

THY KINGDOM COME
Augustinians
of the Assumption

the assumptionist ...

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2003

What is “*the assumptionist ...*” ?

As I was driving along down I 290 the other day, I saw a billboard that described one of the large motels in the city as “*the best kept secret in Worcester.*”

It reminded me of a conversation that took place a few months ago at Glastonbury Abbey (photo at right). Brother Steve had gathered a couple dozen people (Assumptionists, lay-people, religious, men and women, employees and friends) to talk about the Assumptionists (today and tomorrow). At one moment in the discussion, someone said: “The problem with you Assumptionists is that you’re one of those ‘best kept secrets;’ you don’t ‘toot your own horn’ enough.”

It became clear then to some of us that this was a situation that we could do something about. And so a small group (Beth Fleming, Tomasz Jaster, Mary Lou Porrazzo, Fr. Peter Precourt and I) began to meet.



The first thing we recognized was that we Assumptionists don’t do a good job of keeping one another informed ... to say nothing of “our extended family.” Much is happening with all of us. We (and our friends) are working hard for the building of God’s Kingdom, and Jesus tells us that our light ought not to be hidden under a basket but put on a stand for all to see and benefit from!

In your hands you are holding our first concrete attempt at a remedy. These pages are the first issue of a new newsletter (creatively entitled *the assumptionist...*) which we hope



will allow for more family sharing and dialogue. Assumptionists have always prided ourselves on our “family spirit,” and you are an important part of our family.

In future issues, we hope to:

- ◆ - do some introductions (us to you, you to us, you to one another)
- ◆ - hear where you are and what you’re doing
- ◆ - keep you informed about where we are and what we’re doing
- ◆ - invite you to continue to be companions on the journey.



In order to do that, we plan to give you lots of information and let you SEE what’s happening with lots of photos. And please contribute to it in whatever way you can (send us news, reactions, suggestions, memories, examples of your Assumptionist journey, etc.)

Fr. Donald Espinosa, A.A. (editor)

LOCATE



YOUR

ASSUMPTIONIST

FRIENDS

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on
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Who are the Assumptionists ?

... in the beginning ... in the United States

The Assumptionists are an international religious congregation of priests and brothers founded by Father Emmanuel d'Alzon in the middle of the nineteenth century in southern France. His dream would take Assumptionists throughout the world both in his lifetime and after.

Today there are about 1,000 Assumptionists in 27 countries on 5 continents.

Father d'Alzon challenged his brothers to give their lives for the coming of the Kingdom of God as expressed in our motto, taken from the Lord's Prayer: "Thy Kingdom Come. " (Adveniat Regnum Tuum) Our challenge, in our founder's words, is to be "simply catholic," with a mission that is grounded in faith, committed to unity and dedicated to service. It has been said of the Assumptionists that we are "... builders of the Church, of Christian communities where laypeople and religious are able to work and pray together."

The Assumptionists have had two major activities in the U S—the Hispanic ministry in New York City and the educational mission that led to Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. At the start of the 20th century, the Assumptionists were invited to open a school in Massachusetts, for the "religious, classical, and scientific training and education of young men." They acquired land in the Greendale section of the city, and four students were enrolled in the fall of 1904. After the tornado of June 9, 1953, it was decided to separate the Prep School and the College and, in 1955, construction on a new home for the College began on 95 acres of land on Salisbury Street. In 1969, some 120 women enrolled as the college's first co-ed class, and today the College continues to provide a Catholic liberal arts education to more than 2,000 young men and women.

The Assumptionists serve at St. Anne/St. Patrick Parish in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, which is also the home of St. Anne's Shrine with its large collection of Russian icons obtained when the American Assumptionists served as chaplains to the United States Embassy in Moscow.

The Assumptionist Center in Brighton, Massachusetts is headquarters for our North American Province. Assumptionists living here work in Campus Ministry, ecumenism and internal administration. In addition, there are United States Assumptionists in New York and in Tennessee, as well as in various missions in Europe, Latin America,

Please pass on your copy of *the assumptionist ...* to a friend ...



