



E-BULLETIN #160

22-Feb-15

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 305

Pallotti Institute - Mysore

Here at Mysore, India we have a new **Pallotti Institute**. It is one of six worldwide, established for different language groups. The original centre is, of course, in Rome where *Fr. Jan Kupka SAC* is its Director. Others exist in Germany, Poland, Brazil, Cameroon (for both French speakers and for the whole of Africa – it will be inaugurated officially only in January 2016). This Institute, established in 2011, provides for our own and all other English speaking countries.

Pallotti Institutes, in the words of Fr. Rector General, are meant:

- to be centres of research and learning on Pallotti;
- to make Pallotti and his charism known to people;
- to provide a network of communication & sharing of materials on Pallotti;
- to form members and lay people in the spirit & charism of Pallotti;
- to find ways to inculcate Pallotti's charism more widely;
- to promote theological research (the work of major seminaries & institutes);
- to exchange experiences in the realization of the programmes in various Pallotti Institutes.

Each Institute has a Director and Council. Our Council has 13 members, including 3 representing the Indian SAC Provinces; 3 representing groups of students here at the theologate; 4 representing each of the four Pallottine Sister Congregations in India [the Congregation of the Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, the Missionary Sisters of the Catholic Apostolate, the Cenacle Sisters and Khristsevikas].



On 17th of January we had an ‘activity’ day, organized by the Institute for both the Prabodhana & Queen Mary communities (priests, students, sisters & novices). The whole day was occupied with projects centred on Pallotti – solving a Pallotti jigsaw, relay drawing on the theme of his virtues, planning a ‘garden’ of those virtues, a Pallotti quiz, an extempore speech on Pallotti, a group singing competition (only Pallotti hymns in any language), and a tableau on the events of his life.



This full day programme was meant to create more interest among the students around Pallotti & his charism. Both communities, in groups of 7, shared enthusiastically. In the 2016 scholastic year we hope to expand this into a Pallotti Week with various projects each day, and mini-courses for each of the four groups of students – on Pallottine Spirituality (for 1st years), on the Pallottine Charism & Apostolate (for 2nd years), on the history of the Society (for 3rd years) and on the Constitutions (for 4th years). We will also invite members of other formation houses in India.



We hope and pray that more knowledge on Pallotti will be imparted & gained through these ventures.

Thank you and God bless you!

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09.02.15
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item 306

a small miracle!

This story begins in Union City, New Jersey, USA in the 1960’s. Anthony C Drogon, my fiancée’s father, was a hard-working coat factory supervisor and an active member of St. Rocco’s RC Church. He was a Grand Knight and was in charge of the Knights of Columbus, bingo and several other parish activities.

Our pastors, Fr. Alarico Russo SAC and Fr. Flavian Bonifazi SAC, were Pallottine priests and frequent travellers to Rome for Pallottine matters. Frs. Flavian and Anthony were great friends of the family over the years. Around this time the Drogon family purchased a modest vacation home at the Jersey shore. Anthony and family members worked weekends to renovate it.

Unfortunately in 1975 Anthony died suddenly at the age of 52. His widow Carmella, did not want to keep the house. Her children Carol (my fiancée) and her brother Anthony took over the house and enjoyed it for the next 35 years. During this time Carol and I began to visit Barbados regularly and attend St. Dominic’s in [the suburb of] Christ Church.



During a cleaning-out session at the vacation home a box was discovered, containing Anthony's possessions. In the box were two relics – of St. Vincent Pallotti and St. Anthony – together with accompanying documentation from Rome. These relics were brought there by Fr. Flavian and given to Anthony in the 1960's. Unbeknownst to the family, they had been sitting in this box for 35 years. They were shown to our parish priest in New Jersey and he verified that they were authentic.

In the meantime, St. Dominic's Church in Barbados had become a Pallottine parish served by Fr. Luke and priests from Poland. Carol felt her father would be honoured if she donated the St. Vincent Pallotti relic to Fr. Luke and St. Dominic's parish. Plans were made to bring the relic on our next trip to Barbados in January 2012.

The relic was delivered after a Saturday vigil mass. Everyone was very happy since the feast of St. Vincent Pallotti was approaching. The following Saturday, at the vigil mass, Fr. Andy announced from the altar "will the couple that gave something to Fr. Luke last week, please see him after Mass?"

It turned out that, in error, we had brought the proper certificate for St. Vincent Pallotti but we brought the relic of St. Anthony. Fr. Luke said "fly St. Anthony back to New Jersey and bring St. Vincent back when we return next year". This is what we did. His relic has been worshiped since January 2013 on the altar at St. Dominic's.



In October 2012 Hurricane Sandy destroyed the Drogon shore home. Had the relic not been discovered and remained there, it also would have been destroyed.

So you see this relic went from Rome, Italy to Union City, New Jersey, to Ortle Beach, New Jersey where it sat unknowingly in a box for 35 years. It was then flown to Barbados, escaping hurricane Sandy and certain destruction!

Was this a small miracle? I think so, what do you think?

William M. Stonton – Christ Church – BARBADOS
09.02.15

sac asia oceania e-bulletin

you commented...

on #159 Thank you for the newsletter. Just a clarification, Fr. Erick is not the pastor of Our Lady of Pompeii. **Fr. Frank Amato SAC** is the pastor. Fr. Erick is an associate pastor along with **Fr. Bernie Carman SAC** [apologies to both! - RH].

FD 15.02.15