

# SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT ACADEMY BULLETIN



Spring 2003

## Looking Back . . .

The end of the calendar year brought St. Louis de Montfort Academy's 2002-2003 school year to the halfway mark. So much has taken place. Here is a look back at a few of the significant activities of 2002.

### Summer

Academy activities begin as early as summer. Summer events included the Call to Chivalry programs in Louisiana and Pennsylvania and the Université d'Été in France.

#### The Call to Chivalry

The Call to Chivalry was the theme of a summer program sponsored by St. Louis de Montfort Academy and the American TFP for boys ages 12-18 and their fathers.

The program, held July 3-10 in Norwood, La., combined prayer, lectures, field trips, and games to provide a dynamic lesson in how the timeless values of our Holy Catholic Faith can be lived in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Following medieval games in which young knights tested their courage, Msgr. Robert Berggreen, curate of St. Agnes Church in Baton Rouge, led a rosary procession to the banquet hall, where proud parents and hungry sons were treated to the best of Catholic hospitality and Cajun cooking.

The same Call to Chivalry was answered by young men across the country—and even across the seas in England—when the program was held at the headquarters of the American TFP in Spring Grove, Penn., August 1-10.

The boys enjoyed such activities as hiking, swimming, canoeing, and a field trip to see replicas of the principal chapels and shrines of the Holy Land at the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D.C. They also attended talks, slide presentations, and a theater play portraying the present crisis through the lens of Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira's prescient masterpiece, *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*.

Once again, the program concluded with a medieval banquet, in which the boys satiated their appetites with four different types of meat. After the last candle was snuffed out, the boys said their goodbyes and returned to their homes ready to face the modern world with the courage and the wisdom of Christian knights.



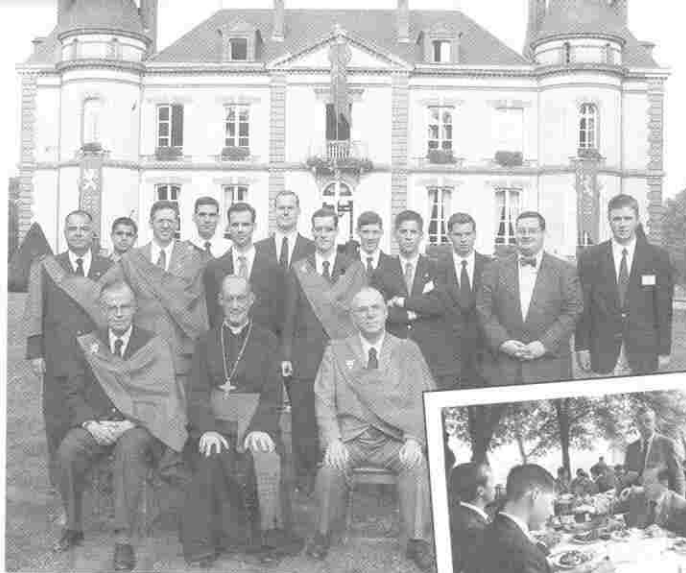
My name is Jozef Schutzman. I hope you enjoy this bulletin, and I challenge you to solve the quiz on page 8. Above all, I want to ask you to include our Academy in your prayers. Thank you!

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The medieval banquet left a strong impression on all participants of the Louisiana Summer Camp.



Students James Bascom, James Slobodnik and Jozef Schutzman pose with Bishop Juan Rodolfo Laise from Argentina and members of the French and American TFP. Inset: At lunch, experiencing good conversation and French cuisine.



### Université d'Été

Students James Bascom, James Slobodnik, and Jozef Schutzman visited France with Headmaster Ted Huereña. The trip was sponsored by the French Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP), whose summer course they attended at the Château du Jaglu, a nineteenth-century country estate near the cathedral city of Chartres. Université d'Été took place from August 25-31.

