Where there is a will there is a way!

I had only been home for a few days during our Christmas vacation when my mother received a package from the fundraising director of the Academy. Enclosed were a letter and several other papers. Upon reading the letter, my mother called me over. She told me that the Academy needed some financial help and that the students were planning to do a read-a-thon fundraiser. She looked a bit concerned, because she already had so much to do in preparing for Christmas.

Well, I got to thinking. The idea of a read-a-thon was great, and I wanted to do what I could to help. It would be a way we boys could raise money for our school and help things out. I came up with as many names as I could think of and my mother did the same. Later in the evening, our whole family (my five brothers and sisters, my parents, and I) sat in the living room to discuss ways to work things out. One of my brothers, Thomas, is also in the Academy and was just as anxious as I was to raise the funds. At certain points, we were all silent, thinking of more names. The silence would be broken here and there with the outburst of someone's name that we could add to the list.

One of my sisters knows a bit about computers and offered to put the letters together, print the envelopes, and make some reply cards. It took a lot of organizing, but we didn't waste any time.

The idea of a read-a-thon was great.

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Andrew Duncan (above) and Bernard Slobodnik (right), read intently during their six hour read-a-thon on February 23, 2002
We spent many hours working on the project.
After we personalized and signed all of the pieces in our little "mailing," we had to do the stuffing. We even bought double the amount of stamps so that we could put one on each return envelope, which already had our name and address printed. We figured that this would help encourage people to participate in the fundraiser. When we made the letters for our grandparents, we included an extra letter that they could copy and distribute to their friends to request help for their grandsons' school.
After a few days we finally had everything labeled, signed, stamped, and ready to go. Whew! What a job, but so worth it! We mailed them and were quite anxious to see the envelopes start coming in. It didn't take long. Four days after taking our seventy-five envelopes to the Post Office, we received our first response! What an excitement in the house. The first one had arrived! The next day we received two! And they continued to come in. Finally, a week before the read-a-thon, Thomas and I had personally raised over $1,400 for our school!
At last the day of the read-a-thon arrived. It was Saturday, February 23, and my fellow classmates and I headed to our school library to read for six hours. Many of us already had books that we wanted to read, for at the Academy we have many good religious and other books. We all seated ourselves in the library as comfortably as possible because we knew that we would be reading for a long time. Not long after we were all seated and content, there was complete silence. Everyone was enthralled with their books. I don't think anyone realized just how nice it would be to have a whole six hours just to read a religious book.
After about three hours into the reading, someone called out, "It's time for snack." We were all

I would also like to especially congratulate my schoolmate, Jose Ferraz and his family for raising $1,700, thus taking first place in our Read-a-thon fundraiser.

### Three students comment on what they read during the Read-a-thon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Book Comment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Sulzen</td>
<td>7th grade</td>
<td>The book that I read was about a Mexican Jesuit priest who, during the Mexican Revolution, provided Catholic families with food, clothing, shoes, and places to live. He also found a home for babies who were abandoned in churches. Whenever someone came to him for anything they needed, he would get it for them. If a Catholic were in trouble and the police were after him, he would help them escape. The name of this courageous priest is Father Miguel Pro. He was a martyr for his faith and died with his hands outstretched in the shape of the cross.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Duncan</td>
<td>7th grade</td>
<td>For the read-a-thon, I read a book called <em>St. Benedict</em> by Mary Fabian Windeatt. It begins by telling how a seventeen-year-old boy wanted to be a hermit in a cave. After years passed he not only became one, but later became an abbot of several monks. When these ungrateful men later tried to poison him because he was &quot;ruling them like children,&quot; Benedict left them. He then started his own order, now called the Benedictines, who lived in the mountains. There he became a saint, along with others, whom I take as a model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Shibler</td>
<td>7th grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
enjoying our books so much that, although we were hungry, we did not even want to leave our seats, but with time we all thought it better to have a snack.

