



UAC NEWSLETTER

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SEGRETARIATO UAC

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Dear members and friends of the Union,

It is with great joy and in a spirit of profound gratitude to God that we inform you of **the definitive Approval of the General Statutes by the Pontifical Council for the Laity (PCL)**. The General Statutes of the Union of Catholic Apostolate (UAC) were approved in 2003 for a five year '*ad experimentum*' period. Following on an extensive process of consultation among the members of the UAC, the draft of the definitive text was studied, debated and approved by the Extraordinary General Assembly in May 2007 and the final amended draft was presented to the PCL for definitive approval. On May 2nd 2008 a letter arrived at the General Secretariat of the UAC from the PCL communicating the definitive approval and attaching a letter with some small modifications and observations on the text. The members of the General Coordination Council (GCC) discussed these during their annual meeting which took place from May 13th to 16th 2008, and they were incorporated into the text. Copies of this text of the General Statutes will be presented to the PCL in September of this year, the PCL will issue the decree on October 28th 2008.

The definitive approval of the General Statutes by the PCL is a cause of great joy but is also a satisfaction as it marks the end of one stage of the life of the UAC and the beginning of a new and rich period of life which will be to one of concentration on the mission of the UAC in the heart of the universal Church according to its orientations.

This definitive approval inspires us to reflect on the role that the Statutes play in the life of the UAC. The Code of Canon Law of the Church, in canons 298 to 329, establishes the norms for Associations of the Faithful in the Church, and canon 304, par. 1, reads: "All public or private associations of the Christian faithful, by whatever title or name they are called, are to have their own statutes which define the purpose or social objective of the association, its seat, government, and conditions required for membership and which determine the manner of its acting, attentive, however, to the necessity or advantage of time and place". And in par. 2: "They are to choose a title or name for themselves adapted to the usage of time and place, selected above all with regard to their intended purpose".

In his life time St. Vincent Pallotti was very committed to drawing up Regulations for his foundation, and he did so in the conditions and in the manner of his time. St. Vincent in the well-known text which begins with the word "At my death ..." wrote: "Our Lord Jesus Christ in his infinite mercy and by the infinite merits of his most holy life and by the merits and through the intercession of his holy Mother, Mary Immaculate, of the Angels and Saints, notwithstanding my unworthiness in comparison to his infinite perfection, deigned to make me a member from the very beginning of the pious Society of the Catholic Apostolate (read: Union of Catholic Apostolate) erected in Rome by the higher authority and under the special protection of Mary Queen of Apostles, for the growth, defence and spreading of holiness (piety) and of the Catholic faith".

St. Vincent outlined a summary of its history: "In 1834 initially in a private form among a few persons, then in 1835 it was approved first of all with a written communication... by the Cardinal Vicar ... then by his Reverend Vicar, and finally by the Supreme Pontiff also with a written communication from the audience His Holiness had with the Cardinal Vicar in his role as representative of the Vicar of our Lord Jesus Christ". However, the process was neither easy nor without obstacles, as Pallotti himself recorded: "In order that the pious Society (Union) be purified in the crucible of tribulations, our Lord Jesus Christ

permitted in the beginning that it would be, in a few words, the open object of the same (i.e. tribulations). There were persons who, not knowing the complete nature, works and aims of the Union, because of those false ideas ... the formation of which is not lacking in the minds of some in order to impede the works of God, the pious Society was seriously tested, and for a time it even bore signs of death, and this was all necessary so that the Work of God would bear the image of our Crucified Lord, Jesus Christ". Pallotti, however, recalled also that "... the pious Society ... acquired new signs of life, which are shown and made evident in the nature of the works of the Lord".

He himself indicates the date in which he set about writing on the Union in a more detailed manner: "It was 1839 and still nothing had been written that truly concerns the nature, the works and the aims of the pious Society (Union) ... but, our Lord Jesus Christ wished to show me mercy and he made arrangements that ... I would take myself to the holy Hermitage of the Camaldolese hermits near Frascati, with the confidence that God had prepared this in order to give me while at the Hermitage those illuminations of which I was in need so as to write about the pious Society of the Catholic Apostolate. Having arrived at the Hermitage on July 10th God in his mercy inspired me to first of all give serious attention to reordering my poor spirit and I found myself immersed in an immense sea of divine mercies and I wrote so many pages out of the needs of my poor soul. Therefore, with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ... I began to write the Rules for the Pia Casa di Carità, which had been established in Rome by the pious Society (Union)".

