

HOPE

is published by the Society of the Divine Savior for those benefactors and friends who have demonstrated a sincere interest in the organization. Thank you for being part of our Salvatorian family.

— Father Gregory SDS

Our Mission

In the spirit of our founder, Father Francis Jordan, the Society of the Divine Savior was founded more than 130 years ago and is a Catholic religious community working to share the love and mercy of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through all possible means.

“That all may know the Savior”

Special visit

Nestled on a peninsula on the shores of the Charleston Creek and Wicomico River in Southern Maryland, the Salvatorian inspired Camp St. Charles never really takes a break. In some ways, it never really slows down. Early registration for the 2019 camp season has been incredibly strong, with the program being already 85 percent full for this summer.

“Last summer, an escape room activity was added and proved to be a big hit with our campers,” said Laura Hall, Director of Camp St. Charles. “The escape room is popular because it's new and it's a hot trend. I love it because it engages a different skill set, puzzles and problem solving that is a bit different in the escape room. Ours challenged campers to figure out who was responsible for a food fight before time ran out.”

Camp will sport a new escape room challenge this summer and continues to work on a big pool renovation which will be dedicated to Salvatorian Fr. Glen Willis.



Campers work together to try to beat the clock in this escape room adventure at Camp St. Charles.

This group of campers escaped with 20 seconds to spare!

Development Corner

Sunnier and longer days, increasing temps, brighter days, Streets and gardens are blooming everywhere. Spring is the season of reawakening and restoration — and with some ingenuity it's possible to give a gift that captures the inspiring nature of the season. Consider giving the gift of faith. Is there a teacher that motivated you, a pastor that inspired you, a mission that impacted you, or perhaps a prayer that gave you hope? An honor gift may be a great way to say thank you.

You have been our faithful devotees through the years and we are blessed to pray for and with you. Please take a moment to consider your continued support by including the Society in your estate plans and if you are able, you can send a gift today using the enclosed envelope. Feel free to call us with any questions at 800-254-4902.

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Salvatorian Newsletter

Starting Point

I feel it's been too long since I last wrote to you. So much has happened. Our challenging winter ended at last, we celebrated the glory of our risen Savior and spring has definitely taken root coast-to-coast. These events undeniably rained down hope and energy into my life, and I pray into your life as well.

For me, spring is the most awaited season of the year. Winter has completed its reign and nature is in the midst of its explosion of dances, as those tiny seedlings burst through giving way to growth and blossoms. It's a time of renewal for life around us and within us. That nameless elixir that helps us breathe a bit easier is in the air and helps us to move with intention.

It's an important time for us! God's grace and mercy are tangible – reminding us that He is ever present and that our life fits beautifully and intentionally into His plan for us. If I may, let me gently remind you that spring time is more than that spring cleaning “to do” list hanging on the fridge. It's your chance to open your heart and be open to what God has in store for you. BE hopeful, BE present to the world around you and BE happy - God loves you.

God Bless!
Fr. Gregory

Coming soon!

We are beyond excited to joyfully share that this summer we will be celebrating the priestly ordination of four of our men in formation. Deacons Patric Nikolas, Virginus Osuagwu, Ocatvio Trejo-Flores and Paul Wilkin will be ordained at Mother of Good Counsel in Milwaukee, on June 23! Each of these men is currently in the home stretch of his diaconate year and is serving at parishes in Milwaukee. Please keep them in prayer.



(l-r) Salvatorian Dcs. Paul Wilkin, Virginus Osuagwu, Patric Nikolas and Octavio Trejo-Flores at our recent Foundation Day celebrations!



Silver Jubilee a golden opportunity to reflect

An ancient Chinese proverb states, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." "Many great endeavors start from very humble beginnings and if not for those first steps, they very well many not exist at all," shared Fr. Jeff Wocken SDS, USA provincial, during his opening remarks at the Silver Jubilee celebration of Jordan University College (JUCo) in Morogoro, Tanzania in March.

Those humble steps of mission in Southern Tanzania began in 1955 when the first Salvatorian missionaries were sent, and grew to include multiple parishes and mission stations in a variety of dynamic ministries from communications to technical education. By 1963, 34 Salvatorians were working in the area of Lindi and Tunduru-Masasi, and the first Tanzanian brother had completed his novitiate and professed his vows in the United States.

"These first steps were always in collaboration with others and often required correction and refinement," said Fr. Jeff. "The true value of these firsts is not in the people and acts themselves, but in the steps which followed, leading to what is today the Tanzania Pro-Province and Jordan University College."