I am sure that after those six hours many of us learned a lot about the life of a particular saint or blessed. I know I did. I read a very interesting book on Blessed Miguel Pro. I have always liked Father Pro, but I never knew so many interesting facts about his life. Like myself, I am sure that everyone thoroughly enjoyed their six hours of reading.

I want to take advantage of this article, knowing that many of the people that helped us will receive this Bulletin, to personally thank each and every one of you for your help and to assure you that all of you will be very much in our prayers, as we at the Academy pray each and every day for our benefactors. I would also like to congratulate my schoolmate, Jose Ferraz, and his family for raising $1,700, thus taking first place in our read-a-thon fundraiser.

By Peter Shibil
9th grade

Jose Ferraz, first place in the read-a-thon fundraiser, selects a book for his 6 hours of reading.

Our Lady of Good Counsel of Genazzano

The scene is Genazzano, a small village tucked in the hills of central Italy, about 30 miles southeast of Rome. As you walk towards the Augustinian sanctuary of Madonna del Buon Consiglio you notice an inscription above the entrance. If you are able to translate Latin you will be able to read:

In the year of the Incarnation, 1467, on the feast of Saint Mark, at the hour of Vespers, the image of the Mother of God which you venerate in the marble chapel of this church appeared from on high.

As you cross the threshold and take in the scene, the first thing that comes to your attention is the main altar. As you walk further, though, you find yourself curiously attracted to the side altar on the left. It is a beautiful altar with a small picture above it. Approaching, you are able to perceive the features of this fresco. It is a portrait of the Blessed Mother with the Christ Child leaning His head against his mother’s and with His arm around her neck. While the blessed Infant appears mysteriously pensive, the Holy Mother has an exceptionally compassionate face.

This church has a long history. In the fifth century, this little town donated a large part of its revenues to Pope Sixtus III for the restoration of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. To show his thanks, the pope bestowed a piece of property, a large hill, on the part of Genazzano that had contributed the most. In time, there was to rise on this hill a church dedicated to Our Lady of Good Counsel and entrusted to the Augustinians.

Just eleven decades after this, in the fifteenth century, the church had become quite dilapidated. Then, a local widow, Petruccia de Geneo, was inspired to devote her scanty funds to repairing it. Though her friends refused to support such a laudable endeavor, she continued the project until she was left nearly penniless. The church still was not finished, and Petruccia’s friends jeered at her unfinished work. But she was soon to be rewarded in a supernatural manner.

In 1467, on April 25, the feast of Saint Mark, the townspeople were merrymaking in the streets in honor of their town’s patron. All of a sudden the amusements stopped at the sound of heavenly music. As people searched for the source of this melody, they beheld on high a cloud hovering over an unfinished wall of Petruccia’s endeavor. The cloud dissipated and left behind a portrait of Our Lady and her beloved Son. At the same time the bells of Genazzano began to toll of their own accord. The enthralled citizens fell upon their knees
Many people have been cured, both physically and spiritually, through devotion towards Our Lady’s image.

in an ecstasy, and Petruccia broke into tears as she fell in front of the picture.

During this period the Turks had been plundering and looting nearby Albania. Two refugees arriving at Genazzano in search of charity beheld the fresco and swore before the papal delegation that they knew in the church of Scutari, Albania, the same likeness, of the same material, and of the same dimensions. They also affirmed that one day, when the Turks were near, the image had altogether vanished. A commission was sent to Scutari to investigate and, indeed, found that the image was gone. They noted a niche in the wall that had the same dimensions as the image at Genazzano. Evidently, the image had traveled miraculously to Genazzano, for there was no possibility of a reproduction or of removing a fresco intact in such fashion.

The image, which is about 15¾” by 17½”, is now preserved within the finished church and is a constant miracle. The fresco, for one thing, defies the law of gravity. Though it is framed and behind glass, it does not touch the frame in any way, but literally floats of its own accord. The material of the fresco is virtually impossible to etch, for it seems to be made of plaster or porcelain. A skilled painter who visited the shrine observed that the material seems to be eggshell.

