



Bloodlines

A MONTHLY OF THE CONGREGATION OF MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD ATLANTIC PROVINCE

SEPTEMBER 2023

PROVINCIAL'S MESSAGE

JESUS SENT THE APOSTLES TO GO OUT TO HEAL THE SICK AND PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

These men gave their YES! to follow Jesus.



Each of us accepted the invitation to do likewise, perhaps not to heal and cure the sick, but to proclaim the Good News

in our preaching and our presence among the people. Remember we are disciples of Gaspar, who was an untiring messenger of the Gospel. We were sent out just as Jesus sent out the twelve apostles.

Through the gift of our Baptism, Incorporation, and Ordination, we have been filled with the Holy Spirit to undertake this wonderful task. In doing so, we deepen our faith in Jesus as he prepares us to live this discipleship each day.

The Holy Spirit works through us, and it means that Jesus promises to give us the words we will need.

Take a moment today to thank Jesus for sending you out, for being a Missionary of the Precious Blood, for using your individual gifts and talents that make Jesus known. Let him know how you feel.

In Matthew's Gospel, verse 5:15, **My light is in you, do not hide it.**, encourages us to proclaim peace and reconciliation in our community houses and in our ministry.

While one does not have to be perfect to be a missionary, one must have a willingness to trust in the Holy Spirit to shine his light. Let us leave behind some of our own 'baggage', due to human qualities and weakness; let us be open to challenging ourselves to grow and change a little each day. As Jesus has called you, he has given you a share in



his own authority. So, take great courage and *Go!* He fills you with strength to take another step closer to him.

We can show young men that a missionary life lived in community, for service, and rooted in the spirit of the Precious Blood is a beautiful life.

The need for more missionaries at this particular time is great.

Thanks to Fr. Samuel for his efforts given to the Vocation office and members who accepted to be part of the Vocation/Formation Committee.

A sincere thank you to all of you who are praying for an increase of vocations, as your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Let us remember that vocation ministry is not only the efforts of the vocation director. Each member of the Province is to seek out and invite people to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. Be not afraid to ask young men to consider being a Missionary of the Precious Blood. As you gave *your* YES! and were asked to join the community, now you have the same privilege to invite others. Vocation ministry is the task of each one of us. We are responsible for the future of our Province: *...every member is to show a responsible initiative in promoting the welfare of the Congregation.* (C49)

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD FAMILY MAGAZINE

In 1994, the Atlantic Province took the initiative of publishing *The Precious Blood Family* magazine, under the

direction of Fr. Peter Nobili, as editor. The triannual aims to promote the devotion and spirituality of the Precious Blood — through the articles, teachings and reflections, hopefully to increase fidelity to the Precious Blood of Christ and

inflame the hearts and minds of its readers. Later in 2020, Fr. Jerome Hologa, as Director of the Development Office, accepted the position of editor. However, due to the many responsibilities of his office, Fr. John Colacino graciously accepted to continue in this capacity, and is presently the editor of *The Precious Blood Family* magazine.

We greatly appreciate and are most grateful for Fr. John Colacino's willingness and openness to take on this important role as editor. His wisdom and dedication to encourage the Precious Blood spirituality by inviting respected, insightful, and interested contributors continues the mandate which began years ago.

We thank you, Fr. John Colacino!!!

We celebrate!

YOUR BIRTHDAY

September 6 MICHAEL MATEYK
September 9 SAMUEL D'ANGELO
September 12 RENÉ CERECEDO
September 24 GERARDO LAGUARTILLA

THE ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR INCORPORATION

September 7 RENÉ CERECEDO
September 29 GERMÁN SANTIAGO
GREGORIO CORTEZ

THE ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR ORDINATION

September 1 PATRICK GILMURRAY

In brief...

JULY 1: The community gathered at Merlini House to celebrate the Feast of the Most Precious Blood. Fathers Peter, Mario, and Brendan welcomed the community and provided a bountiful delicious meal. Fr. Xavier De Pinto, a friend of the community, joined us, and he gifted the meal with red and white wine and desserts.

JULY 18: Sister Maria Hughes, ASC, was elected General Superior of the Sisters Adorers of the Blood of Christ. As Sister Maria begins her new assignment, we pray that Saints Gaspar and Maria De Mattias continue to guide and inspire her to proclaim the Blood of Christ in her ministry.



JULY 26: Fr. Lui Santi serves as part-time chaplain at Villa Colombo Home for the Aged. He invited Archbishop Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, to the Villa for Mass and a luncheon.

