

# ST. LOUIS DE MONTFORT ACADEMY BULLETIN



A QUARTERLY

NO. 3 1997

## Summer Program 1997



### A Call for Heroism and Virtue

It is July 19, 1997. The long-awaited Summer Program has begun. "Youth was not made for pleasure but for heroism," and this is what the many young boys attending the program liked to hear most, and what St. Louis de Montfort Academy wants to show today's youth.

We began each day with a morning prayer to devote our day to God. During breakfast we read the edifying story of the siege of Malta, which gave us an understanding of the spirit of the Crusades. After breakfast we had a meeting. One of the first meetings was about rock and roll, showing us the danger not only in the evil lyrics but in the bad rhythm of the music.

For the expansion of our souls and love of God we participated in many religious activities. We would try our best to sing beautiful songs to God and His beloved Mother. We would also recite the rosary in front of Our Lady of Graces twice a day. Every night we sang the enchanting hymn *Salve Regina* in front of a statue of Our Lady of Good Success. On one of our outings we visited the wonderful shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton where her remains lie today. We were able to pray in front of her tomb and see a slide show about her life. These things showed us how a true saint should live and that if we follow her example we will live a much better life.

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## Summer Program continued...

We had activities for the body as well as soul. First was the treasure hunt. We had to retrieve it from wicked "pirates" who had hidden it. At night we frequently played a terrific game called prison break. During the middle of the course we had a great time canoeing on the appropriately "Muddy Creek." Then there were the chess and ping-pong tournaments. Whoever won received a miniature sword as a prize.

A trip to Washington D.C. was the highlight of the program. We visited the White House and its surroundings. At the end of the day, our patriotism received a boost at the evening parade at the Marine barracks at "8th and I". Our love of our religion must be complemented by our love of our country or it would be incomplete.

Inevitably, the final day of the program came. It was, however, looked forward to with much anticipation, not because it was the last day, but because its activities would somehow be the apex of the summer. French football, "Capture the Flag," "Steal the Bacon," "Cavalry Charge," and an obstacle course that would be the envy of the U.S. Navy Seals brought the course's activities to a climatic finish in what has become known to Summer Program participants as the Medieval games.

After a thoroughly exhausting but enjoyable afternoon, we prepared for dinner, but it was to be no ordinary dinner. The dining room had been transformed into a banquet hall, decorated in medieval style with banners and flags. The servers, dressed in medieval attire, brought out a roasted pig and many delicious side dishes and served fresh-baked bread. A castle-shaped cake capped the banquet.

At the close of the program, each participant received a plaque depicting a courageous mounted knight, a good reminder that "youth was made for heroism."

John Siwik  
10th Grade

## Mark Your Calendars!

The Winter Program will be held from  
January 2 - 5, 1998  
You will be sent invitations  
in the mail.



## The Layman and the Salvation of Society What is Necessary to Save Society?

excerpted from *The Soul of the Apostolate*, by Dom Chautard, O.C.R.

With his deep understanding of the Church, Pius X often saw things with a most remarkable clarity. An interesting conversation of the Holy Pontiff with a group of Cardinals was reported in the French clerical publication, "*L'Ami du Clerge*."<sup>1</sup> The Pope asked them:

"What is the thing we most need, today, to save society?"

"Build Catholic schools," said one.

"No."

"More churches," said another.

"Still no."

"Speed up the recruiting of priests," said a third.

"No, no," said the Pope, "*the MOST necessary thing of all, at this time, is for every parish to possess a group of laymen who will be at the same time virtuous, enlightened, resolute, and truly apostolic.*"<sup>2</sup>

Further details enable us to assert that this holy Pope at the end of his life saw no hope for the salvation of the world, unless the clergy would use their zeal to form faithful Christians full of apostolic ardor, preaching by word and example, but especially by example. In the diocese where he served before being elevated to the Papacy, he attached less importance to the census of parishioners than to the list of Christians capable of radiating an apostolate. It was his opinion that shock troops could be formed in any environment.

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>1</sup> *Predication*, January 20, 1921.

<sup>2</sup> After comparing certain passages from Pius X's first Encyclical with various later statements made by him, it becomes evident that in the interview we quote here he is depending on the *fervor of the priests* to produce the shock troops he mentions. But that it is on the latter, the *select laymen*, that he counts, more than on any other means, for the increase in numbers of the true faithful. Once this has been accomplished, the recruitment of priests and construction of new schools and churches will be assured.