The visitors were impressed by such magnificent monuments to the heritage of Christian civilization as the great cathedrals of Notre Dame de Paris, Chartres, and Rheims, and the castlè at Nogent-le-Rotrou.

### Fall

As summer turned to fall, St. Louis de Montfort Academy began its eighth academic year. Fruits of the Louisiana summer program included new students, John Mahoney from Arkansas and Thomas Schneider from Louisiana. Between weeks of classes and hard study, students enjoyed field trips to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to commemorate Eisenhower World War II Day; a camping trip on the Appalachian Trail; and an outing to the Pennsylvania National Horse Show, in Harrisburg.

### Eisenhower World War II Day

On September 22, Academy students disembarked from their bus to enter a war zone. G.I.'s in jeeps and

on motorcycles whizzed by camouflage tents, guarded by machine guns, field artillery, and mortar launchers. The enactment, which also included German and Russian soldiers, marked Eisenhower World War II Day in Gettysburg. Veterans held the students spellbound as they recounted their combat experiences—at times with understandable emotion.

Before returning to the Academy, students toured the historic residence of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, who served as Supreme Commander of the victorious Allied Expeditionary Forces in the last World War and 34<sup>th</sup> president of the United States from 1953–1961.



### Appalachian Trail

Every American boy loves to explore the beautiful and varied terrain with which God has blessed our country. In early October, Academy students embarked on a two-day hike along the Appalachian Trail. The journey was a strenuous hike as each hiker pressed forward, bearing a 25-pound backpack. At night, after a hearty meal, the students settled down to sleep, after praying for a peaceful rest ... and for the bears to mind their business. Although the hikers had informally agreed to take up a more leisurely pace the next day, a combination of



Top: Nicholas and José, among the others, thoroughly enjoyed the hike. Above: "Hey, Jozef, do you think it's a good route?" Below: A group of happy hikers make it to their destination — What a view!



Reenactors describe the life of an American soldier during the second World War.





marathon and boot camp nevertheless ensued. Back in civilization, the students' haggard but happy faces conveyed the boys' exhilaration at meeting a wholesome challenge.

### Pennsylvania National Horse Show

The combination of horse and rider has fascinated boys from ancient times, and Academy students are no exception. On October

19, they were among the first spectators to arrive at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show in Harrisburg. Having arrived early, the students watched amateur jumpers test their skills.

The highlight of the show was the Grand Prix de Penn National, an event for national and international champions. After 29 competitors had jumped over hurdles taller than those used by the amateurs, only seven remained. As each finalist ran the course, it appeared that [Sally Jones] and her horse, [Champion] would gain their third consecutive title. The suspense was palpable when Beezie Madden and her mount, Judgment, who had won the Grand Prix in 1997, began their run, and it mounted with each hurdle cleared. When the judge announced that Madden had beaten the previous champion by 0.59 seconds, the arena erupted in applause.



### Winter

Christmas is the apex of St. Louis de Montfort Academy's school year. This blessed season brings a flurry of activities, all in honor of the coming of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The annual Christmas Open House and a visit to the Sisters of Sts. Cyril and

John Bascom (above) trims the tree as Martin Shibley (left) trims the house.



Methodius were just two of the events celebrating this festive time of year.

### Christmas Open House

The Academy was even livelier than usual on December 12, as the enticing aroma of Yuletide goodies and the celestial sounds of Christmas carols filled its halls. More than 75 guests—family and friends of the students—had accepted our invitation to join us to celebrate the upcoming birth of the Christ Child. On entering the main door, they marveled at the Nativity scene crafted by Academy staff and students. After touring the building and partaking of cookies and other treats prepared by the students, guests enjoyed the choirs' rendition of such carols as *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, *March of the Kings*, and the German carol *Maria Durch*, sung in three parts.