Fr. Vincent remained at Camaldoli until the month of October and continued to write: "Our Lord Jesus Christ put into my mind the true concept of the nature and of the works of the pious Society (Union) with the general aim of the growth, defence and spreading of holiness (piety) and of the Catholic faith ... and I (am) truly convinced in my heart that the establishment and the spreading of the pious Society (Union) would be in accordance with the divine will". He continued: "Even though our Lord Jesus Christ deigned once again to reveal to one of his beloved souls that He himself has inspired all that has been written of the pious Society, and that I would live to see it sufficiently established and spread, and that this work would be for his greatest glory". Then St. Vincent appealed to the members to consider the foundation: "... as if all of you were the chosen ones of our Lord Jesus Christ to be its founders, its propagators and its caretakers on this earth and valid intercessors for it when, by divine mercy, you are in the eternal kingdom of glory". St. Vincent Pallotti also wrote during the course of that summer at Camaldoli the so-called "Fundamental Rule of the 33 points" and other significant texts.

The approved General Statutes were formulated in order to fulfil the requirements of the Law of the Church on Associations of the Faithful, and, at the same time, to express fidelity to the vision and to the intuitions of our Holy Founder Vincent Pallotti. The General Statutes of the UAC define its aims, its seat or headquarters, its form of government and the conditions required for membership, but they also express the mission, the spirit with which it works and the aims of all its activities in the Church of Christ, which is none other than to be the UAC, a true communion of the faithful in the heart of the Church, which is the Body of Christ, at the service of her mission and doing everything in close communion and collaboration with her Pastors.

St. Vincent finally prayed thus: "I pray all the heavenly court, and above all the Immaculate Mother Mary, Queen of the Apostles ... that they perpetually and efficaciously pray the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit ... so that they deign to ensure that the pious Society (Union) be propagated and established in the entire world and that it be preserved until the end of the world and that God be glorified and the souls in all of the world be sanctified ...". The prayers of St. Vincent for the UAC are still bearing fruit today and one of these, within its long history, is this new stage of its life.

Mons. Stanisław Ryłko, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, was designated a Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church in the Consistory held on November 24th 2007. Mons. Ryłko was a very important figure in the dialogue with the Holy See for the erection of the Union as a Public International Association of the Faithful

Archbishop Mons. Henryk Hoser SAC nominated Bishop of Warszawa-Praga (Poland)

H.E. Mons. Henryk Hoser, Assistant Secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and President of the Pontifical Missionary Works, has been appointed Bishop of Warszawa-Praga (Poland) by the Holy Father. Mons. Hoser will assume this new apostolic responsibility at the end of the month of June. We accompany him with our prayers.

A. THE GENERAL COORDINATION COUNCIL OF THE UNION

The General Coordination Council of the Union (GCC) met in the Centro di Spiritualità at Grottaferrata, on May 13th 14th, 15th and 16th for its annual meeting. The days of the meeting were ones of intense work but lived in a climate of sharing and of joy as the members observed the growth in the life of the Association. There were many items on the agenda, but first and foremost were the General Statutes which had been definitively approved by the PCL with a letter dated April 25th. 2008; the minor modifications requested were incorporated into the text. The next topic was the forthcoming General Assembly which will take place on December 1st 2nd 3rd and 4th 2008, at the Centro di Spiritualità, Grottaferrata. The theme of the General Assembly will be: "From the vision to the mission", with a subtitle "Together and for one another"; the choice of the theme expresses the conviction of the members of the GCC of the twofold dynamic movement which has its origin in the vision that one has of the UAC and then passes on to expression in the realization of its mission. The members of the GCC and the Presidents of the National Coordination Councils will participate in the General Assembly.

