

CONTINUITY - JOURNAL -



The rediscovery of our Catholic roots and the renewal of the Catholic Faith in the British Isles.

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Miles Jesu continues on path of renewal, with the blessing of the Church

We begin this issue of Continuity with a letter about Miles Jesu. Continuity was founded by members of Miles Jesu who had come to England from other countries, giving all their time and energy to a renewal of the Catholic faith in Our Lady's Dowry. Although members of Miles Jesu continue the work of Continuity, many of you will have realized the limited presence that Miles Jesu has had in England these past few years. Like all orders and communities, Miles Jesu reached a point of renewal for itself, in order to effectively continue its many apostolates and missions around the world, including Continuity.

We hope that the following letter from His Eminence, Cardinal Agostino Vallini, Vicar General of the Diocese of Rome, will clarify for our readers why Miles Jesu has had less of a presence in England during these past few years, and also to make it more clear the exact details of the renewal process which Miles Jesu is in.

To all the members of the Ecclesial Family of Consecrated Life of diocesan rite, "Sons and Daughters of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of the Epiphany," known by the name of "Miles Jesu"

Dear Members of Miles Jesu,
I send you this letter with the Chancellor of the Vicariate, Mons. Giuseppe Tonello, who from the first moment has followed with attention the evolution of the matters concerning your Ecclesial Family. I extend to you my

well wishes and greetings on the occasion of the convocation in Rome of those qualified members of Miles Jesu who are representatives of your whole Institute. The Rome meeting is of great importance, because you find yourselves there to evaluate where you are in the process of what I would define, under certain aspects, as "re-foundation."

In truth, you are all aware of having arrived at this moment because my Predecessor, Cardinal Vicar Camillo Ruini, with the decree of June 6, 2007, in agreement with the competent Congregation, called for a Canonical Visitation *ad inquirendum et referendum*, nominating as visitor the Rev. Fr. Anthony F. McSweeney, SSS, with the intent of coming to know the real situation of your Institute.

In the course of a year, he fulfilled his mandate and he presented a report on May 30, 2008. He confirmed the concerns which had already emerged and persisted in the Institute of some difficulties surrounding the way of governing of your Ecclesial Family, often aggravated by the long sickness and definitive inability of the Founder.

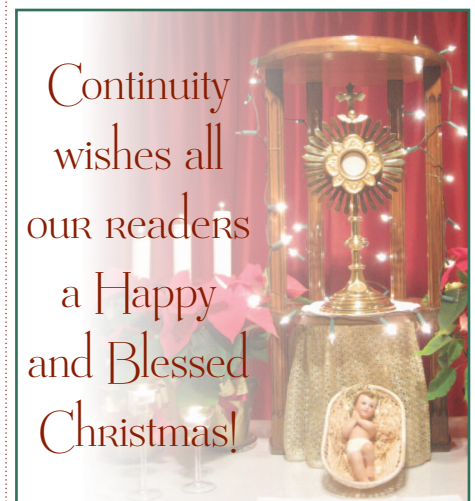
In addition, the Constitutions of the Ecclesial Family which were approved by this Vicariate on January 6, 2002 *experimenti gratia, ad quinquennium*, (with an expiration of January 6, 2007), required an in depth and accurate revision. Some points were seen to be inadequate for guaranteeing the harmonic function

of the system of government, for the efficient management of the dynamics of community life and the relationships between the members. Likewise, in some instances, certain aspects were not in conformity with common canonical discipline.

At the same time, recognizing the many persons of diverse origin, maturity and formation, who were wholly animated with evangelical zeal and who have generously given the best of themselves, dedicating a great part of their life to the service of Christ and the Church, Fr. McSweeney expressed confidence that the Family could continue, maintaining the patrimony of supernatural and human resources found in your Family.

After careful consideration of that long and thorough report, I was convinced of the urgency of giving to all the members of the Miles Jesu, – men and women, who through their act of consecration of themselves to God, have placed their confidence in the church (through the person of Fr. Duran) – an answer that would be an unequivocal sign of the care

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Continuity Walks and Talks



Enjoying a beautiful day for the Continuity Walk on the grounds of Arundel Castle.