But when quantity *does not stem from quality* we run a tremendous risk of producing nothing but a display of noisy empty, delusive pseudo-religion.



## Our Field Trip to Northern Virginia

Last year, on May 12, St. Louis de Montfort Academy took a field trip to Northern Virginia. We made four stops in all, our first being Manassas, where a great battle of the Civil War took place. Then we traveled to Front Royal and visited the headquarters of Human Life International (HLI), where we learned about their work fighting abortion. At Christendom college, our next stop, one of the teachers showed us the campus and told us of its significance. The building we enjoyed most was the college chapel, which contains a relic

of the True Cross. On leaving the college we headed for our final destination, the Seton Catholic home schooling center, whose curriculum we use. There we met its director, Dr. Clarke, and Fr. Constantine, one of Seton's chaplains. Fr. Constantine celebrated an Eastern Rite Mass for us, and he also showed us the many offices where Seton organizes its work. Here, we students were able to meet the people who have the task - how difficult and unpleasant sometimes - of grading our work.



Field trips like this really make the Academy more interesting!

Gerard Toenjes  
9th Grade

## A Graceful Ending

At the end of the last school year the students of St. Louis de Montfort Academy were having a tremendous struggle to finish up the year. But by the grace of Our Lady they finally reached the end. It was above all a blessing that they were able to have Monsignor Michael Fedorovich say Mass in the Academy chapel. Following the Mass there was a splendid banquet. After the delicious main course there was a nice birthday cake for a student of the Academy, Gerard Toenjes. As the cake was carried in everyone sang "Happy Birthday."



The night solemnly ended with those present praying the Consecration to Our Lady by the method of St. Louis de Montfort and singing the *Salve Regina*. I'm sure many graces were received by the members of the Academy that evening.

Cesar Franco  
8th Grade

## The First Day of School



If the rest of the school year is like the first day, then school is not as bad as some say. Our first day started out with some interesting meetings, full of examples and illustrations, about the purposes of the Academy and the importance of studies, good behavior, and a good ambiance. Another part of the day was spent getting to know our teachers and classmates. In the evening Fr. Kevin Beaton, a Maronite priest from Scranton, came and celebrated Mass and Benediction for all the students and staff for the new school year. Then we enjoyed a hearty dinner, after which we went to bed in order to gain strength for the next day, when classes would begin. It was a wonderful way to start the new school year.

Joshua M. Barylak  
9th Grade



# Doing Summer Work for Our Lady

## AT THE HOME FRONT

Helping in the Academy's Classical Arts shop seemed to me the best way to spend part of the summer. Among the many options available, it appealed to me the most, for I would be able to help spread devotion to Mary and help the Academy raise money. The work would also give me experience for a lifetime.

On my first day in the shop I was asked to sand the pieces for 21 ornate crucifixes. By the end of the day I was sure that this must be the longest and hardest step in the making of the crucifixes. I soon learned, however, that it is actually one of the easiest.

To appreciate a piece of art, one needs to consider the time, effort, and above all the dedication that went into producing it. By helping in our religious articles workshop, I got to witness and participate in this production.

It takes several days to make an ornate crucifix. The wood has to be prepared and cut into crosses by a close friend, Mr. José Garcia. These are shipped to the Academy, where the work begins in earnest. The crosses are patched and sanded, and the first coat of stain applied. Each coat takes 8 hours to dry, and there are three coats in all. Between the second and third coats another light sanding is required in order to give the cross a glossy finish.

That is just the cross. The corpus and another nine components come next. They have to be cast, sanded, cleaned, and prepared for painting. The patina that gives the components their ivory effect is sprayed on and buffed.

Now the final stage begins. The cross is waxed to protect the wood and keep the glue from sticking on the wrong spots. So the glue will bond the pieces very well to the right places, the latter must be sanded. The rays, tips, base, *INRI*, and corpus are then individually fitted and glued into place. When the glue is dry, a small metal stand is inserted at the base of the crucifix to add support and stability. The final stage takes about 45 minutes.

Each of the crucifixes is done with love and devotion. The three men who give all their time to making the shop a success are not paid. They work as volunteers.