The members studied and discussed other texts which are commentaries on the General Statutes and which, once they are distributed among the members, will be of help to understand the norms of the General Statutes and will offer reflections and guidelines on the implementation of the Statutes in ones personal life and in that of the UAC. The proposal to hold a General Congress of the Union in Rome in April 2010 was also approved; you will receive information regarding its organization in a few months time.

The **National Coordination Council of India** had presented to the GCC an **initial formation programme** called "Chosen to bear fruits that endure", John 15,16); the GCC approved the general orientation of the programme.

Fr. Frank Donio, SAC, President of the NCC of the United States of America and a member of the GCC, was, in accordance with article 111 of the General Statutes, re-appointed **Bursar** for one year.

Mons. Séamus Freeman, President of the General Coordination Council and Bishop of the Diocese of Ossory in Ireland, was absent from the meeting on one day, he had been invited by the President of the PCL, Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, to participate in a Seminar for Bishops who work with Movements of the Church which was organized by the PCL. This Seminar took place at Rocca di Papa, the central theme was taken from the exhortation of the Holy Father to Bishops: "I ask you to go out to meet the Movements with great love". The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, received the Bishops in a special audience and in his address he asked them to go out to meet the Movements with great love because they constitute one of the most important new initiatives of the Holy Spirit and "... they give vitality, faith and hope to the whole Church". The Holy Father affirmed that the Movements reflect the shining sign of Christ and of the Church in the world and that they are a gift of God, a precious resource to enrich the entire Christian community with their charisms. The UAC is not a Movement of the Church, however it does share many of their characteristics and therefore it is justified to recognize in the words of the Holy Father a stimulus and encouragement for our life in the UAC.

Mons Freeman will participate in World Youth Day in Sydney in the month of July and has been invited to be a Bishop catechist.

The **final Eucharistic Celebration of the Meeting of the GCC** was celebrated on Friday May 16th at 18.30 in the Church of SS. Salvatore in Onda, spiritual centre of the UAC, and Fr. Fritz Kretz, Rector General of the Society and Ecclesiastical Assistant of the UAC was the main celebrant. The members of the GCC together with all the other participants thanked God for the definitive approval of the General Statutes and prayed fervently for the intentions of all the members of the UAC.

B. CELEBRATIONS OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Fr. Vincent Pallotti solemnly celebrated the Octave of the Epiphany from 1836 up to his final one in January 1850, just a few days before his return to the Father's House. The Epiphany of the Lord was celebrated with special solemnity in many parts of the Union this year; we present you here with accounts

of some of the celebrations which reflect the diversity of the life of the Union, but above all the creativity in making the vision and the spirit of St. Vincent relevant in today's world.

1. The Octave of the Epiphany in Riposto (Sicily) celebrated uninterruptedly from 1952 to 2008

The celebration of the Octave of the Epiphany in Riposto was started by Sr. Battistina Nori and the Community of Pallottine Sisters with her in Riposto. Thanks to their enthusiasm and their passion for the kingdom of God they did all in their power to promote the thinking of Vincent Pallotti through the Octave of the Epiphany. The first celebration took place in 1952 in an experimental form, but already in 1953 the Bishop of the Diocese of Acireale gave his approval to the initiative and imparted his special blessing and recommended that the priests, the lay persons and all the associations of the Diocese should actively participate together in this activity which would lead to the unity so ardently desired by St. Vincent Pallotti. From that year onwards the Octave was firmly established in Riposto and consisted of days of meetings, encounters, times for prayer and for an attentive listening to the Word of God. Throughout all these years the Octave was animated by various Pallottine priests, priests of other Congregations and the Diocesan clergy, each and every one contributed his very best so that this important spiritual occasion would bear fruit. The Chapel of our Lady of Sorrows in the Sisters Convent was and is the heart of these celebrations, however the Octave has been celebrated on occasion in various parishes of the area. With the passing of time the format of the gatherings and celebrations has changed in a constant effort to make the apostolic intuition of St. Vincent relevant to modern society. In order to programme the events of the Octave each year a group is formed and is composed of the community of the Sisters, the Pallottine collaborators, the priests of the area, young persons and representatives of the various parish communities in the town. Efforts have been made to work closely with the parishes in order to destroy the parochialism which still exists in the mentality of many persons. The Octave is an embrace which gradually expands so as to open its arms more to the challenges of the world of today. For this reason the celebration while gathering and involving the people of God around the Bishop in special moments of spirituality, also stretches out its arms to take in social issues and hardship in its diverse forms. Conferences and debates are organized on topics like the challenges in education and local families are sensitized to extend a welcome to young persons in difficulty; the Community of the Pallottine Sisters as well as running a school are involved in many apostolic activities in the parishes, but they also take in young persons who are subject to judicial orders and they accompany them in their formative and affective journey. Integral parts of the Octave are night vigils, special times of evangelization of young persons and moments of going out to meet the young persons in their natural meeting places. The Octave in Riposto has been uninterrupted and it has been carried on by the untiring enthusiasm of the Superiors and Sisters of the community down through the years. With the apostolic activity of the Octave we seek to transmit to our local reality the up-to-date-ness of the thinking of St. Vincent Pallotti. This year the theme for the Octave was: "With Hope alive in us, we light a light today", there were prayer gatherings, moments of sharing and other events that brought a wide spectrum of persons together.