ARUNDEL is an enchanting place, set in the Sussex Downs, and it has never looked more beautiful than it did on the day that the Catholic History Walkers arrived in early October.

It was a golden Autumn day of mellow sunshine, and we were a small but cheery group. The main party had met in London, on the steps of Westminster Cathedral – the usual gathering-point for Catholic History Walkers – and travelled to Arundel by train, meeting Bryan and Jayne Lock, the indefatigable team that run the British office of Miles Jesu/Continity, at Arundel.

Arundel is rich in Catholic history. The Castle is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Norfolk, the Fitzalan-Howards. They are a Catholic family, and proud of their ancestor, St Philip Howard, who was a martyr for the Catholic Faith in the reign of Elizabeth I. St Philip is commemorated in Arundel Cathedral – built by the Fitzalan-Howard family in 1873 – where he is shown with his pet dog, his loyal companion in the grim years he spent in the Tower of London. He was arrested while his wife Anne was pregnant, and during the years of his imprisonment he was not allowed to have any visit from her, and never saw his little son. He would eventually die, after ten years in the Tower, of fever and dysentery. He was canonised

by Pope Paul VI in 1970s as one of the English Martyrs.

Arundel Cathedral, built by a 19th century Duke of Norfolk, is set on the hill overlooking Arundel, just across the road from the entrance to the Castle. Its monuments include one to four sons of the Maxwell-Stuart family who died in the First World War.

Our Walk took us on a circular route across the Castle grounds, with glorious views. We ate our picnic lunch by the lake, and then followed a tributary of the Arun river out to where it joins the river itself. And from here we had a grand view of Castle and Cathedral, and fresh air blowing straight across from the not-far-distant English Channel. And so, after following the riverbank back into the

town, to a hearty tea at a delightful old-fashioned Tea Shop.

It was a perfect day. We had learned much history, we had prayed at the shrine of a great English martyr, we had honoured the service given by good men in war, we had enjoyed some of the most lovely countryside in the south of England. This was the first History Walk to take place on a Sunday – the usual format of London evening walks clearly attracts larger numbers, but the Arundel day was so special that there was a general feeling that it would be great to organise something similar again.

Keep in touch with the programme of Catholic History Walks by checking the Continuity website, or make sure you are on the mailing-list by contacting Bryan and Jayne Lock at the address given in the newsletter. And spread the word to friends – all are welcome! ■



Arundel Castle



Stopping for lunch and discussion.

Bortnyky Update

A special thanks to those of you who have donated to the Miles Jesu Bortnyky orphanage for boys in Ukraine. David Lock continues to give of his time and energy in Bortnyky, providing much needed support to Ruslan Markiv, MJ, the director.

The daily life of the orphanage can best be understood through the eyes of the boys who live there. In this issue we'll take a quick tour of Bortnyky through eyes of one of the boys who is 11 yrs. old. We'll call him Victor.

Victor's mother was recently released from jail and she was judged unfit to care for her son and daughter. Victor's sister is now with the Miles Jesu orphanage for girls not far from Bortnyky. The children have telephone contact with both their mother and father, who is also in and out of jail.

It's Saturday. Victor has not wet the bed for nearly a week, which is a record. A volunteer has been waking up the boys twice a night to go to the toilet. This morning Victor is going with three other boys to the dentist. The boys tend to come to us with bad teeth and each boy makes regular visits to the dentist in Lviv, one of the larger cities in Ukraine near Bortnyky. Victor has braces and is due for a check-up. He had breakfast and then brushed his teeth, ready for the two hour journey to the city.

Many of the boys have lived on the streets for most of their life. But going to the city with us, they look at their world from a different point of view. They enjoy looking at the new cars, and at all the shops and buildings. When we approached the dentist's office, the boys ran off to get the best seats in the waiting room. While one of the other boys was being seen by the dentist, Victor and another boy went to look at the computers, flat screen TVs and MP3 players in a store window. Victor wants to save up to buy an MP3 player for himself. While we don't like to encourage the boys to think that they can buy happiness,

it is still important for them to understand that to have these things, they need money, and to have money they need a job, and to have a job they need an education.