This beautiful picture has been a source of healing and consolation for many sick and suffering. Many people have been cured, both physically and spiritually, through devotion towards Our Lady’s image.

Dr. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, the founder of the Brazilian Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family, and Property, visited this blessed shrine in 1988. Though he was not cured of the continuing infirmities from a serious car accident in 1975, he received much consolation from the image and left with his long-standing devotion to it greatly enhanced.

By Jozef A. Schutzman
10th grade

The medieval town of Genazzano is where the fresco of Our Lady of Good Counsel was miraculously transported.

A Mass for our Donors

Msgr. Michael Fedorovich celebrates the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the intentions of all the donors and benefactors of the Academy.

Keeping our Academy running takes much more than many people imagine. Thus, we always have to rely on financial assistance from our friends. By the grace of God, Who has inspired our benefactors with a generous heart, our fundraising efforts have been crowned with success.

Because of this, we feel obliged by gratitude to return something to them. The best idea was to ask Msgr. Michael Fedorovich if he would come to our Academy to offer a Mass for all of our donors. He readily agreed, and celebrated a Mass in our chapel on January 28 for all of our donors.

During the Mass Monsignor gave a short sermon about the angels, commenting how the angels are real even though people often have little recourse to them. He also spoke about the devils, the bad angels, saying that people recognize their existence very readily, but rarely have recourse to the faithful angels.

Monsignor Fedorovich belongs to the Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic rite and is pastor of Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church in Shamokin, Penn., which is a half hour from our school. We go there every morning for his 7:00am Mass and at 9:30am on Sundays.

After Mass, Monsignor had dinner with us and by the end of the day we were all pleased and felt that we had done the best we could do to show our gratitude to all of our donors.

By Martin Shibler
10th grade
2002 March for Life

After our band had
played “Star Spangled
Banner” we all shouted
the TFP’s motto.

On January 22 Saint Louis de Montfort Academy joined the American TFP in going to Washington, D.C., to protest against abortion at the annual March for Life, as the TFP has been doing for 29 years.

Upon arriving, we set up the traditional red standards that bear the words “Tradition, Family and Property” and the American flag. This year the March had two new banners that attracted much attention, one in German and another in Polish. These banners were carried by Germans and Poles who had come to join the fight against abortion.

At the March, we walked the mile and a half that has been walked for twenty-nine consecutive years with the thousands of other people there to protest against abortion. In the many years that we have participated in the March, the people have always shown an appreciation for our standards and band as we marched along in this massive protest against abortion, handing out fliers and playing patriotic songs.

We lined up at the Supreme Court facing the building. After our band had played the “Star Spangled Banner,” our National Anthem, we all shouted the TFP’s motto.

I feel that God blessed this year’s march with much grace for the continuing fight against abortion, and I hope and pray that one day soon our government will outlaw this terrible crime.

By Jose Ferraz
8th grade

Christ’s Divinity and Resurrection

In the Gospels, Our Lord Jesus Christ states some eighty times that He is God. In the Gospel of Saint John, for example, He says, “I am in the Father, and the Father in Me” (14:10).

His holy life, His prophecies, and His miracles all support the truth of this claim. Our Lord showed love for all and great knowledge in His teaching. To the amazement of His listeners, He predicted events they considered most unlikely: the destruction of Jerusalem and His betrayal by His own apostles, for instance. With a command, He gave sight to the blind, made the lame walk, even brought the dead back to life.

With His own resurrection — both the fulfillment of a prophecy and a miracle — He provided the greatest proof of His divinity. He had predicted this event, which is beyond any human ability, at least three times, as when He affirmed, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19). Hundreds of people in different places would indeed see Him resurrected after the tragedy of the Passion. Many of them, and untold others through the centuries, would go to their martyrdoms echoing Saint Paul’s words on the centrality of this proof in our Religion: “If Christ has not risen, vain is your faith” (1 Cor. 15:17).

