



UAC NEWSLETTER

March 2011

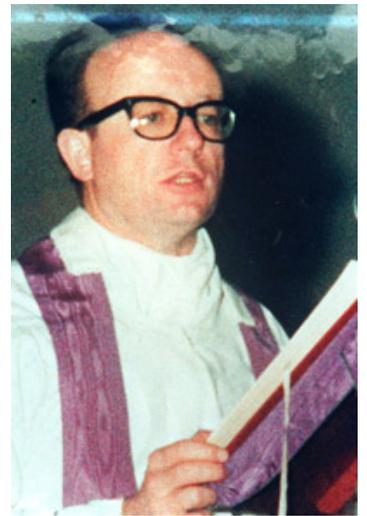
Dear brothers and sisters in the Union

This month brings biographical material on the cause for beatification of **Alfredo KELLY SAC**, prepared by Fr. Jan Korycki, SAC, Postulator General of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, as well as other UAC news.

1. CAUSES FOR BEATIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE UAC AT DIOCESAN LEVEL (continued)

Alfredo José KELLY, SAC, member of the Irish Province was born in Suipacha, Argentina, on March 5th 1933 and was ordained a priest on June 15th 1957. He was one of the group of five Pallottines murdered on July 4th 1976 in the Pallottine house in Belgrano, Buenos Aires, three of them were priests, a professed student and a postulant. The beatification process has not yet been juridically opened but is in the preparatory phase.

Alfredo, known as Alfie, was a son of Juan Kelly and Elisa Casey and the youngest in a family of four boys and two girls. He received his secondary education with the Pallottines in Mercedes and later in Rawson. His novitiate year was spent in San Patricio in San Antonio de Areco and there he made his first Pallottine profession on March 4th 1954. He begun his studies at the Jesuit Colegio Maximo in San Miguel and went on to complete them at the Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained a priest on June 15th 1957, in St. Patrick's Church, Mercedes.



His first years as a priest were spent in parish work, then from 1960 to 1965 he was vocation director, from 1966 to 1973 he was Rector and parish priest in St. Patrick's parish in San Antonio de Areco and then became parish priest and director of the Pallottine students in Buenos Aires until his death. The late Fr. Kevin O'Neill SAC, described his life and work "he specialized in spiritual direction, retreats, Catechetics and in youth work which was his principal apostolate. The best word to describe his character is 'solid'. This quality ensured that he took all his tasks seriously and his relationships with others were lived with integrity and seriousness. He was a tireless worker and right up to the end, faced all difficulties with the serenity that comes from a life of profound prayer and union with God. He was also Director of the John XXIII Archdiocesan Catechetical Seminary, a role which was particularly sensitive at that time".

Fr. Kevin knew Fr. Alfie very well and underlined the depth of his spirituality especially in the last period of his life, he wrote: "In the final weeks of his life Alfie was a changed man, he spoke and acted as if he had had a premonition or a warning of what would happen and at every moment he displayed a complete acceptance of the will of God (...) Alfie lived a holy life and died as a witness of Gospel truth". Fr. Rodolfo Capalozza also made reference to a premonition that Fr. Alfie may have had, he wrote "on that last Friday he remained in the oratory for many hours".

Other witness tell of how Fr. Alfie was very open to the needs of his neighbour, he was cordial with both young and old, he strongly encouraged lay persons to take the initiative in doing good. In personal spiritual accompaniment he often stressed that the will of God was to be sought and together with his youth group would help other groups to organize retreats.

It is noteworthy that three days before he died Fr. Alfie wrote in his diary: "I had a most profound experience in prayer. In the morning I realized the gravity of the calumny which is circulating about me. Throughout the entire day I felt that my life is in danger. That night I prayed intensely (...) I wept a great deal (...). In the midst of my tears I realized that I am very attached to life, that the offering up of my life and my death in God's loving plan is of great value. I offer my life, living or dead, to the Lord, but in so far as I am able to I must fight

to preserve it; I will be called by the Father at the hour and in the manner that He wants and not when I or others want. Now (...) I feel an indescribable happiness. I no longer belong to myself because I have discovered to whom I must belong. Thank you Lord". Bibliography: *25 años de la Masacre de San Patricio*. Dirección General de Derechos Humanos; *Kelly Alfred*, in: *Acta S.A.C.*, Vol.VIII, 517-519.

