

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 ”

Summer Jubilarian

We celebrated jubilee years with members of our Salvatorian Family in June. In this issue we raise up Fr. Tom Perrin SDS who honored his milestone 25th anniversary year of profession. Fr. Tom is currently ministering as the Chaplain at Franciscan St. Francis Health Hospital, Indianapolis, IN.



We ask for your prayers for Fr. Tom and all Salvatorians who celebrated and thank them for their years of service.

Years on Fire: Passion for Mercy Celebrations Continue!

We celebrated with our east coast friends and family at St. John the Baptist in Silver Spring, Md. The church and celebration that followed were packed as we shared our story of how the Salvatorians first came to the United States. Added to the story was some religious humor and enlightenment on how our relevance then and now moves us on a Mission of Mercy for the future with passion, compassion and an unwavering aspiration.



Next Up:

- Milwaukee, WI – Sep. 16
- Orangevale, CA – Oct. 14
- Huntsville, AL – Nov. 11
- Cookeville, TN - Nov. 18



Reserve your seats early or be sure to get on the list to receive an invitation by emailing sds125@salvatorians.com or calling our provincial office at 414-258-1735.

Some things don't take a vacation

Fr. Francis Jordan's vision was to serve people through all ways and means. He was determined to embrace the struggling, encourage the uncertain and meet basic needs so Jesus could be known to all. As summer continues to heat up and you are able to enjoy valuable time with friends and family rejuvenating, reconnecting or taking a vacation, please keep the Salvatorians in your prayers. And, if possible, consider making a summertime contribution.

You can make a memorial gift to honor a loved one that has passed away or honor someone today that has made an impact on your life through a gift to the Society. A reply envelope is included for convenient giving. You can also reach us at 800-254-4902.

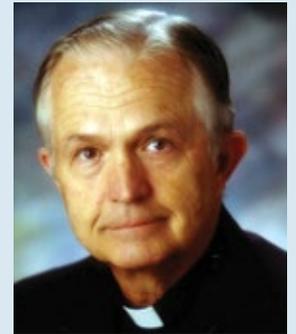
Please remember us in your will and trusts.

HOPE

Salvatorian Newsletter

Starting Point

Ah yes, the “dog days” of summer, fondly thought of as a period of laziness. Most don't associate summer with a time to grow in faith. However, it's really a time to challenge your senses, open your heart to the world and promote a good time in the pursuit of community. To be recharged, mentally as well as physically, taking time to appreciate the season and all it offers is an opportunity to grow closer to our Savior and renew relationships with family. Time off from our hectic lives heals, revives our spirit and gives us hope.



That said, several of our professed men in formation have sought out real-life ministerial internships this summer to get their noses out of books and engaging with His flock. These experiences help them grow in faith and momentum as they inch closer toward conclusion of their formation and fully embrace God's call for them to serve as a Salvatorian priest through all ways and means.

Psalm 23: 1-3 says is well. “The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake.” I hope that you will be mindful of this Psalm and take time to rest and to deepen your faith in the Lord this summer.

God Bless, Fr. Gregory

Joyful Announcement!

The Society of the Divine Savior is happy to share that Fr. Michael C. Neeland SDS was ordained a Salvatorian priest this summer at St. Pius X Church in Wauwatosa, Wisc. Fr. Michael celebrated his first Mass the following day before travelling to his home town parish of St. John the



Fr. Michael C. Neeland SDS
Ordained May 27, 2017

Summer Situations

Though we are in the heart of the dog days of summer, our professed Salvatorians in formation are taking time for real-life ministry experiences around the country and the world. Below is just a glimpse.



Marcel Emeh heads to our Salvatorian parish of Most Holy Trinity in Arizona where he will begin his deacon placement. He'll be preaching during Eucharist celebrations, performing baptisms, witnessing marriages as a minister, celebrating funerals, assisting at Mass, and helping with staff and other ministries of the school as needed.



Simon Muema will return to Africa to minister in his local parish, which has six catholic outstations, serve Masses and deliver Holy Communion. He will be visiting seniors and poor of the villages while distributing food, school books and writing materials. He'll be teaching confirmation classes at Kabaa Catholic Boys High School and tutoring Jr. High students at Our Lady of Lourdes middle school.