Alex Zivnuska
Class of 2002
Special Visitors

The Ukrainian Who Memorized Shakespeare
On January 25 we had a very interesting visitor, a university student from Ukraine named Andrey Protas. Imagine that! A person from one of the old Soviet territories and the land with the richest farming soil in the world. Some of us had met Andrey in France at a conference of the French TFP in September of last year. He had now come to Pennsylvania for the American TFP's student seminar in January.

Andrey gave us a talk about Ukraine, its history, its language, and its flag, teaching us all about the differences between here and there. For instance, in Ukraine schooling is much more rigorous than it is here. As an example, he told us that he had to memorize lots of Shakespeare in school, and he quoted some of it from memory for us. He taught us that the colors of the Ukrainian flag, gold on the bottom and blue on top, represent the fields with the blue sky above.

During our "class" on Ukraine, Andrey taught us some phrases and words in Ukrainian such as "Hello" and "Good day, Father" as well as how to say our age. While he spoke it was also interesting to hear the different ways that English is spoken throughout the world. When he would say "the" it came out as "zee" and his w's sounded like v's. It was the first time many of us had heard English spoken in a different manner than what we hear every day.

The next day, after Mass at Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church, we were excited to see who would be the first to greet the Pastor, Monsignor Fedorovich, in Ukrainian. This little cultural experience was enjoyed by everybody and helped us think a little bit further than the boundaries of our nation.

Mr. Fragelli's Visit
On February 22 we had a wonderful visitor, Mr. Luis Antonio Fragelli, a longtime director of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family, and Property (TFP) came to Saint Louis de Montfort Academy along with other members of the TFP. Mr. Fragelli gave a very inspiring meeting on the life of Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, the founder of the Brazilian TFP, inspirer of all the other TFPs around the world and, as such, the inspiration for our Academy. Prof. Plinio was called "The Crusader of the Twentieth Century" in a biography by the Italian historian Roberto de Mattei for his lifelong dedication to defending the Catholic Church and Christian civilization.

Mr. Fragelli's talk focused mostly on Prof. Corrêa de Oliveira's youth, as we were eager to know about his first efforts in the Catholic fight. Mr. Fragelli spoke about Prof. Plinio's early experiences in school and the army, noting how he at once saw the contrast between his blessed home life and the horrible situation which children often encounter in schools and the world around them, even in his day.

We were all soon absorbed in the ideals of a great Catholic who kept his Faith uppermost in mind not just on Sunday, but every day, literally taking it into consideration at every moment. Mr. Fragelli's meeting inspired us with enthun-

During Mr. Fragelli's most uplifting talk, he spoke of how Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira (above: on his first Communion day) struggled to remain faithful to the Catholic church during his young and adult life.

The next day we were excited to see who would be the first person to greet Monsignor in Ukrainian.

Some of us boys went ice skating with Mr. Andrey, our Ukrainian visitor. In the picture, Andrey is 9th from the left.
A Visitor from “Down Under”
On January 7, Mr. John Tucker, the director of the Australian TFP, came to the Academy to visit the staff and students. Unfortunately, he was not able to stay long, having many things to attend to before returning to Australia. Even so, at the request of our headmaster, Mr. Ted Huereña, he willing gave a talk to us boys.

In the very limited time he had, he spoke to us about his responsibilities in the Australian TFP and the work he had undertaken there with a very small number of TFP members. He demonstrated how, with the help of God and Our Lady, even a small group can achieve extraordinary feats. He used a historical example of this, the story of the Old Testament judge Gideon. Mr. Tucker described in detail how Gideon defeated an army that greatly outnumbered his own because of his faith in God. He then spoke about some of the accomplishments of the small Australian TFP.

This served as a great encouragement to all of us, because we can easily see how the good ones are so outnumbered in today’s world. Even though Mr. Tucker’s visit to the Academy was brief, all of us enjoyed his lively conversation and descriptions very much and are looking forward to his return from “Down Under” some day.

Activity Corner

A Logician’s Test
A Persian king once summoned a great logician and challenged him to a test of his reasoning powers. If he passed the test he would be richly rewarded.