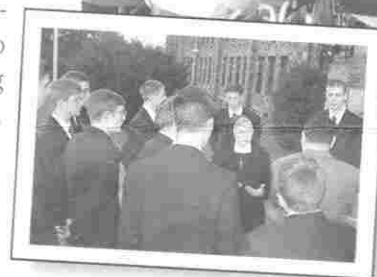


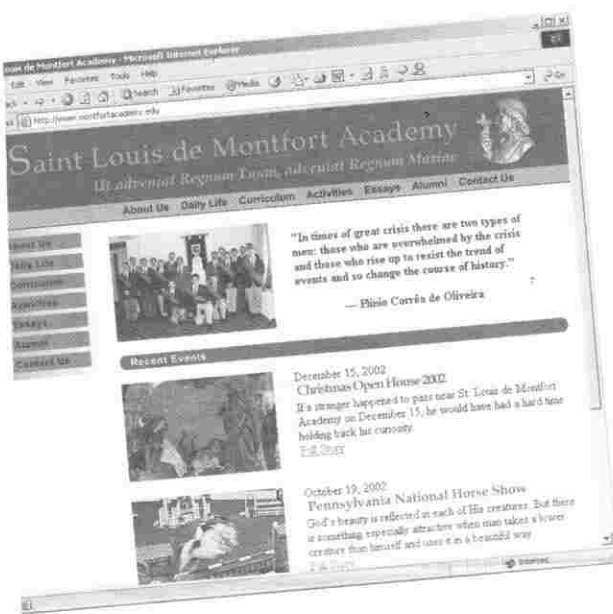
Below: Students sing Christmas carols to the elderly in Danville, Penn. Inset: Sister Davidica was the tour guide and showed the boys around the grounds.

### Visit to the Sisters of Sts. Cyril and Methodius

As Our Lord brought joy by His coming, Academy students sought to bring Christ's joy to the hearts of nuns and other elderly living in two retirement centers operated by the Sisters of Sts. Cyril and Methodius. On December 17, students and staff visited the centers, located in Danville, Penn., to share Christmas wishes and sing traditional carols. Congregating in wheelchairs or supported by walkers, the elderly enthusiastically applauded the boys' singing and implored that they return each year. All were deeply touched when several of them actually wept for joy.

The students also visited the mother house, where they sang for the Mother Superior and her charges and were graciously treated to a snack. Before their reluctant departure—with a promise to come again, they visited the chapel, now a basilica. ■





# The Academy Goes ONLINE

It all started last June. Headmaster Ted Huereña asked me if I would create a website for the Academy. "Let's do it!" was my response. Knowing that I would

shopper, Mrs. Maureen Shryock approached him. She had overheard Donald talking about building a website for a school and generously offered her services as a web developer free of charge.

need help, I called on an old schoolmate, Mr. Donald Lee, class of 2000, who has some experience with layout and graphics.

Recognizing the hand of Providence, we accepted her kind offer with grateful hearts. It was a pleasure to collaborate with Mrs. Shryock. Despite suffering pulmonary illness, she devoted long hours to the project. Finally, after using Donald's "free nights and weekend minutes," the website was launched on August 30 just in time for the start of the school year.

Time was working against us. I had teaching duties and other commitments to honor, and Donald was working his way through college. We had less than three months of weekends and evenings to get the Academy online by the start of the school year.

Thanks to Mrs. Shryock's and Mr. Lee's generosity and, above all, to the kindness of Our Lady's maternal heart, St. Louis de Montfort Academy is blessed with a new means of keeping parents and friends informed of our activities. Moreover, we can reach the four corners of the earth with the latest news about the Academy's apostolate, as encouraging e-mails received from such far off lands as Australia, India, and Sri Lanka attest.

