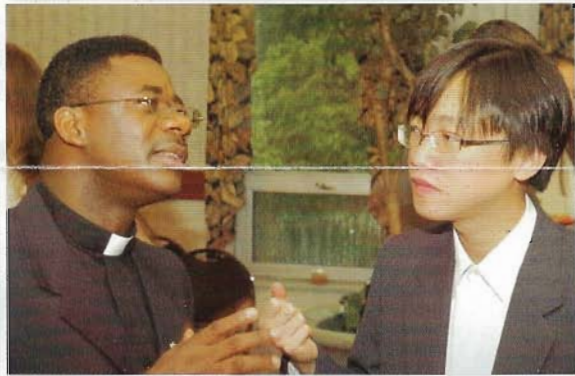


Partners for God's Kingdom

Father Salvator Musande, A.A.

Yesterday Tomasz Kierul asked me, "What does it mean for you to be a partner for God's Kingdom?" The coming of God's Kingdom is at the heart of the life of the Augustinians of the Assumption. Our Rule of Life opens this way: "Faithful to our Founder, Fr d'Alzon, we choose before all else to work, out of love for Jesus Christ, for the coming of the Reign of God in ourselves and around us" (RL 1).

Partnership for the Kingdom calls me to teamwork, where all the individuals involved harmonize their contributions and work towards a common goal, looking in the same direction. Our team in the Assumption is made of religious and lay people, men and women, young and adult gifted in different ways. Our common goal is to work, here and now, for the coming of God's Kingdom in our lives and in the world. Our Rule of life highlights it this way, "The proclamation of Jesus Christ is inseparable from the promotion of the whole person in justice, love, and unity" (RL 16). Partnership for the Kingdom is therefore a call to work for a more just and fraternal world in which the dignity of each and every person is recognized and respected.



We cannot work for God's Kingdom in isolation. We may live in different parts of the world, choose different ministries but we are united in the spirit of our founder, Fr d'Alzon and under the same motto: "Adveniat Regnum Tuum". More than ever before, we, Assumptionists, count on our lay partners to work with us in fostering the Reign of God.. Sharing the heritage of our founder with our lay brothers and sisters has never been so urgent. The future depends on this collaboration.

Partners for God's Kingdom share the same passion. Being a partner means that I belong, that I am accepted. It means that the other teammates recognize my ability and value my contribution. It also means that I recognize and value theirs. This synergy is a blessing and a challenge. It is a blessing because I know that I am not alone: I am a link in a chain of "heirs and founders" in the words of Father Benoit Grière, AA, our Superior General. It

is a challenge because I must play my role and not be just a spectator. The team counts on my contribution. I want to believe that, as Assumptionists, we value our lay partners, not only their material support, but more importantly as collaborators. Their involvement means that Fr d'Alzon's dream is still very much alive.

From Assumption College to St Anne-St Patrick parish via the Assumptionist Center, our lay partners are invited to share the Assumptionist common spirit and mission. The gospel message should not be locked into one place, as if the Assumption were not "mobile" enough. We need messengers who deliver the Good News. Let Fr d'Alzon's dream infiltrate lives and cultures. Together, let us take Christ to the people in their homes and in the workplace. Teachers, nurses, businesspeople, journalists, publishers, physicians, students, retired people, etc. are all welcome to partner with the Assumptionists to make a difference at home or abroad.



More than 150 years ago, Father Emmanuel d'Alzon had a dream of engaging all people in proclaiming and extending the Kingdom of God. Today this dream is being realized by both religious and lay partners in the Assumption family working together in education, formation, vocational ministry, community-building, media, service to the poor and needy - and through an ongoing sharing of time, talent and treasure. In this issue you will read how some folks have answered our question:

How are YOU a Partner for God's Kingdom?



As a Partner, I help support the Assumptionists financially as much as I can ... and I try to be present to the Kingdom in all my life - to "slow down" and be open to and aware of the Kingdom of God now, inside of me, welcoming it and so being better able to manifest it around me.

Marc B.

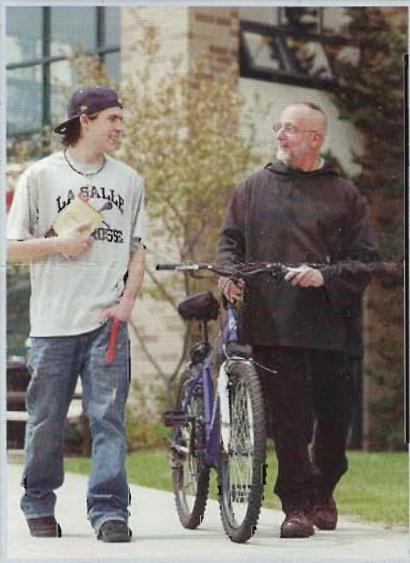


Caring for the poor and needy through my ministry in the St. Vincent de Paul Society ... and working to feed the poor at the Southbridge Food Share is advancing God's kingdom..

Ruth H.

Grateful to the Lord and His Blessed Mother for all the graces, blessings and miracles in my life - and to the Assumptionists for instructing me and for their support during the years of my mother's illness, I choose to partner with the Assumptionists to carry out their mission. I support them by contributing financially and through my prayers. And I have remembered them in my last will and testament. I believe that my financial contributions will be better used in bringing God's Kingdom to our world by way of the Assumptionists.

Anthony R.



My experience as coordinator of the parish religious education program for children gives me the opportunity to share in the Assumptionist spirituality and help promote God's Kingdom among the catechists and youngest members of our parish.

Terry J.



