

# MANCIPIA

May 2007

THE REPORT OF THE CRUSADE OF SAINT BENEDICT CENTER



## TO FRIENDS OF THE CRUSADE:

### IT'S ALMOST HERE!



Br. André Marie, M.I.C.M., Prior

In this month of May, dedicated to our Lady, my message is brief and simple. I can summarize it thus: We want you, and as many people as you can bring with you, to come to our conference in August. Far from today's average shameless commercialism, this "plug" has some serious motives — urgent reasons to rally the troops to come to Nashua this year.

I'll tell you what my reasons are up front, then detail them point-by-point. (1) The conference is one weapon to utilize against a highly financed hate campaign now opposing us. (2) It is an occasion for serious Catholics to build up their life of interior prayer and external works. (3) It is a networking tool for those committed to helping the cause of the Church. (4) It is a great way to "Christen" social bonds with conversation, recreation, and good, Catholic fun.

(1) The conference is a valuable informational tool. In the battle of ideas (and Catholic doctrines are *revealed* ideas), the weaponry is limited to essentially one thing: words. The children of the world, the forces of organized naturalism, can multiply damaging words at great length in their well-financed media. We have to use our limited means efficiently and wisely in order to counter their verbal attacks, at the same time working actively to promote Catholic truth. This is to do what St. Louis de Montfort described as "building with one hand and fighting with the other."

As I write, a continuing smear campaign is being waged against us by a \$60-million-endowed Christ-hating organization, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Just this afternoon I found out that wave two of their attack is in the works: a new article on us in their misnamed *Intelligence Report*. As "unreconstructed Catholics," we are considered fair game by this malign organization. While I do not fear that such a vile clan will take supporters away

from us with their agitprop screeds, the SPLC's malice can hurt us in other ways — two that I can think of: (1) Their colorful disinformation will leave us further marginalized from those we are trying to convert; and (2) their efforts will spawn further harassment of us locally. Countermeasures are necessary and, believe it or not, the conference helps to provide them.

(2) The talks at the conference are meant to feed a robust Catholic spirit. They are designed to *inform* our intellects with wholesome supernatural truths and to *form* our wills for the spiritual combat of saving souls. This year's conference theme is designed to impress us with a frank sense of where we are in history, to motivate us to get beyond daydreaming about Christendom, but to build Chris-

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"We want you, and as many people as you can bring with you, to come to our conference in August."



Brother Francis opens Conference 2006

# SAINT BENEDICT CENTER NEWS

## FINAL VOWS AND CLOTHING

### A BLESSED AND EVENTFUL DAY



Sr. Zélie Marie, M.I.C.M., Tert.

**C**ome, Spouse of Christ, receive the crown which the Lord has prepared for you for all

eternity.” This antiphon from the profession ceremony is a sentence every aspirant to

the religious life longs to hear. On March 25, 2007, Sister Maria Perpetua and Sister Mary Joseph pronounced their final vows as Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. During the Offertory of the Mass, the perfect moment to make a personal oblation, the funeral pall was spread before the sanctuary, and the two sisters prostrated themselves before God. The sisters then knelt and spoke the solemn vows. They received rings, symbolic of their spiritual marriages, and were crowned with wreaths of white rosebuds and blue ribbons, to show the eternal glory for which they were now consecrated. The brothers and sisters then sang the *Te Deum*, the Church’s great hymn of praise which is all too rarely heard today.

Before the final prayers of the Mass, the clothing ceremony took place. Four precious postulants, Sisters Maria Immaculata, Marie Jeanne, Maria Rosaria, and Marie Gabrielle, came forward and, on behalf of the Order, asked the

prioress, Sr. Marie Thérèse, for the habit of the Slaves. Each sister received the white veil of the novitiate and the black habit, including the scapular which bears the image of the Immaculate Heart.



Newly professed receive their crowns as Brides of Christ

It is worthwhile to consider the significance of each piece of the habit. The tunic represents being clothed with “the new man, who according to God, is created in justice and holiness of truth.” The leather belt is to gird the sister with “the cincture of purity that the virtue of continency and chastity may dwell in [her].” Each novice makes her own five-decade rosary, which is to be “a powerful weapon against the powers of darkness.” The full scapular is given with this petition: “May Our Lady clothe you with the double garment of Her Slaves. May Her Immaculate Heart shine forth in your lives so that all who see or hear you, may see and hear only Her.” And the long, white veil is presented with the fervent hope that “the Mother of Christ [may] preserve you as chaste virgins, that you may admit no other love than His.”