2. The Parish of San Sebastião de Itaipù, Niteroi (Rio de Janeiro)

In Niterói the Octave of the Epiphany was organized by the members of the Community of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate and the members of the UAC, it was very successful. At the final Eucharistic Celebration more than 700 persons participated, while the average daily attendance for the celebrations was around 200 persons. The Lord continues to do marvels among us!

3. Avella, (Italy)

On January 5th the Community of the Pallottine Sisters at Avella accepted once more the invitation of St. Vincent Pallotti, vocalized by him in 1850: "Next year you will organize and animate the Octave", and thus they continue the lovely tradition of the celebration of the Octave of the Epiphany. The theme this year was: "Your Word is a lamp for my steps, a light for my path", the various parish communities in the area participated enthusiastically in the events and gave witness to faith and hope.

4. The Parish of St. Rose of Lima, Munro, Buenos Aires

For the past few years the Parish of St. Rose of Lima in Munro, Buenos Aires has celebrated the Octave of the Epiphany. This year two significant innovations were introduced. First of all the date; January in the Argentine in a month in which there is very little activity, so the date was changed and the Octave was

celebrated in September during the Mission Week. Secondly, instead of inviting the different Rites in the Church to animate the celebrations, the different cultures and nationalities present in the parish community were invited to do it, the parish community is made up of Bolivians, Peruvians, Paraguayans, Slovenians, Croatians, Italians and Spaniards. Each National community assumed responsibility the celebration of Mass on one day of the Octave. The aim of this is to underline the notion of universality which was so deeply felt and expressed by St. Vincent Pallotti. The Octave celebrated during Mission Week expressed the meeting between faith and culture in a moment of fraternalization and of mutual enrichment. The one faith which finds expression in the numerous and diverse cultures bears witness to the unity which is always an integration of cultures, races and communities.

C. NEWS FROM THE UNION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

■ Belize

The members of the UAC in Belize, in Central America, having reflected on the great love which St. Vincent Pallotti always had for Mary, our Mother, decided to intensify their relationship with Our Lady. This led to a decision to meet on the 13th of every month to pray the Rosary together and to have an hour of Eucharistic adoration in memory of the apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima.

■ Uruguay

On November 18th 2007 the first **National Congress of the UAC** took place in Florida (Uruguay); in the closing Eucharistic Celebration celebrated by Mons. Raul Scarrone, Bishop of the Diocese of Florida, the members of the Union renewed their Act of Apostolic Commitment and a lay person, Luz Nelsiria Burgos Berriel, made the Act of Commitment.

■ Germany

▪ The Community of **Unio-Kreis** (Circle of the Union) **Hochaltingen**, celebrated the incorporation of four (4) new members into the Community on January 20th 2008 at Hochaltingen. This Community of the UAC was founded in 1996 and has more that 120 members, they accept the General Statutes of the Union and the Regulations of the German National Coordination Council as well as living in the spirit of their own Regulations. The members of the Community come from Germany, Austria and Switzerland and are all involved in the apostolic life of the Community itself and in their parishes. The spiritual centre of the Community is the “House of St. Ulrich” in Hochaltingen. The prospective members of the Community participate in a two-year formation programme and they are expected to actively collaborate in the Local Church and also to know St. Vincent Pallotti and his spirituality.

