



Towards Gentili

As reported here in the Ramblings Diary, 54 of the brethren from England, Ireland and America, gathered last October at Swords in Dublin for an important Assembly with the purpose of drawing as many of the brethren as possible into the mandate and grace of the General Congregation's decision that these areas of the Institute, together with the Region of New Zealand, become one new Province named after Father Luigi Gentili. From a slow beginning the Holy Spirit was evident in the gathering to the extent that all the participants 'came on board' in their desire to become one Province in this new movement of grace. It is highly unlikely that any well produced document or exhortation, no matter how solid and well founded, could have achieved this. As well as our prayer and work at Swords, we also visited the Church on the site where Father Gentili preached his last mission and died, as well as going on pilgrimage to his tomb in Omeath. It was here that the new Provincial-to-be, Father David Myers, planted a young oak tree as a symbol of the forthcoming birth of the new Province. We are looking forward to the day when the Province will be formally established by Father General. The inauguration will take place at Loughborough on the 175th anniversary of the arrival in England of Father Gentili.

Ramblings from Rome

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Fr. John Benito

Father John Benito has been a guest in the community at Porta Latina. He originates from Tamil Nadu where his family still are, though he accepted an invitation to join a diocese in the North of India in Bhopal. He was sent by his bishop to Rome for post-graduate studies. Intending to work on Von Baltazar, he was persuaded by Don Eduino to study the thought of Antonio Rosmini on the Eucharist. His doctoral thesis is entitled *The Eucharist as Sacrifice and Source of Love*. He finished with flying colours and was the top student of

his year. We wish him well in his work in the Diocese and look forward to hearing news of his work there. He is seen here with Father General, who is decked with a traditional Indian silat, at a reception with the community just after being received as an Ascribed member.

The Canadian Ambassador to Italy, James Fox, and his wife Nurys are resident just a few doors down from us in via di Porta Latina and are frequent visitors to our basilica.

Mrs Fox, originally from the Dominican Republic, is a philosopher and of course has become very interested in the writings of our Founder.

Previously Mr. Fox had served as



Mr. & Mrs. Fox Br. Nigel Cave & Fr. Anthony Meredith

Abassador to Guatemala and to El Salvador. In addition to being Canada's Ambassador to Italy he is also Ambassador to San Marino and Albania and High Commissioner to Malta. If that were not enough, he is also Ambassador to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, whose HQ is not far from us, near the Circus Maximus. They are pictured here with Bro Nigel Cave and myself in the beautifully maintained grounds of their residence.



L to R Don Eduino, Don Pierluigi, Giles Wyn-Williams, Anthony Meredith, Damien Wyn-Williams and Fr. General.

Fr. Damien Wyn-Williams from Dunedin NZ and his brother Giles stayed with us and were present on October 11th in St. Peter's when Pope Benedict canonized five saints including Fr. Damien of Molokai. St. Damien had left Flanders at the age of 23 to work with lepers in Hawaii. He died there of leprosy in 1889. St. Damien was a cousin of Mrs. Anita Wyn-Williams of Dunedin, the mother of Father Damien and Giles.



Father Enhart Empete, pictured, recently graduated in Pastoral Theology, at All Hallows College, Drumcondra, Dublin. During his studies, he lived with our community nearby, and, like so many of our African and Indian brethren, is very grateful for the encouragement and support they gave him. He returned to Africa for the Provincial Chapter in November and is now looking after the parish in Mombo, Tanzania.

Institute

3 October – At the parish of the Holy Spirit in EUR Rome, Mgr. Rino Fisichella ordained to the priesthood Father Carlo Steffanazzi. He will be working there.

4 October – In Maracaibo, Archbishop Mgr. Ubaldo Ramon Santana Sequera ordained to the priesthood Father Jose Francisco Valderrama, who is Vice-Rector of the Antonio Rosmini College there.

18 October – At Porta Latina, Father John Benito of the Diocese of Bhopal India, was received by Father General as an Ascribed Member of the Institute.

19-23 October – A meeting took place at Swords in Dublin of 54 priests and brothers from England, Ireland and America, to initiate the process of becoming the new Gentili Province. On 21st they concelebrated Mass at the Church of St. John Lane and visited the tomb of Father Luigi Gentili at Omeath.