The young ladies left the chapel to change, and the classic wait of anticipation was eased by hymns sung to our Blessed Mother. They returned, dramatically transformed into spouses of Christ. Sr. Marie Thérèse asked God to protect the new novices and grant them perseverance. She then gave them her maternal blessing.

After the austerities of Lent, and the dilation of  
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Sr. Marie Thérèse presents the habit to the new novices

## FINAL VOWS AND CLOTHING

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hearts during the Mass and ceremonies, the reception in the hall was a display of how a wholesome celebration is a foretaste of heaven. Generous donors had coordinated their efforts to honor the sisters and those relatives who were able to attend. Even the worst day of the “mud season” could not dampen the spirits of the participants.

At the end of a special day, one tends to look back with a lingering regard, impressing on the memory the beauty and inspiration of what had passed. But the solemn reality of it all, the foundation of these varied manifestations of joy, are the words pronounced by the superior to the professed sister kneeling before her: “And I, on the part of God, if you keep these vows, promise you life everlasting.”



Newly professed sisters and novices honored at reception

## ITS ALMOST HERE!

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tendom daily in our own lives, in our families, and in the nation.

(3) It is helpful to connect with fellow wayfarers who profess and defend “no salvation outside the Church,” are loyal traditionalists, and have a sincere desire to pray and work for the conversion of our Republic. Friendships are made at our conference, and renewing cross-country camaraderie annually can strengthen the supernatural bonds that build up the Mystical Body. All this helps to form in our religious, tertiaries, and supporters a strong “social Catholicism,” that is, a Catholicism unafraid to enter the public square to christen society. A less refined name for this would be an “in-your-face” Catholicism, as it is one which extols the virtue of humility, but rejects the foolishness of what Chesterton called “being humble about our convictions.”

(4) Which brings me to the last point. The conference is fun. At least I find it so. There is “planned fun” on the schedule, and then there is the spontaneous fun that happens in private conversations, at meals, and even during the talks.

There’s one last thing: If all goes well with attendance, the conference is also a material boon to our apostolate. It funds our work and feeds our religious. That helps, too!

### **Eleventh Annual Saint Benedict Center Conference**

Nashua, New Hampshire,  
August 17 to 19, 2007

Now accepting registrations!

Register early and get a free gift!  
(Early-registration deadline is July 1.)

“Bring a Friend for Free” special offer.

Please call, toll free—(877) 773-1773—Monday to Friday,  
9:00 to 5:00 Eastern Time, for additional details  
and /or to register.

See our new website for details:  
[www.SbcConference.com](http://www.SbcConference.com)

## SPECIAL FEATURE:

### ELEVENTH ANNUAL SAINT BENEDICT CENTER CONFERENCE

BY MR. BRIAN KELLY

In addition to the high quality of talks you have come to expect from our conferences, this year's event features three new speakers, a new free-attendance offer, and a much improved venue. Also, more Catholic vendors are expected and, hopefully, more clergy and religious as well.

This year's theme is *Conforming Our Minds to Reality: Truth, History, and the Present State of Affairs*. What follows is a summary of those who will address this theme. Our first new speaker is **Fr. Brian Harrison, O.S., M.A., S.T.D.** Father is Professor at the Pontifical University of Puerto Rico, and Associate Editor of the *Living Tradition*. Many of you have read his scholarly contributions to *The Remnant* and *Latin Mass* magazine. To date he has written over 120 articles for these and many other Catholic journals worldwide.

A native Australian, and a convert to the Catholic Faith, he entered the major seminary in Sydney in 1978, being ordained as a member of the Society of the Oblates of Wisdom in 1985, by Pope John Paul II in Saint Peter's Basilica. He gained his doctorate in Systematic Theology, *summa cum laude*, from the Pontifical Athenæum of the Holy Cross in Rome. Since 1989 Father has been an Associate Professor of Theology in the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico in Ponce. **Father will be speaking about the necessity of explicit faith in the Blessed Trinity and in Christ for salvation.** He will argue that, while the vast majority of so-called "Thomists" don't believe this any more, these doctrines of the Faith are explicit in St. Thomas' works.