▪ **The National Assembly of the German NCC** will take place from June 6th to 8th 2008 at **Vallendar**. A **Union Congress** for German speaking members will take place in the Retreat House in **Limburg** from July 18th to 20th 2008; the theme of the Congress is: “The Union: a way of being Church today”. The speakers will be Fr. Fritz Kretz, SAC, Rector General of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, Ursula Fehlner and Dr. Alois Wittmann.

■ India

▪ The **NCC in India** met in Nagpur on February 9th 2008 and elected **Sr. Josephina D’Souza**, Delegate Superior of the Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate in India as its new President: Fr. Thomas Vijay was re-elected as National Secretary and Sr. Lillian as Assistant Secretary, the term of office is two years.

▪ **The Secular Institute Khristsevikas** share with us some events that were significant for them in the past year. Fr. Bryan Tiernan, SAC, of the Australian Region, visited India at the end of 2007 and the beginning of 2008 and went to stay with the Khristsevikas at the Centre ‘VARDAN’ (Blessings) at Pune. While working in Raipur, India, in 1958/59 Fr. Tiernan promoted the formation of a lay Institute of women which became in time the Khristsevikas. The members of the Institute are currently living and working in five States in India and in seven dioceses. A central aspect of their life is the twice yearly

meetings for study and sharing and to celebrate together their consecrated life. A second significant event was the visit to the Centre at Pune on February 6th 2008 of Frs. Zenon Hanas, SAC, and Gilberto Orsolin, members of the General Council of the Society. After the visit the Khristsevikas expressed their joy: “Those of us who were present at Vardan were happy for their concern and interest to our little group. This will definitely go a long way for better communication and understanding of the UAC spirit which we try to translate into our secular consecrated life in India”.

The **Khristsevikas** met on May 5th 2008 and elected their **new governing body** which is made up of Ms. A. Regina Silvia, President for a third term, and the Counsellors Ms. Crispina D’Costa and Ms. Joyce Almeida.

- The first **UAC study circle** took place in Nagpur from March 26th to 28th 2008, to study the formation material. This was a very positive experience for the participants, so much so that they decided to begin to translate the formation programme for the UAC into Hindi and to invite other members of the Communities to participate in other circles in order to spread the programme in the other parts of the Region.

■ Brazil

- The Pallottine Sisters of the Province of “Nossa Senhora Aparecida”, Porto Alegre, have opened a new web site, the address is: www.cacip.com.br

- On April 21st. 2008 the **VII Regional Encounter of the UAC** took place in Rio de Janeiro with the participation of over 100 persons. During the Encounter 17 persons made the Act of Apostolic Commitment and a further 26 renewed their Commitment; the community also gathered to give thanks to God for the 35th anniversary of the arrival of the first Pallottines from Poland in Rio de Janeiro and for the 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood of two Pallottines, Frs. Tadeu Domanski, SAC and Estevao Lewandowski, SAC.

- In May of this year the **Sisters of the Congregation of the Catholic Apostolate** celebrated the **75th anniversary of the missionary presence** of the Congregation in Brazil, together with 170 years of their foundation. The principal celebration took place on May 24th and 25th at Canção Nova - São Paulo. The NCC of the **UAC** decided to hold a **National Meeting** to coincide with the celebrations in which about 400 persons participated. The theme of the Meeting was “In the Cenacle with Mary for mission”. The closing Eucharistic Celebration for the joint event took place in the Basilica-Sanctuary of “Nossa Senhora Aparecida”, Patroness of Brazil, with the participation of over 500 persons.

■ South Africa

The Sisters of the **Congregation of Our Lady, Mother of Divine Love** (Ntaba Maria, South Africa), a Community of the Union, held their General Chapter at the beginning of 2008 and Sr. De Sales Solani was elected Superior General.