I am a partner in building the Kingdom of God ... at my desk in the Saint Anne / Saint Patrick Parish Religious Education office, working on brochures and posters for our Annual Novena, proclaiming the Word of God as a Minister of the Word, being a Eucharistic Minister - and outside the office, as a mother, grandmother and friend, living my life in such a way that everyone I meet may see Him in me and come to know and love Him in a very deep and personal way.

Sylvia D.

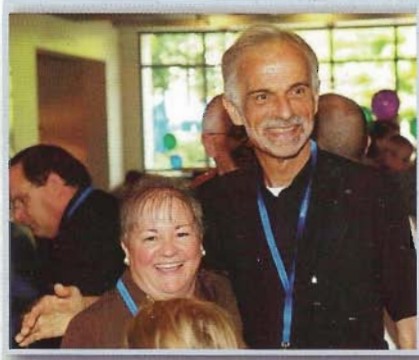


managing Catholic D Bayard Public the Assumption honored to have come our family of fellow travelers journey of faith encouragement, and share both of living the King the Kir



At Assumption College, we work to prepare future leaders who will live out their personal and professional lives for the betterment of society and the coming of the Kingdom of God which can only happen when Christ takes root in our hearts. Helping students come to an appreciation of this is my way of partnering for God's Kingdom.

Francesco C.



Living and working with the Assumptionists is a great way to be a Partner for God's Kingdom, working together in the office, paying bills, taking care of immigration issues, fixing broken pipes, etc; as well as by praying, sharing our joys and sorrow, and giving simple witness to our love. This is a concrete way to make a difference in the world and to invite others to do the same.

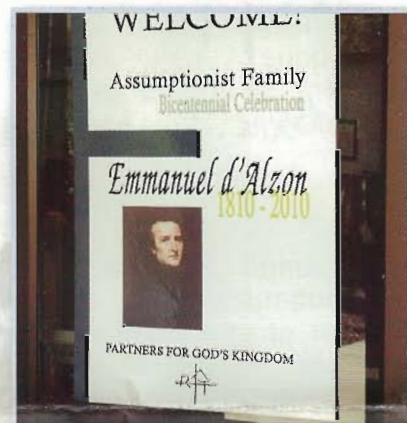
Tomasz J.

I try to be a Partner for God's Kingdom both at work and at play. As a lawyer, I try to resolve disputes for people within a system designed to promote justice and fairness and sometimes take on pro bono cases for veterans and the poor. I try to educate myself about the Church's teachings and promote the Gospel through conversation. Hopefully, this plants seeds for spiritual growth in the hearts and minds of people I meet.

Brian B.

To be a partner for the Kingdom for me is witnessing to faith in Jesus Christ, in my immediate living environment day by day and in communion with all the Assumptionists locally and around the world.

Chantal C.



Through my work here at Assumption College (teaching, preaching and in personal conversations with students), I try to draw their attention to the living Word of God as in real fact the center of human history and the center of their own hearts and minds as well.

Fr. Barry B.

Humbly seeking God's will, exercising our freedom and seeking and conforming to the truth require a painful daily conversion and personal effort and prayer, as well as community support. Herein lies the mission of the Assumption family. In everything we do we strive daily to do the right thing, to do what is just, and to teach in charity, and lead and manage as best we can.

Donald D.



As editor of a magazine [at Assumption College], I feel humbled and have the opportunity to welcome readers to a community in whom to share their joys and challenges in life and extend the Kingdom of God.

Julie R.

I work with the Assumptionists on their website (www.assumption.us) recently on the Virtual Library section, making written materials (everything from the spirituality of the congregation to individual exploits in places such as the Russian gulag) available for on-line reading, or for download onto e-reading devices. This allows the story of the Assumptionists' work for the Kingdom of God to reach a broader audience.

Ryan C.



on your own, please go to www.assumption.us.

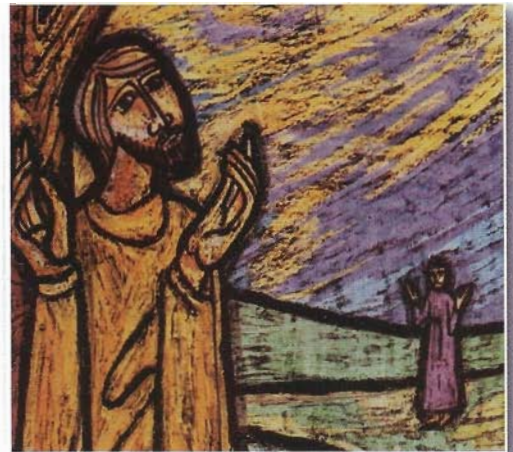
Your financial generosity is important and secures the future

The Assumptionists appreciate the support and friendship that so many of you have expressed over the years by responding to our invitation to become Partners for God's Kingdom. Without your help the efforts of the Assumptionists to promote vocations, to financially support the education of our student brothers, to provide a welcoming home for young men preparing to serve the Church, and to assure the quality of care for our elder brothers, would not be possible.

As partners for God's Kingdom, we can be such a force for good in the realization of Church's mission. Please join us in supporting efforts of the Assumption family to form leaders who bear witness to God's love for the world.

Please consider:

▶ Using Mass Cards, annual and perpetual enrollments. The Assumptionists Mass Association is a great way to receive spiritual benefits and to provide financial support to the Assumptionists. Please visit our website at - www.masscardsaa.com.



"If we put attentiveness to and respect for the person before divergencies of opinion and differences of background, age, mentality or health, our diversity will become an enrichment."

▶ Making an annual gift to the Partners for God's Kingdom Fund. *Please send your annual donation today.*

▶ Remembering the Assumptionists in your will.

▶ Establishing a charitable gift annuity.

For more information please contact our Development Office at (617) 783-0400 or info@assumption.us and visit our website www.assumption.us.

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