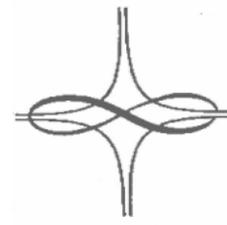


IN VIA

Union of Catholic Apostolate
Newsletter of the Canadian National Coordination Council
March 2021



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Easter is upon us again. It seems strange to say that when our year has been so long in some ways (keeping our distance from loved ones and friends, staying isolated in our homes and trying to find ways to keep ourselves positive), yet it has flown by.

As we enter Holy Week, we remember and give thanks for the great gift God has given us in His Son, Jesus. The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. The Word that is spoken by the Father and fulfills what it is sent out to do. The Son who was willing to give His life for us that we may share in the inheritance of eternal life with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

This week brings to sharp focus for us the new way of life that Christ preached throughout his lifetime. On Palm Sunday Jesus is hailed as king by those around him. On Holy Thursday we are given a share in His life through the Holy Eucharist, the food he has left us as sustenance in our journey on this earth. Food that is to give us strength along the way. Good Friday shows us how fickle we as humans can be; Sunday Jesus was acclaimed as king, yet today He is condemned to death by the same people. Holy Saturday we wait with Mary in quiet, yet sorrowful anticipation of what will happen. At the Vigil we remember the great deeds God performed for His people Israel, and we commemorate the new life that is granted to us by Jesus' death. Easter Sunday is then the joyous occasion when we know Jesus risen from the dead as He said. Death had no power over Him!

May the joy of this Easter bring peace and happiness to our lives. May it strengthen our resolve to follow Jesus more closely in the future.

As we have been so wonderfully blessed, so we should share that abundance with others. That is why the UAC is holding a fundraiser to help the Pallottine Sisters in Belize. Last year their convent had to be destroyed because it was sinking and became unsafe. It has been rebuilt with help from the Sisters in Germany, but there are still many needs for the convent and for the poor whom they serve. Starting at the end of March we will be selling tickets for bottles of wine. Members will be part of a team of five, each person's ticket costing \$20.00. The person whose name is drawn last wins 100 bottles of wine for their whole team (20 bottles per person). Draws will be held on five days starting June 14 to eliminate 20% of the tickets each day. Your team captain will inform you of those eliminated. The final draw will be on June 18, just before Father's Day. This would make a great gift for Father's Day, for yourself, or to give away as gifts when you are invited out. More detailed information will be coming soon. Please consider taking part in the fundraiser and inviting your family, friends and coworkers to do so as well. The Sisters and the poor in Belize need our help.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ciere group for sending out the beautiful Christmas cards, for the Advent celebration, and the Stations of the Cross which were sent to us by email. Your dedication to the UAC is very much appreciated.

A blessed Eastertide to all.

In Christ, Maria

Camaldoli Group – Edmonton

Our group currently only consists of three members – Rick and Rita Strauss and Maria Domke. We chose this name for our group after our three-year formation period because it seemed to us that when we attended formation sessions (one Sunday afternoon and evening a month), it was almost as a mini retreat each time. This was time away from the regular routine of work and family, and a time for us to be enriched by the charism of St. Vincent Pallotti, to share a meal and celebrate Eucharist together.

The Camaldolese Hermitage just outside of Frascati (about 25 km southeast of Rome) was a place of silent retreat for St. Vincent as well as a place to convalesce when his poor health dictated it. He had a small, simply furnished room on an upper floor. His window looked out onto the woods and hills that surround the hermitage. He was also given the key to the Pope's apartment so that he could look down from the window onto the sanctuary of the church to the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle, where he spent many hours in prayer.

Camaldoli was the place where, in 1839, Pallotti spent one and a half months in convalescence and at this time wrote his Rules for the Sisters, for the Pia Casa di Carità (home for girls), the Rule for the Priests and the rule for retreats. During the days of July 11-20, he had various experiences that immersed him in an extraordinary experience of God's mercy, a strong purification and a special communion with Christ, his life and passion. 'Jesus had given Pallotti his whole self with all his most holy life and with all his merits'. The earthly existence of Jesus became Fr. Vincent's life. In early December of that year he experienced an intense and rare spiritual event. He called it his 'betrothal to the Mary'. From here, he also wrote many letters to sisters, priests and collaborators about their apostolic activities, or giving spiritual direction.