Following the celebration of the Holy Mass, the Archbishop quietly asked if he could visit the residents who were not able to attend the Mass. (So we quickly exited to the back elevators). The administration and CEO went into panic mode, not knowing where he had vanished.

After twenty minutes, he and I reappeared on the main floor and calm was restored. He commented that, *This is the reason why I accepted the invitation to visit: to listen to and touch the elderly, they give me hope.*

AUGUST 7: St. Alphonsus Parish continues the annual picnic — rain or shine. The morning showers ended shortly after Mass; however, the community spirit of being together united those in attendance.

“BE STAINED RED WITH THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. If we're stained red, then the ambitions we make real are those that make precious blood spirituality real in the lives of our community members around us, as well as of those to whom we minister.”

SPECIAL VISIT TO OUR ELDERLY

Father Gerardo, Archbishop Leo, and Father Lui in the Madonna della Salute Chapel (Our Lady of Good Health), at Villa Colombo, where His Grace celebrated the Holy Mass with the residents



The games, activities, and prizes for the children were awesome. Fr. Alarey Abella presided at the Eucharist in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the Marylake Shrine of Our Lady of Grace, in King City, Ontario. An abundance of food, drinks and ice cream was enjoyed. Each family shared their home-cooked treasures on one long picnic table. There was enough food for second and third takings.



AUGUST 15:

The community gathered in Niagara Falls to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

Mary and commemorate our Foundation Day.

In thanksgiving of his 25th Anniversary of Incorporation, Father Samuel D'Angelo presided over the Mass and shared a wonderful and inspiring homily where he challenged us:

Be stained red with the blood of Christ. If we're stained red, then the ambitions we make real are those that make Precious Blood spirituality real in the lives of our community members around us, as well as of those to whom we

We remember and pray for...

September 2

NICHOLAS ARIOLI
(First Vicar Provincial)

We pray for our deceased CPPS members, family members, friends, and benefactors.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

► Fr. Ron Mahon's sister, MARILYN, who passed away in July

► Fr. Mario Cafarelli's aunt, ANGELINA, who passed away in July

MEMBER HEALTH UPDATE

► RON MAHON: May you find strength and renewed hope.

► DOMENIC JUNG: May you be patient and courageous in your suffering.

minister. If we're stained red as Missionaries of the Precious Blood, it means... being kind, respectful, and honest when differences arise, and refraining from passive aggressive behaviors or harsh words. Seeking the best for one another

and communicating when we've been hurt. Keeping in touch, despite the great distances that sometimes physically separate us. Seeing one another as family. None of us is perfect and there is plenty of room for growth.

How are our lives stained red?

After the celebration of the Eucharist, a delightful luncheon was hosted by



members of the local community. We were treated to a real picnic flavor with ice cream station, fresh fruit, drinks, grappa and pies, hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and munchies of

all kinds. We spent the afternoon enjoying each other's company... and the weather added to the beauty of the day.



Father Samuel shares his homily at the Eucharist



UNION OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST (USC):

TORONTO DISTRICT

USC members (Unio Sanguis Christi) from the Precious Blood Prayer community of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, USC Blessed People of the Lord community, BCBP, El Shaddai, Missionary Families of Christ, St. Alphonsus Parish and St. Eugene's Chapel, gathered at St. Charles Borromeo Church to celebrate and give praise to our Blessed Mother on August 14, Vigil of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the

Blessed Virgin Mary. The Solemn Mass was well attended, with Fathers Mario, Gerardo, Jim and Alarey, and



Deacon Sergio liturgically leading the service. A social followed in the parish hall.

It is wonderful to see the interest of the members, gathering after a long pause due to the pandemic. It is encouraging that the USC activities are slowly returning. We encourage each member to promote and support the USC in your parishes and invite new members.

Thank you, Father Gerardo, for your leadership and guidance in bringing together this special celebration!



AUGUST 20: St. Roch's Annual Parish Festival to honor their patron was celebrated with great splendor. Fathers Michael and Jerome were pleased with the attendance and

success of the day. After the celebration of the afternoon Mass and procession, there was live entertainment, food and drinks, and children's activities, featuring *Bubblemania*, in the parish hall.

POINT OF INTEREST You are encouraged to read an article by Terence Sweeney, *America, The Jesuit Review*, July 21/2023. The Eucharist Revival is missing something: the Blood of Christ. (v. <https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2023/07/21/precious-blood-eucharistic-revival-245661>) It is an inspiring message for us Precious Blood missionaries.