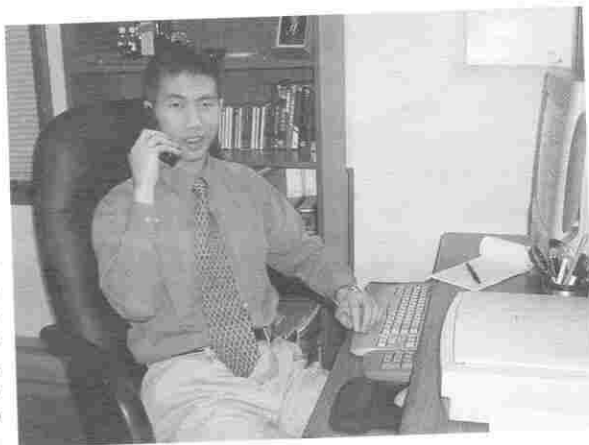
The first challenge we faced was to draft web content. Articles from previous Academy bulletins were revised and new material written. The next hurdle was to build the website, as neither of us had designed nor built a website, and our budget could not afford a professional's fees. Would this obstacle prove a roadblock? It seems that Our Lady wanted to see her Academy online, because She found a way to solve our problem.

If you have Internet access, please visit our website at <http://www.montfortacademy.edu>. Your comments and suggestions for improvements are always welcome. You may e-mail them to me at [mgorre@montfortacademy.edu](mailto:mgorre@montfortacademy.edu)

One day, Donald was discussing the website with me on his cell phone, while waiting in a Wal-mart checkout line. As our conversation ended, a fellow

**Michael Gorre**  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Class of 1999

The miles between them did not stop Donald Lee (right) and Michael Gorre (far right) from working together to set up the Academy's website.





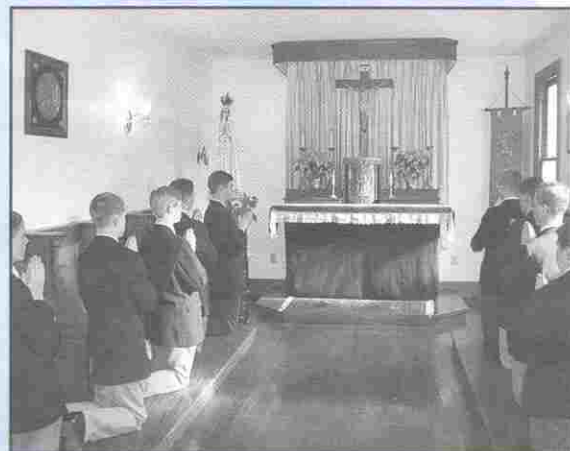
# Novena to the Sacred Heart

Each day before going to lunch, we assemble in our Academy's chapel to pray the Irresistible Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, beseeching Our Lord to assist our benefactors, their families and our school in its spiritual and material needs.

Based on three solemn promises made by Our Lord Himself in the Gospel, the novena is a powerful prayer in summoning divine help in every circumstance. In times of need, which is almost always the case for our Academy, the novena is renewed until the favor is granted.

The novena is posted on our website at [www.montfortacademy.edu](http://www.montfortacademy.edu). Please be so kind as to remember St. Louis de Montfort Academy in your prayers.

*Bernard Slobodnik, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade*



St. Louis de Montfort Academy - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address <http://www.montfortacademy.edu> Go

## From Our Online Guest Book

I have been keeping close tabs on your website, and thoroughly enjoy what we have seen with the Academy. My father-in-law, T.Z., (now departed) was a great supporter of the TFP. We have a son, who has just started the 6<sup>th</sup> grade this fall. We homeschool our children. We would like to get some more information, regarding tuition, cost of books, boarding, etc., if at all possible. Also, if you are able to tell us if there is a waiting list for the boys school and/or boarding program.

*Lesa Z.*

This message comes to you from across the oceans and continents from a small country called Sri Lanka. I just went through your website and it was amazing to discover a lot of details about the Academy and what it does to promote Catholic Culture in molding young boys into respectable men. You have a friend here thousands of miles away in a remote corner of the earth admiring the TFP's splendid and many faceted work to defend the Church. I wish all staff and students good health and wisdom to cope up with all the rigors of a plastic world which has forgotten its Creator. The richness you bring into the lives of people even so far away make you unique in the Church.