Today, the monks will give a guided tour of the room of Pallotti, the church of the Mother of Love, the window from where Pallotti could view the tabernacle, one of the individual hermitages, and their store in which they sell products from their hermitage. This is only possible, of course, with prior permission.

ZOOM Rosary

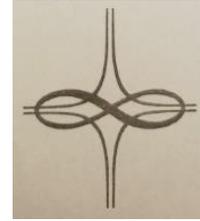


Host: Isabel Bolhuis
Thursday, March 25, 2021 – 7:00 pm
Annunciation of Mary

Isabel invites everyone to participate in the rosary via Zoom. If you are interested please email her at micsv@telus.net She will then send you the necessary information to sign in.

Deadline registration: Tuesday, March 23, 2021

FORMATION FOCUS:



Dear Brothers and Sisters in the UAC,

In journeying through the season of Lent towards Easter, we are given the opportunity for reflection, drawing closer to God, as well as a chance to look outwards to those in need. During our journey, the pillars of Lent, fasting, almsgiving and prayer, help us to deepen our faith, hope and love.

In his message for Lent, Pope Francis says, “*In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who “humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross: (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our **faith**, draw from the “living water” of **hope**, and receive with open hearts the **love** of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ.*”

As we journey through Lent and onwards, perhaps we can also ask ourselves:
How can we help to renew and deepen that faith, hope and love in others?
Especially during this time of uncertainty in the world, how can we reach out to others?
How can we be a light for them?
How can we help them draw closer to the God of Infinite love and Mercy?

Part of my Lenten journey has been receiving a series of short daily videos from “Dynamic Catholic” called “Best Lent Ever”.

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever/best-lent-ever-all-reflections.html>

This year’s series revolved around Matthew Kelly’s book: **I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life’s Essential Daily Habit.**

In the book, Matthew Kelly highlights **The Prayer Process** as a simple way to develop the daily routine of prayer. Through this process, we take time – a minute, two minutes or maybe ten minutes – to spend time with the Lord every day. Although we have many beautiful Pallottine prayers, if you or someone you know struggles with daily prayer, you may like this process.

The seven steps of **The Prayer Process** are as follows:

1. **Gratitude:** Begin by thanking God in a personal dialogue for whatever you are most grateful for today.
2. **Awareness:** Revisit the times of the past twenty-four hours when you were and were not the-best-version-of-yourself. Talk to God about these situations and what you learned from them.
3. **Significant Moments:** Identify something you experienced today and explore what God might be trying to say to you through that event (or person).
4. **Peace:** Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed (against yourself, another person, or Him) and to fill you with a deep and abiding peace.
5. **Freedom:** Speak with God about how he is inviting you to change your life, so that you can experience the freedom to be the-best-version-of-yourself.
6. **Others:** Lift up to God anyone you feel called to pray for today, asking God to bless and guide them.
7. **Finish by praying the Our Father.**

In the words of Pope Francis, “...every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the **faith** that comes from the living Christ, the **hope** inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the **love** flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.”

May Lent truly be a time for you of believing, hoping and loving.

May God bless each of you and your families, as you continue your journey towards Easter!

~ **Isabel**

I end with a beautiful prayer taken from the Preparatory Formation Manual (Session 3):

*Holy Spirit,
Breath of the Cenacle,
you came to plant the kiss of God
upon the frightened hearts of the men and women
gathered in the Cenacle of Pentecost.
Even today you come into our midst
and pour strength and love into our hearts.
Empowered by your love,
we live as sons and daughters of the Church,
and flow out into the world
aglow with the transforming
fire of Christ's presence
that makes our hearts burn with in us.*

*Lord and Giver of Life,
you bless us all with the many and varied gifts of grace
dwelling in each and every member of the Church.
When assailed by doubt and fear
of our value and worth for the life and mission of apostles,
renew in us the profound surety
that we have been called by name,
chosen to love,
And strengthened unto service.*

*Engraver of the Divine Image,
with every word we speak
and in every action we set,
chisel away from our hearts and souls
everything that will dim the image of Christ in us.
Make us ever more transparent unto Christ,
so that all men and women may be restored to courage and hope.
May they see and love in us,
what the Father sees and loves in Christ.*

Amen

I continue to include the following links for easy reference:

<http://www.unionofcatholicapostolate.org/>

<https://www.catholicapostolatecenter.org/>

San Salvatore in Onda remains live. <https://rzym.aztv.pl/rzym.php>

Masses and Adoration are as follows (Alberta time):

"Everyday morning" Mass - 12 Midnight (the night before it takes place in Italy)

"Evening" Mass - 11:00 am followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays - UAC Mass - 11:30 am preceded by Eucharistic Adoration at 10:30 am

If you are interested in reading the encyclical letter of Pope Francis, **Fratelli Tutti**, on fraternity and social friendship, here is a link:

(Note: at the top, right-hand side, a box should appear where you can select English.)