Mr. Burbano—another Joseph in more ways than one—is the mastermind behind the whole operation. He is the *real* artist who has the answer for every problem. The *Frame for All Seasons* is a perfect example of his talent. This item was invented by him so the Academy would have something original for its main fund-raiser. The frame comes with six pictures, six biblical quotations and two sets of angels, which the owner changes according to the major liturgical feasts. For example, at



Christmas, the owner of the frame slides the picture of the Nativity into place along with the corresponding text and angels.

Another proof of Mr. Burbano's ingenuity can be seen in the large statues of Our Lady of Fatima he is making for TFP's *America Needs Fatima* campaign. Each statue is made from scratch, and in two parts because of the size. The halves are then glued together, patched and sanded. Once the body is painted, the face, the eyes, and the hands are added. Besides his other work, Mr. Burbano controls the quality of all the articles that leave the shop, inspecting each one.

To provide the necessary supplies, Mr. Edward McKenna spends a great many hours searching for the best possible materials at the best price. The rest of the time, he assembles crucifixes, prepares statues, and acts as general purveyor and maintenance manager of the Academy. It is hard to imagine where he finds time to do so much.

Mr. Gerald Richards is also key. He is our shipping manager. Every day, before the UPS man arrives, Mr. Richards prepares the packages. This has to be done very carefully. Each religious object has to be individually bubble-wrapped and boxed. Then the names and other data must be entered into UPS Online Services and labels printed. Mr. Richards' sense of duty guarantees that the customers will receive their items in one piece.

Besides being a fundraising effort, Classical Arts is a program of apostolate. One of its goals is to provide the Catholic public with quality religious products, which are hard to find nowadays, when some religious stores are selling religious items imported from Communist China.

The dedication and selflessness shown at Classical Arts was what impressed me the most about the place. The large quantity of quality items produced there by so few people results from a generous commitment to providing a better future for America's youth.

Gabriel Shabler  
12th Grade







# Classical Arts

**Please help us maintain our Academy**

The proceeds from the sale of these religious articles will make it possible to continue giving the boys of St. Louis de Montfort Academy an education for a lifetime at a price their parents can afford.



**Our Lady of Fatima**  
(9.5" high) - \$29.00



**The "Frame for All Seasons"**  
(10" high x 17" wide) - \$59.00

*Includes six full color inserts for the following feasts: Christmas, Annunciation, Lent (Way of the Cross), Resurrection, Pentecost, and Assumption, plus three sets of angels and six matching phrases, all in full color!*



**The Ornate Crucifix**  
(18" x 9") - \$96.00

## *Perfect Christmas Gifts!*

Large Crucifix	(20" high)	\$72.00
Small Crucifix	(12" high)	\$48.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus Statue	(12" high x 3.75" base)	\$54.00
Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Statue	(17" high x 5.1" base)	\$80.00
Our Lady of Paris Statue	(12" high x 3.5" base)	\$48.00
Large Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bust Relief	(8" x 6.5")	\$39.00
Small Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bust Relief	(5.5" x 5")	\$29.00
St. Joseph Statue	(7.25" high x 2" base)	\$29.00
Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, or Cross Holy Water Fonts	(7" x 3")	\$10.00

*Please fill out the enclosed order form.*



# Doing Summer Work for Our Lady In the Field

Determined to spread Our Lady of Fatima's message all across the country, eleven of us—eight students and accompanying staff—devoted three weeks of our summer vacation to travelling the country to reach out to thousands of Americans.

We began our journey in front of Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Harrisburg, praying for Our Lady's protection. We then set out for Pittsburgh for our first "campaign." That city impressed us by how the businessmen readily accepted our flyers. In other cities, it wasn't like that.

In Cleveland, we were joined for the day by a friend who had just enrolled for the school year at the Academy. Already the following day found us amid the abundant foot traffic in Chicago's Loop, where we distributed 10,000 flyers.

At our next stop, downtown St. Louis, we handed out flyers in front of the historic Old Post Office. One gentleman there commented, "I can't remember the last time I saw Catholics out on the streets like this!"



Guess where this is...

In Kansas City, rain threatened the campaign but stopped just in time to allow the flyer distribution. A Protestant convention in the downtown did not impede the campaign either, although we heard many taunts against devotion to Our Lady. After this campaign, we received reinforcements as three of our fellow students joined us after vacationing with their family in a nearby city.