*Ronnie D., Sri Lanka*

I have been surfing the web and came across your website. I must say that I was thoroughly impressed by the few pictures you show on your site. You are doing a beautiful work and may God continue to bless your endeavors! My son has mental retardation and so could not have participated in such wonderful academia and Catholic life. If you aspire to model your school after two great saints such as St. Louis de Montfort and St. John Bosco, how could you go wrong?

*Ann S.*

Will you please forward a prospectus for your school, information about enrollment procedures, application for your summer camp for prospective students, term or semester commencement dates and holiday periods, current fee schedule and anything else that you think may be pertinent to enable my family to seriously consider entrusting you with such an important role in the formation and education of our sons far from where we reside in Australia.

*Laura M., Australia*

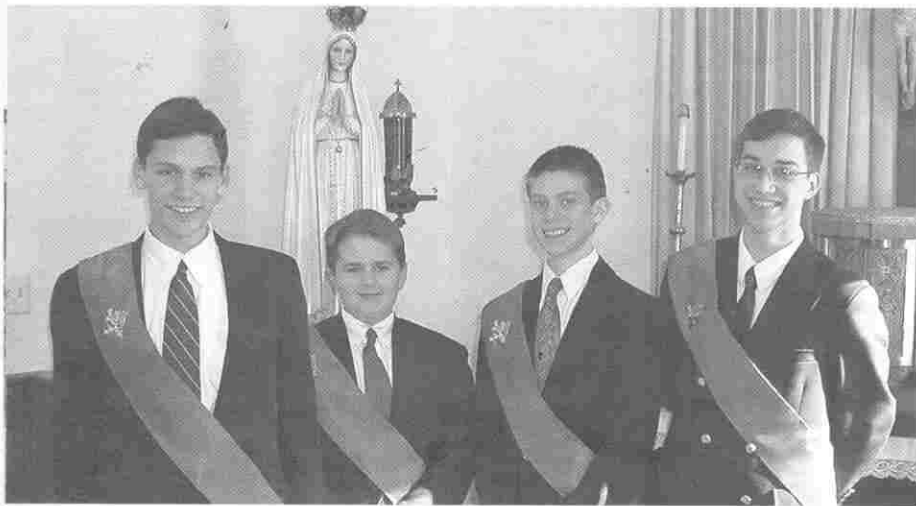
I have just delved into your website to my satisfaction and must say that I enjoyed it wholeheartedly. I am most thankful that such enterprise thrives, producing a generation of young Catholic men, ready and willing to battle in their daily lives for Our Lord. I am most heartened by your endeavors and would like more information on the admission procedures for your Academy. I am the mother of two fine young boys who I believe would benefit from the rigorous formation that you provide so ably.

*Anne Marie B.*

Please permit me to extend my heartiest congratulations. Your school reminds me of the school my father attended, Belen Jesuit, before the communists took over Cuba. Thank you so much for preserving our Catholic culture!!!

*Mariana T.*

Internet



From left to right:  
Four new slaves of Our  
Lady, John Mahoney,  
Thomas Schneider,  
Nicholas Goldsborough,  
and Anthony Lucki.

# Slaves of Love

The day I made my consecration to Jesus through Mary, January 12, was a beautiful day, the eve of the Feast of Our Lady of Victory. I was especially touched because it coincided with my birthday.

On this day, the first thing we did was to attend a traditional Latin Mass in Hazleton, Penn., an hour from St. Louis de Montfort Academy. We sang several hymns during Mass. Mass was followed by a lunch celebrating our headmaster's birthday as well as my own. We were a large group, since students had been joined by faculty members and friends from the American TFP.

On returning to the Academy, Mr. John Horvat, a member of the TFP, gave us a presentation on the subject of tradition, the first value of the TFP trilogy: tradition, family, and property. The act of consecrating oneself to Mary is a traditional act of Catholic devotion and has been taking place for centuries. After Mr. Horvat's lecture, we proceeded to the chapel, where we sang the *Little Office of the Blessed Virgin*. The *Little Office* is dear to Our Lady and is sung daily by Carmelites and other religious across the world.