Victor is very smart. He studies well at school, although like most boys he can be lazy at times. He seems to have a very analytical mind. He sees a situation and is able to plan and foresee potential problems.

After all of the boys had been seen by the dentist, we took a drive through the Lviv city centre and stopped at a few more large stores so the boys could have a look around. One store had an escalator. This was the first time some of the boys had seen one. At first they were apprehensive, but after they saw others use it they followed along.

From there we made our way to the Miles Jesu Church, St. Josaphat and All Ukrainian Martyrs, where the boys visited with Fr. Robert Nicoletti, MJ. After a brief visit during which the boys told jokes to Fr. Nicoletti, we took the boys to buy some produce for the kitchen, and a few things for lunch, which included some ready made rolls, fruit juice, fruit and a pack of doughnuts. On the way home Victor devoured his food in no time leaving only the wrapping as evidence. We got home at about 4 pm, unloaded the car, and then the boys disappeared into the woods. We wanted



Victor enjoying a snack at the boys' home in Bortnyky.

to stop at the Miles Jesu orphanage for girls, where Victor's sister lives, but today it was not possible.

In the evening, since the weather has been good, we will have a barbeque outside. Victor loves to eat sausages cooked on a stick in the fire. After the barbeque, we will have evening prayers and then get the boys ready for bed. Before sending the boys to bed on Saturday nights, we watch one of the BBC Blue Planet specials, translating the English for the boys. After washing and brushing his teeth, Victor will probably take his cover into the TV room and lay on the big pillow on the floor like the rest of the boys, as we watch the BBC special together.

Reminding him to go to the toilet before he goes to bed, Victor will go off to sleep in a dorm with seven other boys. We thank all the people who support our orphanage in Bortnyky and give these children the chance to live a normal life. ■



Msgr. Giuseppe Tonello, Chancellor of the Diocese of Rome (center) with delegates to the November, 2010, assembly, in the chapel of the Rome men's domus.

of the Church of Rome. Since Miles Jesu was well worth protecting, I wanted to concretely provide wise and firm guidance during this critical time in which you are living. For this reason, always in agreement with the competent Congregation, I decided to proceed along the line marked out by my Predecessor, nominating an Extraordinary Commissary, in the person of Fr. Barry J. Fischer, C.P.P.S.

On March 25, 2009, the day of the Solemnity of the Annunciation, Fr. Barry J. Fischer assumed the delicate office of guiding the Institute, showing genuinely Catholic faith and generous availability to the Church that called him to this difficult assignment.

Now, after a year and a half of intense work, with great profusion of energy and zeal on his part and on the part of all those who have worked with him and who continue to believe in the goodness of the initial vision of Fr. Duran, the work of Fr. Commissary has fulfilled the best expectations. Moreover, in certain ways, those expectations were exceeded through the speed and effectiveness demonstrated. To him go my warmest "thanks."

Today, as the primary Ordinary for the Institute, I am able to say that conditions have been created so as to definitively dissipate the shadow of the past and to go beyond the uncertainties which less than two years ago threatened the survival of

your Family. Fr. Fischer, with your precious collaboration, was able to take a number of measures (whether at the level of internal government, or towards the ex-members) that represent an opportune and healthy turning point, even though there were some painful moments and not understood by everyone, as some defections would attest.

Now it appears necessary to me to exhort you to continue with persevering fidelity on the road undertaken, continuing to offer to Fr. Commissary, for as long as his work will be required, a collaboration animated by a supernatural solicitude and a loyal spirit of service, to bring to conclusion the process of renewal and initial consolidation. I am certain that God will bless with abundant fruits of holiness and of renewed adhesion to the charism of the Institute your decision to serve faithfully and humbly His work, through the many trials faced (and that still certainly will not be lacking, in this difficult journey).

Assuring you of a special remembrance in prayer for the happy outcome of your work, I am pleased to extend to all my heartfelt best wishes and greetings.

Most devotedly in the Lord,
Agostino Cardinal Vallini
 Rome, November 1, 2010,
 Solemnity of All Saints ■

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*Our Lady of Walsingham,
 pray for us*