USC MARIAN AND CPPS FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION

L: Josie and Nanette, members of the Precious Blood Prayer Community at St. Charles Borromeo Church, with a modern painting depicting Our Lady of the Precious Blood of Jesus

R: Presider Rev. Gerardo Laguartilla, with concelebrants Rev. Mario Cafarelli, Deacon Sergio Spadafora, Rev. James Reposkey and Rev. Alarey Abella, at the evening Mass commemorating the Assumption of Mary and the 208th anniversary of foundation of the Precious Blood Missionaries

SPIRITUALITY: TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

PART OF THE SERVICE ON GOOD FRIDAY INCLUDES THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS. This gesture is an expression of our love and devotion to the sacredness of the Cross. Later

during the liturgical year, the Church remembers and celebrates the Cross, with the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, on September 14.

The Cross of Jesus, first and foremost, speaks about the victory of obedience to God's will. For some non-Christians, the cross is merely two

pieces of wood joined together; for Christians, it is a sign of victory over death; and for Catholics, the cross represents a mystery of Jesus' passion and death, obedience, forgiveness and an act of love.



We who adore the cross: it speaks to us of hope in the victorious power of God who raises his Son from the dead. Jesus transforms an instrument of death into a symbol of love for us to imitate. Jesus had preached the wonderful truth of loving one's enemies; of being able to love others as one loves oneself. At the Last Supper, he encouraged his disciples to love one another as he had loved them.

Then at the Cross, Jesus showed us how to forgive. He was able to forgive all those who doubted him, betrayed him, denied him, persecuted him and put him to death. The Feast of the Triumph of the Cross is, in essence, the triumph of love.

St. Gaspar writes to a community member, *May the Crucifix be our book; therein do we read to learn how to act.* (Letter 2368) And in another letter, he says, *Let us be united more and more to the Cross of Jesus, which is the only book that brings comfort, and, in the Heart of Jesus, let us incessantly have regard for each other.* (Letter 1761)

It is important to have the body of Jesus on the cross, the crucifix — or else, it remains merely a symbol of pain and suffering. With the image of Jesus on the cross, it acquires a fuller meaning of hope, faith, love, and new life. St. Edith Stein noted: *The cross has no purpose of itself. It rises on high and points above. But it is not merely a sign — it is Christ's powerful weapon; the shepherd's staff with which the Divine David moves against the hellish Goliath; with it he strikes mightily against heaven's gate and throws it wide open.*

The cross teaches us acceptance and obedience. The cross is a meaningful symbol of Jesus' obedience to his Father. Jesus obeyed the Father's will throughout his life unto death. As Jesus accepted in obedience, he was lifted up, the gift of the Resurrection; so too, God will raise us. In the risen Lord, Christ shares his life with us in and through the Holy Spirit.

How many times do we struggle or even refuse what God is calling us to do? When God's will is spoken through the Church, our superiors, in prayer? We tell ourselves that we cannot possibly do what God wants of us. My intention is better. We grumble, complain, find excuses, rant, do what we want, and deceive people. Jesus accepted the cross unto death, in doing so, his love for his Father was true and faithful. As we bring our life experiences and sacrifices to the cross, may we find new life from the Crucified Jesus as he fills our hearts with the power of the cross.

Let us celebrate the Triumph of the Cross with zeal and charity so that it

COMMUNITY DATES

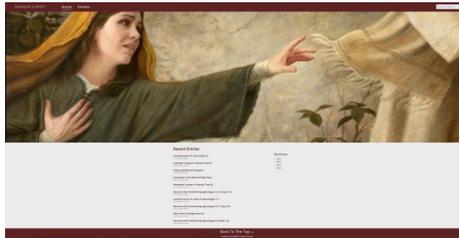
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|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| MAY 24 | Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians | St. Michael's, Fort Erie |
| JULY 1 | Feast of the Precious Blood | Merlini Mission House |
| AUGUST 15 | Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM Foundation Day | Gaspar House, Niagara Falls |
| | Canadian Thanksgiving | St. Roch's |
| OCTOBER 21 | Feast of St. Gaspar del Bufalo | St. Alphonsus |
| | American Thanksgiving | Gaspar House, Niagara Falls |
| DECEMBER 3 | Feast of St. Francis Xavier | St. Charles Church, Toronto |

Each House will be responsible for sending out the invitation to the members

will become known wherever possible and the spirit of the risen Lord abound in our hearts.

DEEPENING PRECIOUS BLOOD SPIRITUALITY

Fr. John Colacino has a wonderful website where he opens the window into the Precious Blood liturgically. Prayers, hymns, meditations, quotes from Church Fathers and numerous saints, and more is shared. Visiting his website is like going on a retreat. Highly recommend that you visit soon: sanguischristi.com.