We then recited the Consecration to Our Lord Jesus Christ through the hands of Mary Most Holy, as written by St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort. While the consecration does not constitute a vow, we proclaimed that

we would try our best to follow God's will by doing the will of His Mother. I gave myself, and all I have—or ever shall have—to Mary for her to dispose of as she deems best.

At baptism, our godparents had professed our vows on our behalf. On this sacred occasion, we had the privilege of renewing our baptismal vows ourselves. When asked, "Do you renounce Satan, his pomps and his works?" We answered as one, in a resolute voice. "Yes, I do!"

Thus we affirmed our commitment to fight the devil and our self-love and laziness. Recognizing our weakness, we prayed a Memorare, begging Our Lady to help us honor the promises that we had made.

Each new slave of Mary received a red sash symbolizing our willingness to surrender ourselves to her without reservation, even to the shedding of our blood for Our Queen and Holy Mother Church.

As an enjoyable ending to a glorious day, we descended to the dining room to savor a dinner that had been ably prepared by two of our fellow students.

O yes, at St. Louis de Montfort Academy, we learn just about everything—from becoming a slave of Mary to cooking a delectable meal.

**Nicholas Goldsborough**  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade



Above: Thomas Schneider signs the form of his Consecration during the ceremony.



# What Our Consecration Meant to Us

I made a decision. I wanted to fight for Our Lord and for the Catholic Church. The best way I could do that was by becoming a slave of Our Lady. One of the benefits is that you start becoming more virtuous and charitable toward others. That alone will help in one's daily fight against the devil and his followers. I started to pray more fervently in my daily prayers and fought harder against my defects and vices for the greater glory of God.

*Anthony Lucki*  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade

"It is not you who have chosen me but I who chose you."

This is what we felt on the day we made our consecration according to the method of Saint Louis de Montfort as slaves of love to Our Lady. Mary had chosen four new slaves for her and we were honored to be those slaves.

*John Mahoney*  
9<sup>th</sup> Grade

I made my consecration for three reasons. First, because the best way to reach Our Lord is through His Holy Mother. Second, because I can gain more merits when I place myself under her care, and third, it is a more perfect and easier road to heaven through Our Lady. For example when you go to ask a king for protection, you will be much more successful in your request if you were to approach the Queen first. And why? Because the Queen is so loving.

The final point is the road to heaven, which is filled with danger, temptation, and many other things. When you become a consecrated slave of Our Lady, she helps you along this great road. She guides and protects you, just as a loving mother looks after her child. These are the reasons why I made my consecration. I shall try to live my life on these three points as a consecrated slave of Our Lady.

*Thomas Schneider*  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade



Peter Shabler reading the news during lunch.

## READ ALL ABOUT IT

Gone are the days when fathers had their sons read the local newspaper to keep informed about current events. Besides, a decent father today could scarcely hand his son a newspaper without first cutting out the blatant immorality befouling its pages.

To keep its students abreast of what is taking place in our nation and world, the St. Louis de Montfort Academy has a custom of having students read news clippings during the midday meal.

Before lunch, Mr. John Drake, a teacher, selects a reader and an article. He generally chooses a topic that is relevant to our schoolwork such as a clipping on Brazil's elections when some students are studying about South America.

The selected student reviews the article and makes sure that he is familiar with its terminology. If needed, he consults the dictionary, thus expanding his vocabulary.

After saying grace, the student prefaces the reading with an ejaculation to Our Lady.

After the student has concluded his recitation, Mr. Drake gives his confreres an impromptu quiz, asking the students questions to ensure that they

were paying close attention to the reading and perceived the significance of the event. Students reply in a relatively detailed manner. The quiz ended, the students, with the encouragement of faculty, converse about the latest news and events related to it.