Patric Nikolas will be traveling to our Columbian province, initially staying at the provincial house in Bogota with professed members and then moves to the novitiate home in Manizales. Patric requested this ministry opportunity as a way to develop greater empathy for non-English speakers in the U.S. He travels there with an open heart and preparedness to help with whatever they need.



Virginus Osuagwu will be in Wisconsin at Good Mourning Place. His ministry will involve working with children, teens and their families who have lost a family member

tragically, helping them develop their own coping skills and strategies.



Octavio Trejo-Flores returns to Camp St. Charles in Maryland, for some summer sessions. He'll be helping kids expand their frontiers through the independence and faith-filled fun that occurs at camp. High ropes, boating, campfires and outdoor Mass are just a few of the favorites as he works with the kids throughout the summer.

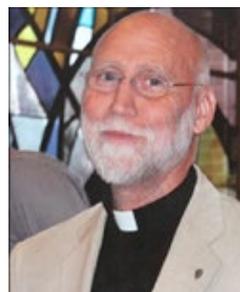


Paul Wilkin has been studying in the Philippines since January. He will travel to Vietnam for several weeks this summer to immerse himself in the culture and bring an "All Ways and Means" approach to his formation as he shares the Love of Christ through example.

Future issues of HOPE newsletter are sure to offer expanded stories on their summer journey, take-a-ways and next steps toward life as a Salvatorian.

Majinu Uhai—Water Means Life

Safe Water for Life and Dignity (SWLD) is a development program, which builds wells in rural Tanzania. The program was started by former seminarians from Jordan University in Morogoro, Tanzania. Fr. Dan Pekarske SDS, who passed away unexpectedly last fall, was a member of the U.S.A. province of the Society of the Divine Savior and had taught at the university. He helped to inspire these young men to serve the poor. SWLD is a unique organization which donates its time, works with people in villages, forms a water committee and educates the villagers regarding



Fr. Dan Pekarske SDS challenged us all to "Go and Make a Difference."

the care of the well.

The wells are "ring wells." They are cost effective to build, require no electricity and very few repairs. This gift of clean, safe



The SWLD well in Morogoro, Tanzania has helped to make life healthier and profitable for villages.

water to a village improves the health and the future of the 500-800 that benefit from each well. Disease and death due to unsafe water has been drastically reduced. Women no longer have to walk for hours carrying water and are now able to attend school. Crops are being irrigated and an entire village reaps the benefits of each well.

Off the shelf

Not letting it collect dust on a shelf, Fr. Peter Schuessler SDS brought the meaning and relevance of Fr. Francis Jordan's Spiritual Diary to life, for 25 Salvatorian sisters of the Southeast Asian Vicariate in Amadeo, Philippines. Fr. Peter, invited by the superior, Sister Alona Onag SDS, at the recommendation of the Sisters' international Generalate, provided a retreat near the beautiful area of Tagatay, titled "A



Fr. Peter poses for a picture with our Salvatorian sisters in the Philippines.

Walk with Fr. Jordan." It was an opportunity for the sisters to prayerfully reflect on the personal thoughts and vision of Fr. Jordan and to experience in a deeper way our Salvatorian charisms and mission.

"I feel I have a cultural mission and ministry to help people understand our founder in a more personal and reflective way," said Fr. Peter. "I try to help them see Fr. Jordan as more alive and relevant in their own ministries."

Joyful - from cover

Baptist in Alden, NY, to share his first Mass back home.

Prior to discerning life as a Salvatorian priest, he had been in an L'Arche Community in Tacoma, Wash. where he spent two years living among individuals with, and without, disabilities, in accordance with the beatitudes.

"It's life-changing to live alongside people who are different...who society turns its back on," said Neeland. "You begin to see Christ in them. People are broken and saying to you 'come into my life.' You learn unconditional love."



Fr. Mike Neeland SDS offers his first blessing to The Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Milwaukee

Ten years ago a priestly vocation was not even on Fr. Michael's radar. He had served as a volunteer firefighter/EMT and had worked as a social worker for a nonprofit in Buffalo, N.Y. "It's impossible for me to explain my 'call' but I fought it for a long time," he shared. "I would look at situations and feel something." He sensed God's persistence, and in time answered the call to become a Salvatorian priest. Fr. Michael has been assigned to serve in Campus Ministry at Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) in Melbourne, Fla starting this summer. "My prayer is a prayer of action. I'm looking forward to jumping into my ministry at FIT!"