■ Italy

- **The Quinta Dimensione Community** of the UAC accompanied Fr. Giuseppe Leonardi, SAC in his return to the Father’s House on April 16th 2008 with great peace and serenity. Fr. Leonardi had accompanied the Community with his priestly ministry right from the very beginning in 1968-69.

- **Sr. Edoarda Torti, CSAC** once again this year went to **San Giorgio di Cascia** where relatives of our Founder St. Vincent Pallotti still reside, to conduct a triduum of prayer, reflection and Pallottine spirituality. Sr. Edoarda describes it: “This year we were very fortunate to be able to celebrate the feast of our Founder at San Giorgio between the celebration of the feast of Our Lady, Queen of Apostles and the Solemnity of Pentecost, two feasts which were very dear to St. Vincent. We the participants were enveloped in an atmosphere of great familiarity with led us to experience something very close to the first Pentecost, we were gathered together like one family in the Cenacle all around Mary, Queen of Apostles, united in prayer and waiting on the Holy Spirit as we fervently prayed for a powerful effusion of grace.

The people of the area participated actively in all the events eager to know better their relative and fellow villager, our St. Vincent. It was from these very roots that the message which was the origin of our spiritual birth, our growth and our diffusion in the entire world, was transferred to Rome. The triduum was like a pilgrimage back from Rome to San Giorgio, back to the roots, in order to rekindle and revive and keep alight the flame of love and communion. The local Church was a Cenacle ready to welcome any person; whoever entered it stayed and was drawn in by and attracted by our Queen. My hope is that a Local Coordination Council of the UAC may emerge in San Giorgio di Cascia”.

Sr. Edoarda's presence in San Giorgio is much appreciated. The main celebration was held on Sunday May 11th, members of the community of the Generalate of the Society and of the Generalate and Procura of the Pallottine Missionary Sisters together with some lay persons took part in the procession and in the Eucharistic celebration.

- A **retreat for the members of the UAC** directed by Fr. Derry Murphy, SAC, took place at the Centro di Spiritualità San Vincenzo Pallotti, Grottaferrata, from April 25th to 27th, in which about 60 persons, priests, seminarians, Sisters, members of the Union and others in formation took part.

■ Poland

- A **formation seminar in the spirit of the UAC** took place from February 11th to 14th for a group of 25 members of the Society of Catholic Apostolate and the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate. The General Secretary, Fr. Derry Murphy, SAC, was the speaker.

- On May 24th 2008 at **Gniezno 9 members of a youth group made their Act of Apostolic Commitment** in the Union during a Eucharistic celebration in which Mons. Wojciech Polak, the diocesan Bishop was the main celebrant, and among the concelebrants were Frs. Marek Chmielniak, SAC, and Tadeusz Miszweski, SAC. Following years of personal, spiritual and apostolic formation these became the first members of a youth group which is accompanied and guided by Sr. Anna Ozon, SAC, to be admitted to the Union. The group will conduct a summer camp of apostolic activities in Belarus this summer. The community has its own web site, the address is: www.hoza31.prv.pl

■ Ireland

- The **Episcopal consecration of Mons. Séamus Freeman** took place on Sunday December 2nd 2007 in St. Mary's Cathedral in the city of Kilkenny, Episcopal seat of the Diocese of Ossory, one of the oldest in Ireland and closely associated with St. Kieran known as “The first of the Saints of Ireland”, who is the Patron of the Diocese. St. Mary's Cathedral dates from the 19th. century and was full to capacity for the celebration, a large number of persons accompanied the ceremony on giant screens set up in adjoining buildings. Members of the Society from the Irish Province and others from Italy, Germany and Poland also participated. Sr. Serena Cambiaghi, CSAC, Superior General, accompanied by Sr. Joselia Giuliani, CSAC, and Sr. Patrice Wales, SAC, and Sr. Izabela Swierad, SAC, represented the Congregations of the Pallottine Sisters. A group of members of the Union and of parishioners from the Parish of St. Vincent Pallotti in Pietralata where Mons. Freeman was parish priest prior to his Episcopal nomination, was also present.