MINUTES OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023

6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: V. Rev. Luigino Santi, Rev. Samuel D'Angelo, Rev. Jerome Hologa, Rev. Patrick Gilmurray

CALL TO ORDER

All being present, V. Rev. Luigino Santi called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

OPENING PRAYER

V. Rev. Luigino Santi led the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on Monday, May 29, 2023 was made by Fr. Sam, seconded by Fr. Jerome. 3 in favor, 1 abstention. **Carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rev. Peter Nobili joined the meeting to present a financial update to the Council.

- ▶ Fr. Peter reported that the sale of the Assiniboine property had been finalized. The proceeds from the sale were used to repay all outstanding loans and mortgages. There was no residual profit from the sale.
- ▶ Fr. Peter reported on the balance of the Merlini Account used to pay for the education of students. Currently, only Fr. Jerome's salary from the Development Office is income for this account. Details of the financial arrangements surrounding our current candidate's expenses for the next year were discussed.
- ▶ Fr. Peter gave an overview of the current efforts to divest the Bathurst Street property. The proceeds from a previous, forfeited deposit have been received and will be distributed to the appropriate accounts.
- ▶ Fr. Peter outlined a number of projects that have been identified and initiated with respect to the maintenance and repair of the Niagara property. The timing and cost of the projects are being impacted by a scarcity of labor and material.



FEAST OF ST. GASPAR DEL BUFALO Saturday, October 21, 2023

Fr. Alarey, Br. Anthony and St. Alphonsus Parish community invite you to celebrate the Feast of St. Gaspar. Eucharist at 10:30am and lunch at 12pm. A social will be provided by the CWL. Please call Fr. Alarey to confirm your attendance. Please bring your alb and stole.

Mark your Calendar

RETREAT: JUNE 10 TO 14, 2024
Mount Carmel Monastery
Niagara Falls ON



Details of the updated contract with the Tanzanian Province regarding Fr. Josephat were discussed. Transfers to Tanzania in regard to Fr. Josephat are up to date.

MEXICAN MISSION

Fr. Lui outlined a number of significant challenges surrounding the Mexican Mission. Among these, personnel issues and options for future ministry of our members in Mexico were discussed.

PERU

Fr. Lui presented several Working Documents that will be used for discussion at the next MMS to be held in Peru this September. The MMS will focus on formulating policies on misconduct, internet and computer use, website development and social media engagement. The Generalate is also interested in forming a C.P.P.S. Communications Office. At the last General Assembly, a number of Core Values were presented for future discussion. Some follow-up on these is also anticipated.

PERSONNEL

A number of personnel issues were discussed.

VOCATION OFFICE

Fr. Samuel gave a summary of his activities this year and will prepare a formal budget for the Vocation Office for discussion/approval. The composition of the Formation/Vocation Committee may need to be revised. The status of an enquirer was discussed.

MISSION OFFICE

► Fr. Jerome advised the Council that a number of necessary personnel changes had been made in the Water Project. Fr. Jerome's deputy, Fr. Eugene Nchimbi, has assumed the position of Director of the Water Project. Fr. Jerome provided the Council with a financial update of the schools and Water Project.



Bloodlines

BLOODLINES is a monthly published by the Atlantic Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. It is sent to the incorporated members of the Province and Provincial Directors of the various Provinces.

Your input and contributions are welcome. Email submissions to luicpps@yahoo.ca or mail to 100 Pelmo Crescent, Toronto, Ontario M9N 2Y1, by the **25TH OF THE MONTH.**

CONTRIBUTOR FR. LUIGINO SANTI
DESIGN GINO MARCUZZI

**LOVE YOUR VOCATION
and never cease
yearning to perfect it.**

— ST. GASPAR 1826

LETTER 1294, TO SISTER MARIA
SAVERIA DI S. AGOSTINO

► Prospects and options regarding the future of the Water Project were discussed. Fr. Jerome will outline details of these to the Council, especially to our donors, as soon as possible, following receipt of a report from Tanzania. This is expected before the end of this year.

► Fr. Lui will visit Tanzania next year.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The possibility of changing the process of determining the recipient(s) of the Province's donations to charities which are decided at assemblies, was discussed. More research will be needed, and information forthcoming.

USC

Changes to the focus of events of the USC were discussed. Rather than a large annual gathering at Niagara in August, a calendar of dates and events has been set for smaller gatherings at the local level throughout the year. Ways of improving the functioning and coordination of the USC and integration with the Development Office were discussed.