2. The first National Congress of the UAC in Argentina will take place in San José Retreat House, Adrogue, Buenos Aires, from April 1st to 3rd 2011. The theme of the Congress is "A new time to revive faith and to re-ignite charity". About 150 persons are expected to participate in the Congress including some members from neighbouring Uruguay. The Congress logo clearly and graphically expresses the goals of this event. Let us unite in prayer for the success of this time of renewal.

1er Congreso Argentino



Un nuevo tiempo
para reavivar la Fe y
reencender la Caridad

3. Germany: The German National Coordination Council has written to inform us of the re-launching of the Union website in Germany. The website offers biographical information on St. Vincent Pallotti, presents the Union as the realization in the Church of the charism entrusted to St. Vincent, and provides information on the life and work of the Union. There is also a photo gallery and up-to-date information on programmes and courses on offer. It has been noted that in latter years people are making enquiries about the Union because they have come across it on the Internet, or have heard of it from friends and have accessed the website before making personal contact. The website can be accessed at: www.pallotti.de

4. Rome: Sr. Stella Marotta, UAC Formation Promoter in Italy, wrote that "on **Sunday February 27th 2011**, the formation team, those who are responsible for formation in the 9 Local Coordination Councils in Italy, met for the third time in Grottaferrata, on this occasion they were accompanied by the 18 Pallottine priests and sisters who are taking part in the year long course for formators at Via Ferrari. The gathering was planned by the UAC formation team in Italy. From the moment of arrival an air of fraternity, a 'breath' of the Union was palpable; brothers and sisters from the 9 LCCs in Italy welcomed those who come from Europe, Brazil, India and several African countries...we were welcomed by the President of the UAC, Fr. Derry Murphy and by the NCC President Fr. Gaetano Ianni. Our hearts bonded immediately and we set about the tasks for the day with great enthusiasm which comes from our desire to incarnate and make the charism known today. We began with prayer, each one presented him or herself, then we had a power point presentation on "THE SPIRITUAL PROFILE OF THE PALLOTTINE", this was followed by group work and a concelebrated Eucharistic. The day ended with a plenary session on the group work, a period of prayer and a blessing which sent us on our way with a 'bag' full of emotions and renewed hope.

5. UAC in Rwanda and the Congo: The Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate in Rwanda-Congo number 30 Sisters and 15 novices and postulants and the delegature became a Region on February 12th, the first Regional Superior is Sr. Bellancila Mukandahiro, and the new Region is called 'Notre Dame de Kibeho'. Sr. Bernadetta Turecka, Provincial of the Polish Mother Province wrote: "The LCCs take formation very seriously, I was privileged to meet a group of 14 persons of the LCC in Kabuga-Masaka who are preparing to make their Act of Apostolic Commitment. Formation there is undertaken in collaboration with Sr. Cecile Bimenyimana SAC and Fr. Gilbert Kazingufu SAC, the members are teachers, employees, men and women, married and single and some are widowed. Mr. Marc Hategehimana in presenting the group said "we have persevered in formation because we have profited greatly from our knowledge of the life of St. Vincent, from his spirituality which has enriched our spiritual lives, from the life and holiness of Our Lady, Queen of Apostles and from the history of the UAC. We have seen that St. Vincent perceived the importance of lay persons in strengthening the Church. We too have taken the decision to commit ourselves to rekindling faith and reviving charity among the faithful. We will do all that is possible so that the apostolate be spread in our country and in the world". The participants showed great interest in the concrete apostolate of lay members in other countries. As a sign of communion they received a large picture of Mary, Queen of Apostles, around which the gathering had taken place in a Cenacle spirit.