- On Saturday May 10th 2008, feast of Mary Queen of Apostles, the **annual Pallottine pilgrimage** to the National Shrine of Our Lady at **Knock**, Co. Mayo, took place. The pilgrimage was special this year as **12 persons made their Act of Apostolic Commitment in the UAC** during the Eucharistic Celebration. The National Shrine to Our Lady commemorates an apparition on August 21st 1879 of Our Lady accompanied by St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist, in the presence of 15 persons. Pope John Paul II visited the Shrine as a pilgrim in September 1979 on the occasion of the centenary celebrations; Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta visited it in June 1993.

■ Canada

In February 2008 four members of the Union, Frank and Patricia DeSchryver of the Kairos group, and Angelina D'Almeida and Loretta Kohlman, of the Misericordia group, joined forces with a mission group

and travelled to Belize to participate in a two week mission with the Pallottine Missionary Sisters at Nazareth, Belize. Loretta describes the experience: “Various projects were undertaken and completed during that time. We visited several villages and distributed school supplies, took communion to the sick and shut-ins and attended Prayer Services or Mass in some of the village homes. A house was built for a destitute couple; a Rosary Garden completed near the Retreat Centre at Nazareth; students prepared for First Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Confirmation; and teachers received in-service on Religious Instruction.

While on the Mission we stayed in the Retreat Centre and joined the Sisters for daily Mass and prayers. The Sisters prepared meals for us at the Centre and treated us royally. It was rewarding and as before, I return home humbled and more open-minded from the experience”.

■ United States of America

▪ Pallottine Service Week

During the third week of April, to coincide with the 21st anniversary of the birth of St. Vincent Pallotti, the **annual Pallottine Service Week** to the community took place in the U.S.A. In this week a greatly increased number of pastoral and apostolic initiatives were undertaken by the members.

▪ A **Meeting** will take place from July 28th to August 1st 2008 at **Emmitsburg, Maryland**, for the members of the Communities of the Union on the theme: “Collaboration from the beginning: the Role of the Core Communities in the Union of Catholic Apostolate”. It is expected that 46 members of the three Communities will participate along with the three guest speakers, Sr. Grace Gabrielle O’Brien, CSAC, Fr. Thomas Vijay, SAC, and Fr Derry Murphy, SAC, General Secretary of the Union.

■ Australia

The members of the Union in Australia are busy preparing for **World Youth Day 2008** in Sydney, but perhaps more so for the **Pallottine Youth Encounter** programme which will begin on July 4th. at Millgrove with the presence of 110 pilgrims plus 15 local volunteers. A further group of 12 persons will join the group in Melbourne later in the week.

■ Election of Provincial Superior CSAC

The **Sisters of the Congregation of the Catholic Apostolate** recently re-elected **Sr. Ines Casarin, CSAC**, as Provincial Superior of the Provincia ‘Nossa Senhora Aparecida’, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

■ New Provincial/Regional Councils in the Society

In the **Society of the Catholic Apostolate** there have been elections and new councils have assumed office in recent months: Fr. Augustine Varickakal is the Provincial Rector of the Epiphany of the Lord Province (India); Fr. Susayan Sathyanesan is the Provincial Rector of the Assumption of the B.V.M Province (India); Fr. Adrian Willi is the Provincial Rector of the Province of Saint Nicola di Flüe (Switzerland); Fr. Antonio Lotti was re-elected Provincial Rector of the Italian Province of Regina degli Apostoli; Fr. Julio Ende Akamine is the Provincial Rector of the Brazilian Province of St. Paul the Apostle; Fr. Kazimierz Czulak is once again the Provincial Rector of the Polish Province of the Annunciation of the Lord; Fr. Jozef Lasak, is the new Provincial Rector of the Polish Province of Christ the King and Fr. Eamonn Monson has been re-elected Provincial Rector of the Irish Province of The Mother of Divine Love.

Fr. Alejandro Fontana is the new Regional Rector of the Uruguayan Region of St. Vincent Pallotti; Fr. Sergio Schaub was re-elected Regional Rector of the Argentine Region of Our Lady of Lujan; Fr. Joao Pedro Stawicki is the new Regional Rector of the Brazilian Region in Rio de Janeiro of the Mother of Mercy and Fr. Ray Hevern was re-elected Regional Rector of the Australian Region Regina Mundi.