JUCo had its humble beginnings in the early 90's when USA Salvatorian Brothers Donald Mauer and Bertrand Hanf were hard at work constructing buildings that would become the

Salvatorian Major Seminary. Fr. David Brusky SDS was named the first rector of the seminary. As the school matured, there were further changes in direction, some under the leadership of unit superior, Fr. James Weyker SDS, from the US. When it was time to form a local Salvatorian formation community in Morogoro under the Tanzanian Pro-Province, Fr. Dan Pekarske SDS, was chosen as the first local superior.

"JUCo has been a collaborative endeavor of several religious communities from its very origins," said Fr. Jeff. "Moreover, as the presence of American and European Salvatorians has decreased through the years, the journey of the Tanzanian Pro-Province and of JUCo has become increasingly reflective of a truly African Church and African Salvatorian presence in the world. It is my hope that the USA Province may continue collaborating with JUCo and the Tanzanian Pro-Province well into the future."



Celebrating the silver jubilee of Jordan University College, established in Morogoro Tanzania by Salvatorians.

Welcome Home!

Having served six years as vicar general and general secretary to our international Society of the Divine Savior in Rome, Italy, Fr. Raúl Gómez has returned home. He has been appointed as the new president-rector of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology (SHSST) and after a short sabbatical will assume the duties of this position in July.

Professing his first vows with the Salvatorians in 1982, Fr. Raúl was ordained to the priesthood in 1987. Prior to his term in Rome, Fr. Raúl had served nearly 25 years at SHSST in a variety of capacities including more than 15 years as director of Hispanic studies, which was one of the first programs of its kind in a seminary setting. His roles at the seminary also included service as vice rector and as vice president for academic affairs and director of intel-

lectual formation. Fr. Raúl has an MDiv, MPA, and PhD.

"Salvatorians have a rich history at the Seminary," said Fr. Raúl. "When I began in 1988 there were already Salvatorians on staff and others had studied there in preparation for ministry. Since then, about 15 members of the US Province as well as Salvatorian Sisters have served as full-time and adjunct professors. At one point there were more Salvatorians on staff than members of the order that owns and operates Sacred Heart!"



Fr. Raúl Gómez (l) pictured here in his duties as VP for Academic Affairs & Director of Intellectual Formation for Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology.

New candidate welcomed!

Prior to entering religious formation, candidate Greg Dougherty served in prison ministry for seven years at Warren Correctional Institution, a state prison in Ohio. He also lived and worked at a mission in Northern Kentucky serving the poor and marginalized. One of his passions has been working to spread the Message of Fatima, including completion of a 1,200 mile rowing expedition from Miami to NY in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Fatima. Greg has been ministering at St. Catherine's High School in Racine, WI during his candidature.

Greg says he felt very close to God throughout his youth, and shared that he first heard God calling him to the priesthood as a teenager. "I'm drawn to the Salvatorians by the charisms of the Founder, Fr. Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan," said Greg. "I feel called to religious life because of the strength found by community living. I hope to find the joy of living in a community bonded in the love of Jesus Christ through Our Lady."



The Salvatorian Family welcomed candidate Greg Dougherty during a special celebration at Alexian Village in Milwaukee.

Mass of the Divine Savior

Moved by the mission and ministry of their Salvatorian-led parish of Most Holy Trinity (MHT) in Tucson, AZ, Patricia Munsen, music director at MHT since 2005, and her son, Nicolás Munsen, together composed the completely original Mass of the Divine Savior, which was recently made available on a music CD.

Mrs. Munsen, her husband, Dr. Randal Munsen SDS, and their son, Nicolás Munsen have graciously donated the rights to the music and CD to the Society of the Divine Savior. USA Provincial, Fr. Jeffrey Wocken SDS, wrote the instrumental accompaniment parts to the Mass. He also contributed the original song, Free Me Lord, as well as his flute, guitar and vocal talents for the CD.

There are many beautiful Mass settings in publication but the trend since the new Mass translation came out in November of 2011 was to have all the Mass parts connected with the same musical theme. "It's a great idea so people can learn it quickly but it also tended to make all the parts of the Mass have the same feel. For us, Mass of the Divine Savior started with the Gloria," said Mrs. Munsen. "Nick and I wanted to take on the challenge of composing a Mass that had a recurring theme, but enough changes to reflect the intent within the different parts of the Mass." Written to be a joyful Mass setting, MHT has been using the Mass of the Divine Savior for the past four years and it is brought to life at every Mass by the MHT choir and congregation!

"We wanted to do something for the Salvatorians because they have, and continue to do so much for us," said Mrs. Munsen. "The Salvatorians were our driving force to record the music and secure the copyrights as a way



Fr. John Pantuso SDS, Patti Munsen, her son Nicolás and husband Randy Munsen SDS at Most Holy Trinity.

for us to show gratitude to them for what they have given to us and to our community."