us to deepen our sense of our charism and mission by centering ourselves prayerfully, contemplatively, on the Eucharist and Church in their unity as one. Let us begin this process now, each day, to help us have true success in our gathering, with new reason to hope in the future. With God, all things are possible!

### A Few News Items

Fr. Jerry Petta has been diagnosed with lung cancer. His prognosis ahead is very serious. His chemotherapy may help significantly, but he asks everyone's prayers.

On his return to Cromwell from Washington, DC, Fr Isaac continued his visit. He stayed with us a few days, conferring with members of this local community and meeting with Father Tad. He and



Fr. Tad also visited Fr Bob Murphy in the health care facility, where he was being helped to adapt to his need for tri-weekly dialysis treatments. (Fr. Bob is now back in the parish and working as before although the treatments will have to continue.)

We had an initial meeting of the formation team (whose members are Fr Luna, Fr Tad, Fr Petta, Fr Simon, and Fr Zercie) on March 27. We reviewed the probation period of Brothers James Lonon and John McDermott. Looking ahead for the next probation period for our present candidate, Skip Thompson, we began our reflections on the next period of probation. The next meeting on 29 April included further deliberations on the next period. There is still more to do to assure to best results possible.

We have formed a committee which may be augmented for preparing the questionnaire to be sent to all members in preparation for the Assembly. It will be based to a great extent on a few essential points of the Constitution and take into account as well the acts of the last Provincial Assembly in 2006. We included one member and one layman to advise us in our committee meeting: Fr John Paul Roy, the first Superior General of the Society of the Holy Apostles, and Michael Gauthier, who has been an advisor and associate for many years. You will hear more about this when the questionnaire is sent out, hopefully very soon. We are in the process of determining who the delegates to the Assembly will be on the basis of those chosen by the Province and the consent of the ones chosen. The ballots for Provincial Animator will be counted soon after May 1, when there are to have been postmarked.

Br John McDermott will be traveling to Hawaii to do very little basking on the shores. He is finishing the disposal of his properties there and any continuing business obligations. Skip Thompson will spend at least part of the summer in California for similar purposes. Fr Tad will make a video of Skip Thompson for the members to see at the Assembly so they may have a sense of who he is.

There are one or two other candidates "in the wings". Albert Griffith, who has been taking care of his recently deceased uncle's estate, and Bob Cantoni from the Immaculate Conception Basilica in Waterbury; he is a regular parishioner there and has been a friend of several of our MSA members for years,

Fr Bob Burk, in his assumption of the administratorship of two parishes while his own pastor is seeking a kidney transplant, has fit into that position with great ease and joyous fulfillment.

At the Basilica, Deacon Charles Bak is serving regularly as deacon at many Masses, weddings, and funerals. Also, he gives at least one homily every Sunday. Soon, he will begin to do baptisms. Later, he may get involved in other ministries such as Religious Education (CCD).

*Congratulations to Our Confreres  
Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries*



Fr. Richard Skarbek	May 25	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Fr. Stanley Grove	May 27	9 <sup>th</sup>
Fr. Harry Dunn	May 28	31 <sup>st</sup>
Fr. Larry Preston	May 28	15 <sup>th</sup>
Fr. Dick Hite	May 30	39 <sup>th</sup>

*Ps 139- -May he remember all your offerings, and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! Prayers and Blessings on your life and ministry!*

## Happy Birthday



Fr John Paul Roy	May 2
Fr Dick Hite	May 5
Fr Mike Nofi	May 7
Br Jeff Herman	May 7
R.P. Jorge Jensen	May 18
Fr Bill Mc Carthy	May 19
Deacon Charlie Bak	May 19
Pere Marius Morin	May 26
Fr Pat Taliercio	May 27