In Denver we found lots of people in the streets, but not all were receptive to Our Lady. One "born-again" Christian tried to persuade us to stop handing out flyers, saying that the flyers were from the "Pit." As in Kansas City, however, there were still many people who encouraged us. "This is what Denver needs," one man said.

Heading south, we visited the Great Sand Dunes National Monument, close to the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. These sand dunes are the tallest in the hemisphere. From there we went to the Grand Canyon. What an impressive sight! Our country really has much to be proud of.

We reached Fort Worth, via Albuquerque. Many Texans accepted the flyer. After a full day working for Our Lady, we were treated to a Texas-size dinner by old friends at their home in Fort Worth.



Here we are in Chicago.

On we traveled to Louisiana. At the end of a day's campaign in New Orleans, we visited the Mother Superior and the foundress of a Carmelite convent in Lafayette. They told us they were edified to meet young men who had been spreading Our Lady's message in the streets. We told them we were edified by their heroic life in the cloister.

On the way to Atlanta we stopped at the largest plantation home in the South, Nottaway Plantation. Then, just a few miles down the road, we happened across the "smallest church in the world," Our Lady of the Assumption Church (5'x8'). We also visited an alligator farm and took a dip in the Gulf of Mexico.

Atlanta's streets were crowded with pedestrians. There we finished giving out our 30,000 flyers. We closed the campaign with a prayer in front of Immaculate Conception Church, the only downtown building spared by General Sherman. We asked our heavenly Mother to watch over our country and obtain special graces for all those who opened their souls to her invitation by accepting one of her flyers.

Ben Hiebert  
12th Grade



Working for Our Lady is a joy!



# A Pilgrimage and a Trip Through American History

On September 26-28 the Academy went on its first field trip of the '97-98 school year. We traveled to the Upper Hudson Valley in New York, a state with much to offer the pilgrim and the tourist. Once the battleground of saints trying to establish an empire of the Cross, the Valley is now the backyard of the financiers battling it out in New York City. After visiting monuments to both types of empire-builders, we would return home convinced that there is more life and more future in the relics of the saints than in the preserved glories, however magnificent, of those who were successful in the estimation of the world.

On arriving in New York on the evening of the 26th, we set up our nine tents at a KOA campground in the foothills of the Catskills. KOA always provides clean facilities, so it is the campground of our choice. This one would be our abode for the next two nights. After dinner at a nearby pizzeria, we built two campfires, since the temperature would drop almost to freezing during the night. Although some of the students were camping out for the first time, all of us seemed to enjoy it despite the cold and a few skunks and raccoons prowling around our sites.

The next morning we drove to the town of Fonda, about two hours away. There, at the Shrine of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American saint, we joined hundreds of other people for a six-mile pilgrimage to Auriesville, where St. Rene Goupil, St. Jean Lalande and St. Isaac Jogues, three Jesuit missionaries, were martyred by the Iroquois in the seventeenth century. As we walked to the Shrine of the Martyrs, we prayed the Rosary and sang hymns like "We Want God" and "O Rome Eternal," to the joy of fellow pilgrims. At the Martyrs' Shrine, the pilgrimage ended with the celebration of a Solemn High Mass by priests of the Fraternity of Saint Peter. After Mass we ate a quick lunch and went down to the now peaceful ravine where St. Isaac Jogues buried St. René Goupil so long ago. Having spent some quiet time there, we returned to the vans and to our campground thoroughly worn out and ready to sleep. Our barbecue that evening was rather subdued.

Early Sunday morning we dismantled the tents and stowed them away in the back of the vans, for we were going to Mass and then to the Roosevelt home and Vanderbilt mansion in New Hyde Park. We ate a breakfast of cold cereal, bread, juice and hot coffee and scrambled to the vans. The Mass was at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Church at the Ukrainian National Estate in the Catskills. After Mass many people

wanted to speak with us. However, we finally got on our way, and two hours later we were at Franklin Roosevelt's home. There we learned much about Roosevelt's life at home, where he was visited by Winston Churchill and George VI. In his Presidential Museum, we also pondered over some of the crucial decisions he made during World War II. For example, in the early part of the war he had to decide whether to use the U.S. war production to build up America's weak military or to build up England's. We agreed with his decision to share it, but we could not agree with his later decision to give Stalin Eastern Europe. Because of this, the monument erected in front of the Roosevelt Library with pieces of the Berlin Wall made no sense to us. It seems to say that he deserves some credit for the collapse of the Iron Curtain. The monument was ugly anyway. The rose garden, the wood trails winding through the vast property, and the Hudson were much more worthwhile. Presently we all met at the vans and proceeded to the Vanderbilt mansion up the road.