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica-fratelli-tutti.html



*Behold the Crucifix!
There you see love
in human form.
Then look into your own heart;
there you will find love too.
You will discover
the love of the most high
in everything.*

St. Vincent Pallotti

NOVENA PRAYER – this Novena prayer may be prayed for those who are sick or in need of help. A shorter version can stop at the first “Amen”.

Novena Prayer - in Honor of St. Vincent Pallotti

St. Vincent Pallotti, you were molded by God, the infinite love.

You answered God’s call to serve.

You were there: for those seeking counsel,
for the sick,
for the youth and the aging,
for the rich and the poor,
for the people of any profession and walk of life.

All were important to you.

You wanted to inspire each and every one for the kingdom of God, reminding people of their duty to be apostles and preparing them for their work.

Now I call upon you to intercede for me.

Help me to pray.

Help me to pray only for what I truly need, what I can truly use, what is for my salvation and the honor of God. You received many graces and gifts from God. You always thanked God beforehand, as if your prayer had already been answered.

St. Vincent Pallotti

I ask you to submit my petitions to God;

Be my helper as I place this prayer before God the Father, through Jesus Christ.

Do not leave (*insert name*) without your help.

Bless (*insert name*) who suffers illness and pain.

Show (him/her) the way to Christ. That he/she may be consoled and strengthened.

Through the Spirit lead him/her to the Father. Amen.

Today in particular we entrust to the Lord our brother/sister, (*insert name*) in the hour of his/her suffering and illness.

Saint Vincent Pallotti, you received from God the gift of healing the sick and the dying. You were a messenger of consolation for all those in affliction. You continue to help the suffering people of today. We humbly ask you to come to (*name*)’s aid and obtain from God the grace of healing. Increase his/her faith, encourage his/her hope, strengthen his/her perseverance. Be with us in our prayer and help us to pray with greater confidence. As a token of our gratitude, we offer our health for the glory of God and for the service of our suffering neighbour, (*name*). In sickness, obtain for (*name*) the gift of acceptance. Grant that we may lovingly submit ourselves to the will of God. In everything may the Lord be glorified forever. Amen.

For the return of health to (insert name). Please pray these prayers for nine consecutive days once or three times per day as is your preference (starting immediately).



Please pray for the following:

- Avery Acheson & wife Charlotte on the birth of their son Ambrose; a little brother for Miller
- Neil LaGrange & wife Nikki on the birth of twin girls
- Colleen McIntyre - Emmaus - surgery on Mar.24/21
- LeeAnne asks for continued prayers
- Fr. Seifert & Fr. George - for their continued recovery after Covid 19
- Repose of the soul of Colette McGowan - Elizabetha Sanna

Please keep in your prayers all our ill members, those who are house-bound and our deceased members.

May God show his infinite love and compassion at this time through the intercession of Our Lady Queen of Apostles and St. Vincent Pallotti.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 25 – Rosary via Zoom with Isabel Bolhuis – 7:00pm

TBD: Virtual ‘Way of the Cross’ presented by Ciere Group

TBD: Virtual Via Lucis – presented by Ciere Group

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions for In Via are welcome from all members of the UAC. Below is a list of categories that will be considered for publication. Please note that the editor has the discretion to use, omit or delay submitted material based on editorial guidelines prepared by the Canadian National Coordination Council, space limitations, or appropriateness of the submission for that particular issue.

Categories

Group activities

Quotes

Poems

Reflections

New members or groups

Articles

Recipes

Pictures

Content

Submissions should be no more than a 1/2 page in length and are subject to spelling and grammar checking. The editor may downsize the submission if deemed necessary for space consideration. Content should have a spiritual, educational or community-based focus. Pictures are always welcome. Submissions can be sent directly to the editor.

In Via is published by the Canadian National Coordination Council.

Editor: Yolanda Richards xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx