



PIARIST NEWSLETTER



#48CG XLVIII CAPITULUM GENERALE

*Bajo la guía
del Espíritu
Santo*

*Sotto la guida
dello Spirito
Santo*

*Guided by
the Holy
Spirit*

*Avec l'aide
de l'Esprit
Saint*

The Piarists are a religious order of priests and brothers in the Roman Catholic Church. Every six years, representatives from throughout our Order gather for a General Chapter. They examine the current state of our Order, communities and ministries, elect a leadership team (Superior General and four Assistants General) and plan for the future.

We were supposed to hold the General Chapter during the past summer. Unfortunately, the COVID pandemic caused a delay. The members of the 48th General Chapter finally began their meeting on January 20, 2022. For the first time, the location was outside of Europe. The sixty-three

delegates and other guests met at Casa Lago, which is the site of the Episcopal Conference of Mexico (CEM) in Cuautitlan Izcalli, Mexico.

Members of our Province of the United States and Puerto Rico chose three delegates: Father Fernando Negro, Sch.P., who is our Provincial Superior, Father Luis Cruz, Sch.P. and Father Emilio Sotomayor, Sch.P. Father Francisco Anaya, Sch.P., who is a member of our Community of Miami, was also a member of the Chapter, since he was the Assistant General for the Americas. In addition, Father General Pedro Aguado, Sch.P. invited two other people from our Province to at-

tend. They were Deacon Jorge Ramirez, Sch.P. from our Community of Manhattan and Genesis Esquilin Nieves from our Community of San Juan, PR.

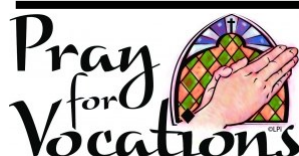
The theme of this year's General Chapter is *Guided by the Holy Spirit*.

Father Pedro Aguado, Sch.P. was reelected as our Superior General. We offer our prayers and support to the members of our next General Congregation.

We will provide more information about the General Chapter in the next issue of our newsletter. Readers may get up-to-date information by going to www.scolopi.org



(Top Left) Logo of 48th General Chapter; (Top Right) Chapter Members and guests while visiting Carlos Pereyra Institute in Puebla, Mexico; (Bottom Left) Father General, Pedro Aguado, recited a profession of faith and an oath of fidelity after his reelection; (Bottom Right) Bishop Carlos Curiel, Sch.P. of the Diocese of Carora, Venezuela delivers the homily during the Opening Mass



VOCATIONS
Youth Is Our Concern

If you think that the Lord may be calling you to serve as a Piarist, then please contact: Father Pedro Rivas, Sch.P. in Ponce, PR.

Cell: 787-510-7470

Email: pedrorivasg81@outlook.com



R.I.P. We ask you to remember in your prayers our deceased relatives and friends:

Maria Adan
 Julio Alvarez
 John Chikerotis
 Michael Crocco
 Antonio Esquivel
 Bro. Grant Ferris, OSFS
 Rev. Benito Forcano, Sch.P.
 Rev. Aroldo Guerra
 Justin & Inez McCarthy
 Mary Ann McCrohan
 Joan McGowan
 Maureen Moran
 Elizabeth Mulhern
 Richard Norcini
 Michael Polley
 Angela Scoglio
 Helen Urban

RIP: Julio Alvarez Lobo

Julio Alvarez Lobo passed away on January 18, 2022. He leaves behind Luisa, his wife of over 59 years, two daughters and their respective families. They are both recipients of a Letter of Fraternity from the Piarist Fathers. Father Pedro Aguado, Sch.P., who is our Superior General, granted them this honor to recognize them for their many years of heart felt service.

Before moving to the United States, Julio graduated from a Piarist

school in Cuba. He was an active member of UFEC (Cuban Piarist alumni association). He taught our pre-novices and novices at Casa Calasanz in Miami. Julio and Luisa were members of ITEC, an association of people, who study Piarist spirituality.

The Piarists are very grateful for Julio's kindness and faithfulness. We promise that Luisa and Julio will remain in our prayers.



(Left to Right) Julio and Luisa Alvarez; Father Mario Vizcaino, Sch.P. and Julio

Piarist Vocational Year (2021-2022)

Father Pedro Aguado, Sch.P., who is our Superior General, proclaimed a *Piarist Vocational Year* in 2012. He has designated another *Piarist Vocational Year* to run from November 20, 2021 until November 27, 2022. This coincides with the 400th anniversary of when Venerable Glicerio Landriani became a Piarist. Today, Venerable Glicerio is the Patron of the Calasanz Movement. This association of Catholic youth continues to spread the message of Jesus and our founder, Saint Joseph Ca-

lasanz, in our ministries throughout the world.

During this year, the Piarists ask our friends to pray for an increase of religious vocations, particularly to our Order.



(Left and Right) Father Francisco Anaya, Sch.P. and Father Ricardo Rivera, Sch.P. directed a vocation retreat at Casa Calasanz in Miami, FL during Thanksgiving weekend.



Regional Development Events

Saint Joseph Calasanz and benefactors. The idea is opened the Piarists' first school at Saint Dorothy Church in Rome on November 27, 1597. To this day, we recall this event as the *Patrocinium of Saint Joseph Calasanz*.

The Piarists of the Province of the United States and Puerto Rico have decided that we would like to celebrate this occasion with our friends, co-workers

that, in each of the areas where we minister or have ministered, we will annually celebrate a Mass and offer a simple meal as a means of expressing our appreciation.

In November and early December, we held such gatherings in San Juan, Bronx, Manhattan, Fort Lauderdale and Miami. In 2022 we hope to hold similar

gatherings in these and other locations.

Mr. Kevin Owens, who is our Development Director, organized these events together with many Piarists. The guests had the opportunity to ask questions.

We would like to thank the many friends, who attended these events, and the many Piarists and friends, who helped with the meals and other particulars.



(Top left to bottom right;
Two photos in each site.)

**San Juan, Manhattan,
Bronx, Miami and Fort
Lauderdale**

How Can Planned Giving Help You and the Piarist Fathers?



A bequest is a gift from your estate - a transfer of cash, securities or other property made through your estate plans. You can make a bequest to the Piarist Fathers by including language in your will or living trust leaving a portion of your estate to the Piarist Fathers or by designating the Piarist Fathers as a beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance policy. Remembering the Piarist Fathers with a bequest from your estate will help sustain and strengthen the Piarist Fathers and their ministries in years to come. Some of the advantages of creating a bequest or designating life insurance or retirement accounts to the Piarist Fathers include:

- ♦ A donor may achieve signifi-

cant income and estate tax savings by naming the Piarist Fathers as the beneficiary of their retirement plan assets.

- ♦ A donor is entitled to a charitable income tax deduction equal to the cash surrender value of the property and any future premiums paid if the Piarist Fathers are named as the owner and beneficiary of the life insurance policy.
- ♦ A bequest costs nothing now, yet gives you the satisfaction of knowing that you have provided for the Piarist Fathers in the future.
- ♦ You retain control and use of your assets during your lifetime.
- ♦ You may modify your bequest if your circumstances change.

- ♦ Gifts to the Piarist Fathers from your estate are exempt from federal taxes.
- ♦ If you let the Piarist Fathers know about your plans, we will be able to thank you now and recognize you for your generosity. We are also willing to help or field any questions, which you may have concerning this process.

Other Planned Giving options like charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts can be reviewed and discussed on an individual basis.

The Piarist Fathers welcome the opportunity to work with you and your financial and legal advisors to execute your philanthropic vision.

Please contact our Director of Development, Kevin J. Owens, to set up a convenient time to discuss your questions or plans. You can reach him by email owens9316@bellsouth.net or by phone: 954-771-6525.

Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

Formation

Alan Inga entered our formation program as a pre-novice on January 12. He is assigned to our Community of Manhattan.

Brother Jose Juan Resendiz, Sch.P. received the ministry of Lector in our House of Formation in Tlalpan, Mexico on November 22.

Brother Abner Gonzalez, Sch.P. from our Community of Manhattan and Brother Christian Santiago, Sch.P. from our Community of the Bronx participated

in a retreat prior to the profession of their solemn vows in May 2022.

We ask our friends to keep all of our seminarians in your prayers. They are the future of our Province.



(Left) Alan and Brother Jose Juan
(Above) Profession retreat - Brothers Christian and Abner are on the right

Our New Missions: Guatemala, Puerto Rico and Cuba



The Piarists began working in Cabrican, Guatemala in January 2021 (St. James the Apostle Parish, a school and many chapels). We moved to Adjuntas, Puerto Rico in August 2021 (St. Joachim and St. Ann Parish, St. Joachim Academy and nearby chapels). The first Piarists travelled from Catalonia in Spain to Guanabacoa, Cuba in January 1857. Our Province assumed responsibility for ministry in Cuba in July 2021 (St. Jude and St. Nicholas of Bari Parish in Havana, Sacred Heart of Mary Chapel in Guanabacoa and a Socio-Educational Center in Guanabacoa). Please pray for our new missions. *(The first 3 photos are from Guatemala, the next 3 photos are from Adjuntas, PR and the last 4 photos are from Cuba.)*

The Piarist Newsletter is the official news bulletin of the Piarist Fathers Province of the U.S.A. and Puerto Rico. It is published semi-annually. If you or anyone else wishes to receive a copy, then let us know.

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@Piarist_Fathers

Fire Damages Saint Helena Church in the Bronx, NY

A fire broke out in the Church of Saint Helena in the Bronx, NY on December 26, 2021. Father David Powers, Sch.P., who is the Pastor, has been working with the Archdiocese of New York to renovate the church and its sacristy. If all goes as planned, the Church will be ready for use in late February. We are so relieved that no one was hurt because of the fire.



Father David observes the fire damage.

PROVINCIAL'S CORNER (FR. FERNANDO NEGRO)

Dear Friends,

With a renewed spirit of gratitude for life and faith, I would like to begin this letter by sharing solidarity with you in these times of the pandemic. It seems to be endless. Our lives have become uncertain. The effects of the disease, including the passing on of loved ones, have been a reason for sadness.

In any case, as life moves forward, we ought to seek each day a new perspective filled with hope. We believe in God. He is full of surprises. In the here-and-now, we become aware of them in personal, family, social or international events.

Pope Paul V approved the Piarists as a religious congregation in 1617. Pope Gregory XV raised the Piarists to the canonical rank of a religious order in 1622. Although this may seem trivial, in reality, it was not. As members of a religious order, the Piarist family opened its doors to a new form

of apostolic life. Four hundred years later, we remain at the service of children and young people, especially the poor. We continue to offer them *Piety and Letters* (integral education), so that they may be free from ignorance and sin.

Four hundred years ago, Saint Joseph Calasanz wrote the famous *Memorial to Cardinal Tonti*. In this document, in the form of a canticle, he expressed the importance of the education and evangelization of human beings, from their earliest years. Cardinal Tonti originally opposed accepting any new religious orders. After reading the document, Cardinal Tonti became fascinated by the charism, which the Holy Spirit gave to the Church through our Holy Founder.

As this newsletter goes to press, the Piarists are in the middle of holding the 48th General Chapter of the Order in Mexico. The theme of the Chapter is *Under the Guidance of the Holy*

Spirit. We ask that this guidance will never cease to illumine our journey at all times and circumstances.

Finally, we are celebrating a *Piarist Vocation Year*. During this time, we are called to pray for Piarist vocations, especially in our Province of the United States and Puerto Rico. Therefore, I invite you to pray for vocations. The future of a renewed church, in line with synodality (listening and mutual help), depends on the solid education and luminous evangelization of the next generations, with the help of many and holy Piarists.

I thank you immensely for your friendship and solidarity. You have given us support and accompaniment. Not in vain, many of you have been "authentic formators" of some of our young religious priests. Thank you very much, and may the Lord bless you and your loved ones.



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Piarist Fathers



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