Through these daily readings, the Academy enables its students to gain knowledge about important current events of the world. The readings broaden our horizons beyond our immediate personal interests. They also suggest particular intentions that call for our prayers, as we are reminded how badly our world needs divine assistance as it sinks beneath the weight of its sins.

*Jozef Schutzman*  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade



The attentiveness of the students is put to the test after the reading of the news.



Thomas Schneider

## Thank you for helping my brother...

My name is Leigh Schneider and my brother Thomas attends the Academy. I just wanted to write you a short note of thanks for all you have done for my brother. The Academy has opened a whole new world for him—a world where he is in constant longing for learning about the truth of Christ and His Holy Church. I am grateful everyday for this and remember this constantly in my prayers. Please accept this check as a small token of my un-ending gratitude. May God bless all of you for the wonderful things you are doing for my brother and the world.

Through Mary to Jesus,  
*Leigh C. Schneider*

## Our Heartfelt Thanks to...

- Mrs. Elizabeth Wiskeman for funding our 2002 Louisiana Summer Program.
- Mrs. Maureen Shryock and Mr. Donald Lee (class of 2000) for their invaluable help in setting up the Academy's website.
- All who have donated to the Academy's needs, especially:  
*Msgr. Michael Fedorowich, Sister M. Davidica SS.C.M.\* and the Sisters of Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Mr. Paul Joseph Casey, Mrs. Marian Fotta, Mr. & Mrs. William L. Fountain, Jr., Miss Jean A. Hardick, Mr. Lloyd C. Hockmuth, Mr. & Mrs. Steven K. Lee and Wyeth BioPharma (the company that matched their donation), Miss Karen E. Lee, Mrs. Virginia L. Moretto, Mrs. Rosemary D. Overberger, Mrs. Isabel Sarach, Mrs. Martha von Guggenberg, Dr. & Mrs. Mark A. Schneider, Mrs. Deena A. Azaroff-Arango, Mr. William A. Hein, Mr. Samuel J. Gallaher, Ms. Sophie Tomczak, Dr. & Mrs. Ernesto J. Jocson, Miss Maribel Franco Velez, Mrs. Donna M. Compton, Dr. & Mrs. Ivo J. Schneider, Mr. Keith Vu, Mr. Eugene F. Hayes, Miss Elizabeth T. W. Cheung, Father Vincent J. Termine, Deacon Norman B. Keller, Mrs. Josephine Gere, Deacon Daniel C. Terrion, Mrs. Paula J. Ard, Mrs. Rosa M. Montelongo and Mr. James Donnelly.*

\* We request prayers for the soul of Sister M. Davidica who passed away January 16, 2003.

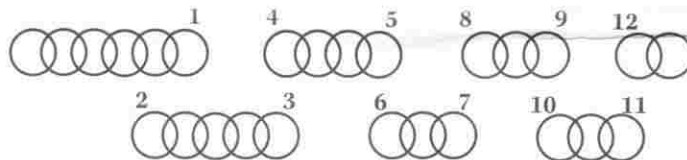


Drawing by  
Jozef Schutzman

One fine morning, Sir William Dragonslayer brought the local blacksmith, Samuel, a few pieces of heavy chain and a challenge. "Yonder dragon broke his fetters again, and here is what is left of my poor chain," he said. "I bid thee join these very pieces together, and be thou sure to open and close as few links as possible so as to make it one chain again." With no further ado, the knight mounted his steed and galloped off in search of adventure.

Samuel needs to join seven short pieces of chain into a single long chain (see figure above). He could open ring one (first operation), link it to ring two (second operation), then open ring three and link it to ring four, and so on; but this

## Activity Corner



would take twelve operations, and he must open as few links as possible.

The blacksmith lays the pieces of chain on his bench, stroking his black beard. After several moments of intense concentration, he exclaims in triumph, "Aha! I shall do it in only ten operations!"

How did he do it?

***The first reader to send in the correct answer will receive a prize.***