FORMATION

Fr. Patrick expressed his desire for training as Formator. It was suggested that he attend the Religious Formation Conference to be held in November. Fr. Patrick will meet with our current candidate as soon as his sabbatical is concluded. A plan for the formation of our current candidate beyond this coming year will be developed and, if approved by the Vocation/Formation Committee, will be presented together with a budget for Council discussion/approval.

OTHER BUSINESS

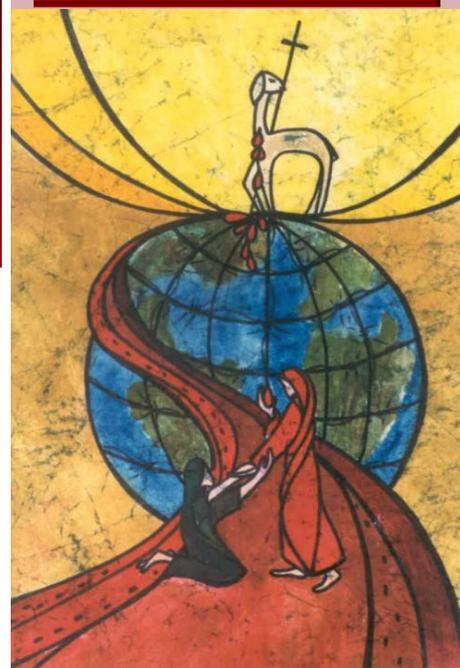
A number of *Standing Reports* will be identified. These will be provided prior to future Council meetings for increased efficiency.

NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 1:00 pm, via Google Meet.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 pm.



**LET US CONTINUE
TO FERVENTLY
PRAY FOR PEACE!**

cppsmissionaries.org/prayer-for-peace-2023

There are 32 countries who are currently experiencing a range of conflicts — from country-on-country invasions to internal strife and violence.

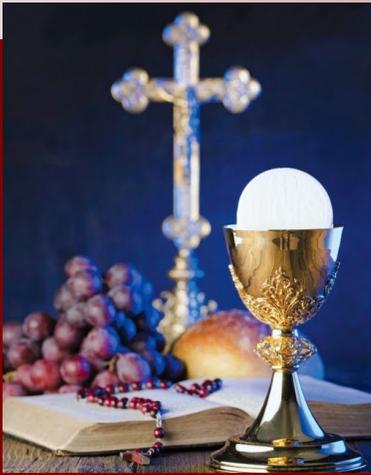
**AS A FAMILY OF
THE PRECIOUS
BLOOD,**

**we cannot be content
to see
in the delivery of tanks
and other weapons
the way to peace.**

**EVERY HUMAN
LIFE IS INFINITELY
PRECIOUS!**

**IN THE BLOOD
OF JESUS,
we human beings
are close to each other
(cf. Eph 2:12)
and, as the Family
of the Precious Blood,
we want to pray for
and work for peace.**

Vocation Calendar September 2023



VOCATION PRAYER

*FATHER,
increase our family's love
for one another.
May we honour each other
in times of happiness
or hardship,
bearing with one another in love,
just as You love us.*

*In a special way,
help us strive for holiness
in our current states of life.
Should You call me
to the priesthood
or religious life
as a Missionary of
the Precious Blood,
help me to respond
with courage and joy.*

*Together, we make heaven
our goal, and pledge,
with Your grace,
to help each other
on life's journey to You.
Through the intercession of
Saint Gaspar,
Venerable John Merlini, and
Saint Maria De Mattias.
Amen.*

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 Alarey Abella | 17 William Mnyagatwa |
| 2 Mario Cafarelli | 18 Josephat Msuya |
| 3 Brother Anthony | 19 Peter Nobili |
| 4 René Cerecedo | 20 James Reposkey |
| 5 John Colacino | 21 Lui Santi |
| 6 Samuel D'Angelo | 22 Germán Santiago |
| 7 Brendan Doherty | 23 Phillip Smith |
| 8 Patrick Gilmurray | 24 Ron Wiecek |
| 9 Joseph Grasso | 25 USC members |
| 10 Gregorio Hernandez | 26 Deceased CPPS Members |
| 11 Jerome Hologa | 27 Our benefactors |
| 12 Dominic Jung | 28 Our family and friends |
| 13 Gerardo Laguartilla | 29 The sick |
| 14 Gary Luiz | 30 Pope Francis and our Bishops |
| 15 Ron Mahon | |
| 16 Michael Mateyk | |

Let us remain united in prayer