The king said: “I will call five slave girls into the court. They will be totally veiled in black. Now, two of these slave girls have black eyes and the other three have blue eyes. The ones with the black eyes always tell the truth but the ones with the blue eyes never tell the truth. You will be allowed to question three of them but you can only put one question to each of these three. The other two may not be questioned. After these three questions, I want you to tell the court the color of the eyes of the five slave girls.

On saying this, the king clapped and, immediately, five black figures entered the court and stood before the logician.

Beremiz, for this was the logician’s name, approached the first girl and asked: “What is the color of your eyes?” To which the girl answered in Chinese: “The color of my eyes is black.”

Beremiz understood what she said for he spoke Chinese, but making believe he did not, he asked of the second veiled figure: “What did she answer to my question?” The second slave girl said: “She said that her eyes are blue.”

Turning to the third girl, the logician asked: “What is the color of the eyes of the two girls I just interrogated?” The third girl answered: “The color of the eyes of the first girl is black and the color of the eyes of the second girl is blue.”

Considering that the girls with the blue eyes never told the truth, how could Beremiz be sure that any of these answers were not lies?

Yet, stepping up resolutely to the throne, he announced firmly: “The first girl has black eyes. The second girl has blue eyes; the third girl has black eyes and the fourth and fifth girls have blue eyes.”

At once, at a command from the king, all five slave girls raised their veils. To the astonishment of the whole court, Beremiz had been perfectly right.

How did Beremiz do it?
The first person to answer correctly, will receive a prize.
The Code of Honor of a Knight

Jozef Schutzman prepared a beautiful chart with the ten codes of honor of a knight to be framed and hung on a special wall at our Academy.

1. Thou shalt believe in all things taught by the Church and shalt observe all Her Commandments.
2. Thou shalt protect the Church.
3. Thou shalt protect the weak and make thyself their defender.
4. Thou shalt love the country of thy birth.
5. Thou shalt not retreat before the enemy.
6. Thou shalt wage war against the infidel with neither truce nor quarter.
7. Thou shalt fulfill all thy feudal duties, so long as they are not contrary to God's law.
8. Thou shalt never lie and thou shalt be faithful to thy word.
9. Thou shalt be generous and thou shalt be liberal toward all.
10. Thou shalt be everywhere and always, the champion of the right and the good against injustice and evil.

Our Choir

Every second Sunday of the month, the staff and students of St. Louis de Montfort Academy drive to Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church in Hazleton, Penn. to attend the Indult Tridentine Mass, celebrated by Father Louis S. Garbacik. This Latin Mass is celebrated at twelve o’clock with the gracious permission of Bishop James C. Timlin of Scranton, Penn. During the Mass, the staff and students sing Gregorian Chant to the playing of the organ by our headmaster, Mr. Ted Huereña, while two of our students always serve the Mass vested in their traditional altar boy cassocks.

After the beautiful Mass, Father Louis invites all to coffee and doughnuts in the Church hall. Following lively conversation with friends and parishioners, we head back to the Academy which is one hour away. Many times, depending on weather conditions, we change our clothes to go hiking, sledding or whatever we have been scheduled to do on the afternoon.

By James Bascom
Class of 2002 T

Our Special Thanks to...

- the most generous Academy Founder donor ($5,000) Mrs. Elizabeth Wiskemann.
- the generous Academy Guardian ($1,000) donors: Dr. Fritz J. Baumgartner MD, Mr. & Mrs. Rolando Domingo, Mrs. Joan Goes, Mr. Henry C. Ptak Jr., Miss Heidi Taraschi, Mrs. Martha von Guggenberg, Mr. & Mrs. Henry F. Walsh, and Dr. & Mrs. Frederick R. Zivnuska.
- Mrs. Theresa Shbler for making two sets of new curtains for the Academy’s main room,
- all those who helped with the Read-a-thon, especially the Shbler and Ferraz families who together raised $3,100.00 for the Academy.