21 October – The first of the monthly meetings at Porta Latina of the 'Friends of Rosmini'. A talk was given by Prof. Giorgio Salzano on 'Philosophy and Theology'.

23-31 October – A 'Seminar of Special Culture' took place at the College in Domodossola organized jointly by the faculty of Science for Formation and Education in the 'G. Marconi' University in Rome and the Institute of Professional Hotel Management at the College in Domodossola.

29 – October The Ngong Diocese celebrated 50 years since its foundation, and remembered its first Prefect Apostolic, Mgr. John De Reeper.

9-13 November – The First Provincial Congregation of the New East African Province took place at Mwambani, Tanzania. Father General and the Irish Provincial were present.

18-20 November – On the second anniversary of the Beatification of Father Founder, an International convention on Antonio Rosmini was held in Rovereto in the Palazzo della Fondazione della Cassa Risparmio di Trento e Rovereto [In the Palace of the Establishment of the Savings Bank of Trent and Rovereto] on Antonio Rosmini: Law and Rights in the three societies.

21 November – A meeting took place in Calvario Domodossola entitled 'Rosmini the Educator'.

29 November – The inauguration of the Congress Hall at the Cultural Centre A. Rosmini in Capo Rizzuto, in the presence of Church and Civil leaders with Father Provincial, and the unveiling of a new statue of Rosmini, and the laying of the foundation stone for the sports Centre of Capo Rizzuto.

9 December – The death of Father Angelo Giupponi, Spiritual Coadjutor, at the age of 81 after 64 years of Religious Life and 42 of priesthood.

1 December – In Ngong, Father General conferred the Ministry of Lector on 14 of our Indian and African Scholastics.

23 December – The publication of Volume V11 of the ascetical letters of Father Founder translated into English by Father Donal Sullivan. It contains a selection from those written between 1850 and 1852.

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(in ordine cronologico)

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Curia.

3 October - Father General and the Curia participate in the priestly ordination of Father Carlo Stefanazzi in the parish of the Holy Spirit in EUR, Rome.

7-9 October – Special meeting of the General Council facilitated by Father Gearoid O'Connaire OFM

12 October – Father General received the renewal of the vow of obedience of five of the English consecrated Ascribed members in Porta Latina. They are making their retreat under the guidance of Father Anthony Meredith in Via Aurelia at the house of our sisters. (9-15th October).

19-23 October- Fathers General and Anthony Meredith participate in Dublin at the first meeting of the English, Irish, and American brethren who will become the new Gentili Province.

22 October - Father Marco Tanghetti leaves for Venezuela, Columbia and Mexico on a special assignment.

6 Nov- 2 December - Father General accompanied by Father Joe O'Reilly, visits the new Province in Tanzania and the house in Kenya.

9-11 December - General Council meeting.

12 December - Father Marco Tanghetti leaves for Ngong and from there on 29th December for Bangalore.

14-15 December - Father Joe O'Reilly goes to Dublin for a meeting to prepare for the new Gentili Province.

22-28 December - Father General goes to Borgomanero and Stresa to visit our Sisters and Fathers.



Fr. David Myers planting a young oak tree as a symbol of the forthcoming birth of the Gentili Province

(report p.8)



The First Provincial Congregation of the newly erected East African Province took place early in November. Father General and the Irish Provincial, Father Joe O'Reilly, were present with the brethren. They are seen here along with our Sisters working in the region.

Here in Rome the brethren eagerly devoured and appreciated the daily diaries, but few guessed that Father General was the author.

Since we are late in going to press with this issue of Ramblings, we mention here the first Provincial Congregation of our newly established Indian Province. Father Marco Tanghetti arrived in India about Christmas time. He had flown in from a visit to our scholastics in Ngong and went straight to meet our scholastics in Bangalore. He gave both communities several days of a Rosminian Heritage programme. At the beginning of January he was present for the First Indian Provincial Congregation which was held in Coimbatore. Father General was a little delayed in leaving Rome and arrived in time for the last day of the Congregation.