Gary Potter, our MC, delivering a powerful address

Our second new speaker is **Professor Raymond Marcin**, of Catholic University of America's Columbia School of Law. His expertise is in the areas of legal philosophy and constitutional law, subjects on which he has authored six books. **From his legal-philosophical perspective, Professor Marcin will speak to us of the Oath Against Modernism and its place in the current state of things.**

Professor Marcin holds A.B. degrees from Saint John's Seminary (philosophy) and Fairfield University (education). He received his law degree from Fordham University in 1964. He joined The Catholic University of America School of Law in 1971 as a supervising attorney in the school's Center for National Policy Review and became a faculty member in 1972, rising to the rank of ordinary professor in 1979. He is a member of the Advisory Council of the National Lawyers Association. He has lectured at the Salesian University in Katowice, Poland, and at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. In 1995 he received the Mary, Mirror of Justice Award from the Catholic University chapter of the Guild of Catholic Lawyers.

Our third new speaker is **Mr. Gregory Lloyd, M.A.** Mr. Lloyd is Executive Director of the National Coalition of Clergy and Laity (NCCL). Many will know him as the director of the Pilgrimage of Restoration in Auriesville, New York — the pilgrimage to the North American Martyrs' Shrine that our religious attend annually, along with many hundreds of other faithful Catholics. Dedicated to "genuine Catholic restoration," the NCCL brings together traditional Catholic clergy, religious, and laity, providing access to persons, places, and things essential to the restoration of Catholic doctrine, worship, education, and culture. **Mr. Lloyd, a Ukrainian Rite Catholic with a masters degree in the Philosophy of Literature, will speak to us about "Light from the East: Spiritual Paternity, Key of Restoration."**

**Mr. Gary Potter** is our veteran speaker and MC extraordinaire. A native of California, he spent two years sailing in the Merchant Marine and another four living in France, where he discovered the Faith. After his baptism into the Church, he began his career in Catholic journalism in 1966 as a founding editor of the legendary *Triumph* magazine. Besides *Triumph* and two publications of which he later was editor, *Truth & Justice* and *CCPA News & Views* (the publication of Catholics for Christian Political Action), articles by Mr. Potter have appeared in *National Review*, *Human Events*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *National Catholic Register*, *Faith & Reason*, *The Wanderer*, *The Remnant*,

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*The Angelus, From the Housetops*, and numerous other venues. He is the author of *After the Boston Heresy Case*, and has a book in the works on the Social Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Mr. Potter lives with his wife Virginia in Washington, D.C.

**The subject of Mr. Potter's talk will be King Charles I of Spain.** It's going to be a warts-and-all type of presentation that will illustrate the need to be honest in our assessment of the virtues and vices of great historical personages. He will also spend some time dwelling on the necessity of studying history.

**Mr. C. Joseph Doyle** is the Executive Director of the Catholic Action League of Massachusetts (CAL), an organization in the forefront of the battle to combat anti-Catholic bigotry in Massachusetts. Mr. Doyle is currently spearheading the referendum appeal to ban the homosexual "marriage" licensing approved by the Massachusetts legislature. He is the media's go-to man whenever traditional Catholic values are threatened in the public arena, appearing on television and radio interviews approximately 150 times a year.

**The title of Mr. Doyle's talk is "Christendom and Its Enemies."** He will be speaking about the Mohammedan onslaughts against Christendom from the seventh to the eighteenth century. He will also target the compromises of certain popes whose policies and, at times, unholy alliances with the Turks thwarted the Catholic effort at counter-reformation. From these two angles, he will draw important lessons for our own day.

The inspiringly provocative military man and man of letters, **Dr. Robert Hickson, will address the topic of "Sloth, Disillusionment, and the Higher Chivalry."** Our speaker graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, in



Dr. Hickson accenting a joyful note issuing from his own "*hilaritas mentis*."