Roosevelt came from an old aristocratic Dutch family, even though at times he may have acted like he didn't. Vanderbilt, on the other hand, though much richer, was not an aristocrat. All the same, he built himself a mansion modeled on European palaces, and he did it in a very scenic place. As we pulled through the elaborate gateway of his estate, we could see the mansion, with its huge Roman pillars, overlooking the wide Hudson River, which flows at the base of the hill on which the house is built. The interior of the mansion is done (or overdone) in a Renaissance style, with paintings on the ceilings outlined with gold, and large marble fireplaces with human figures as the mantelpiece pedestals. It certainly shows much more taste than most of the expensive homes built today, yet at times it seemed to have the air of a mausoleum.

On the way back to Herndon we stopped in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, for dinner at the Berrizbeitias. (Mst. Luis Berrizbeitia is a Venezuelan classmate of ours.) We had Italian-Venezuelan lasagna, salad, rolls and butter, sparkling cider (no alcohol!), and ice cream and apple pie. Believe me, we could not thank the Berrizbeitias enough. After traveling for nearly five hours, we had been famished.

Nicholas Burnham  
10th Grade



## GEORGE WASHINGTON TAKES AN AX TO INCIVILITY

We all know that George Washington, the father of our country, was a humanly great and capable man. However, most of us know little about certain aspects of his personal life such as his behavior and manners. For example, was he

bad-mannered or was he well-mannered? It might seem to some that, since he helped lead a revolution against a monarchy, he must have been opposed to refinement and must have conducted himself in the way simplistically associated with the low class. In reality, he was a wealthy aristocrat belonging to the high society, and was very well-mannered.

Already in his early teens, Washington wrote down 110 rules of etiquette. These are now preserved in the Library of Congress. Washington strove to practice all of them his whole life, whether in public or private. A few of them are shared here to give the reader a flavor of Washington's culture, lifestyle and ideals. Being that Washington only had three years of formal education, his writing contains errors of spelling and grammar. For the sake of authenticity such mistakes and the old English are retained.

Rule 8  
At play and at Fire its Good manners to Give Place to the last Commer,

and affect not to Speak Louder than ordinary.

Rule 29

When you meet with one of Greater Quality than yourself, Stop, and retire especially if it be at a door or any other Straight place to make way for him to pass.

Rule 53

Run not in the Streets, neither go too slowly nor with Mouth open go not Shaking yr Arms kick not the earth with yr feet, go not upon the Toes, nor in a Dancing fashion.

Rule 72

Speak not in an unknown Tongue in Company but in your own Language and that as those of Quality and not as ye Vulgar; Sublime matters treat seriously.

Rule 87

Let thy carriage be such as becomes a Man Grave Settled and attentive to that which is spoken. Contradict not at every turn what others say.



## Our Special Thanks ...

- Mr. and Mrs. Art Luna for donating a large beautiful crucifix for our chapel
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Richards for their generous donation of a mini-van
- Mr. and Mrs. Louis Talarico for giving us a clothes dryer
- Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Toenjes for donating a large amount of honey
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shibler for a donation of clothing
- Mrs. Berrizbeitia for hosting us for dinner and for all the desserts and snacks
- Dr. John Pagana for kindly giving us free medical check-ups
- Ms. Olga Worhacz and Mrs. Anna Serafin Boland for their several donations
- and all those who sent donations for the last bulletin.

## St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort

Priest, preacher, prophet, apostle, confessor, founder, writer, missionary: These are some of the titles given to this eighteenth-century French saint. However, he is best remembered as the apostle of True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Inspired by his example and his writings, the directors and faculty of this Academy volunteer their time and efforts to giving youth a Mary-centered formation. We pray that Our Blessed Mother bless our humble and imperfect endeavors, so that these young men may be part of the spiritual conversion of our country and the world, which we see as the only true solution to the contemporary crisis.



*St. Louis de Montfort Academy admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.*

Bulk Permit	_____
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Sunbury, PA	_____
17801	_____



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