Do you know someone who might want to be added to our mailing list? Please let us know ... write or call or e-mail ...

"Assumptionists, we are religious who live in apostolic community ... to work, out of love for Jesus Christ, for the coming of the Reign of God in ourselves and around us."
Assumptionist Rule of Life



Where are the United States Assumptionists?

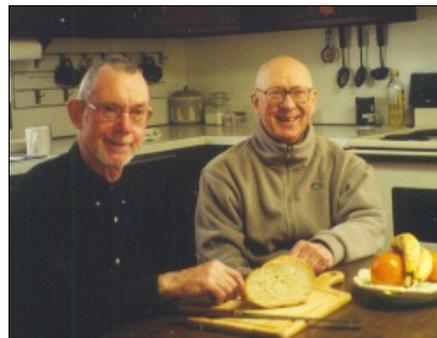
Our largest community today is found at EMMANUEL HOUSE in Worcester. **ROGER** Corriveau, the local Superior, **DENNIS** Gallagher (Regional Superior for the United States), **BARRY** Bercier, **DONAT** Lamothe and **JEROME** Lively work at the College. It's also home for **PETER** Precourt (Vocation Director) and **DONALD** Espinosa (editor) and for our Filipino postulants: **ALEX** Castro, **CARLOS** Melocoton, **CLEMENTE** Boleche and **JONATHAN** Malana, as well as **OMER** Mbusa Sivendire from the Congo, who is studying here for a degree in Business and **DIDIER** Remiot from France, who is currently working at Bayard-USA in Mystic, Connecticut. **PHILIP** Bonvouloir works in Rhode Island and is attached to this community.



50 OLD ENGLISH ROAD is where you will find **ROLAND** Guilmain (local Superior) and most of our retired brothers: **WILFRID** Dufault (our dean), **ALEXIS** Babineau, **ALBERT** Brochu, **BERNARD** Guillet, and **JOSEPH** Richard along with **ARMAND** Lemaire, **OMER** Gemme, and **JOHN-THOMAS** McHugh. It is also home for **PAUL** Henry and for **RICHARD** Gagnon, who does AIDS ministry in Worcester. **ANSELME** Morrison, also



THE ASSUMPTIONIST CENTER in Brighton is the home of **JOHN** Franck who is Provincial Superior and **STEPHEN** Goguen who is Provincial Treasurer and local Superior, as well as **RICHARD** Richards, **GEORGE** Tavard, **JOSEPH** Fredette, **EUGENE** Laplante, **CLAUDE** Grenache, **JOHN** Martin and **PAUL** Vaudreuil. **PAUL** O'Connor from New Zealand is completing his doctoral studies at Boston College.



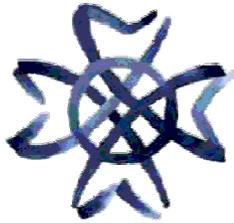
St. Anne/St. Patrick Parish (and St. Anne Shrine) in Sturbridge is where you will find **NORMAN** Meiklejohn and **AIDAN** Furlong (our Irish/English brother from the Province of France).

... and the others ?

RICHARD Lamoureux is Superior General of the Assumptionists and is in Rome; **LUC** Martel, **RICHARD** Brunelle and **OLIVER** Blanchette are in Africa. **LEO** Brassard is in South Korea, **ROBERT** Fortin in Jerusalem and **THEODORE** Fortier in Athens. **GARY** Perron and **CAMILLUS** Thibault are serving in Mexico. **RICKY** Montanez is a novice in Chile, **ROGER** Tougas is in Quebec, **GREGORY** Boisvert is in Tennessee, **ANTON** Toplisky is in New Jersey and **DAVID** Gallo and **GERARD** Messier are in New York City.

Augustinians of the Assumption
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512 Salisbury Street
Worcester, MA 01609

Phone: 508-761-7518
Fax: 508-793-9701



www.assumptionists.org