June 1964, and was assigned to Southeast Asia. After one year, he became a U.S. Army Special Forces Officer and earned the Green Beret. After tours in Vietnam and elsewhere in Asia, he taught at the J.F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Dr. Hickson acquired his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Classics (Greco-Roman) at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. For seven years, he was Professor and Chairman of the Literature and Latin Department at Christendom College, leaving shortly thereafter to return to Military and Strategic-Cultural Studies. He was a Professor at the Joint Military Intelligence College in Washington, D.C. Our speaker was then invited to the Air Force Academy for four years as a Pro-

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Site of Conference 2007, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nashua, New Hampshire



Mr. Brian Kelly, Editor

## NINETY YEARS AGO OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Viewed in the light of eternity, there has been no more important historical event, after the Incarnation and Pentecost, than the apparitions of our Lady at Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. Why? Because these visitations of the Mother of God, beginning on May 13, announced things to come; happenings that would impact the everlasting destiny of billions of people. Those approved, prophetic revelations include: the imminence of the “end times”; the devil’s “decisive battle” against “the Woman”; annihilation of nations by way of terrible chastisements, which are to be conditionally permitted if Christendom remains unrepentant; the fewness of the saved in comparison with the damned; the fiery torments of everlasting hell; the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary as mankind’s last hope and refuge from a satanic deluge of false doctrine and immorality; and the final triumph that the Immaculata will bring about over dark, global powers through the conversion of Russia. We are now ninety years into the post-Fatima epochal times. And, with the death of our Lady’s messenger, Sister Lucia, on February 13, 2005, the end of that era of spiritual chastisement and the coming reign of her maternal peace may be sooner than we think.

Let us renew our commitment to the Fatima message. One of the things our Lady asked for in her communications was that devotion to her Immaculate Heart might be established throughout the world. This, she said, was the will of God. After opening up the earth and showing the children the reality of that place called *hell* and the souls falling into its fires like snowflakes in winter, the Blessed Virgin instructed the three terrified little visionaries thusly: “In order to save sinners, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart.”

Other requests of our Lady were that the faithful pray the Rosary daily and fulfill the five First Saturday devotions. This is the best way to express our filial love for her Immaculate Heart. In all of our Lady’s six apparitions to the Fatima children, she appeared holding the Rosary. In 1957, Sister Lucia re-emphasized this in an interview with Father Fuentes: “God is giving two last remedies to the world. They are the Holy Rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. These are the last two remedies, which signify that there will be no others.”

Although we ourselves cannot directly fulfill our Blessed Mother’s other urgent request for the consecration of Russia by the pope, in union with the whole episcopal body, we can — *we must* — pray daily that this consecration be made. Our Lady promised to bring about the conversion of Russia through this

means. She herself will be the cause of this miraculous conversion, and the whole world will see it as a direct consequence of the ecclesial consecration to her Immaculate Heart. Consonant with Russia’s conversion to the Roman Catholic Faith and the triumph of the Immaculata, God will give the world a period of spiritual and temporal peace. The whole world, including the Mid-East and China, will be at peace. I do not know if this means that the Moslems will convert also, but I do know that at the rate the Chinese are flocking into the Church (thousands were baptized there on Holy Saturday), that vast Communist nation, which has suffered so much from the “errors of Russia,” may well be included in the conversion of her western patron.

“Consonant with Russia’s conversion to the Faith, God will give the world a period of spiritual and temporal peace.”

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Our Pilgrim Virgin statue at the 2007 May Crowning

## KELLY'S FORUM

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Finally, from what has already been made known about the still-unrevealed part of the Third Secret of Fatima, both from Sister Lucia herself and those prelates who have read it, we know that it foretells a great apostasy and a dereliction of duty, even within the highest echelons of the hierarchy. Mario Cardinal Ciappi, personal theologian to Popes Paul VI and John Paul II, went so far as to say: "In the Third Secret it is foretold, among other things, that the great apostasy in the Church will begin at the top." And, when asked as early as 1946 at what stage of the Secret the Church was then living through, the visionary responded without hesitation: "I think we are in the period when false doctrine shall propagate its errors throughout

the world" (*More About Fatima*, Rev. J. DaCruz). In today's bitter fallout from a half-century of this "crisis of Faith" (as Sister Lucia called it), let us hold fast to "the dogma of Faith," whose preservation our Lady promised in a special way to the Portuguese. In particular, let us remain faithful to the all-important dogma, which God has inspired our Crusade to defend and propagate: *extra Ecclesiam nulla salus* (no salvation outside the Church). In this way we will be living the message of Fatima to its fullest extent. In this way, as the heel provides a foundation for the human body, we will be doing our part to uphold the authority of the living body of the one true Church of salvation, in these most oppressive times.

## ELEVENTH ANNUAL SAINT BENEDICT CENTER CONFERENCE

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fessor in the William Simon Chair of Strategy and Culture, teaching in several academic departments. He concluded his federal service as a Professor of Strategic and Cultural Studies, as well as Military History and National Security Studies, at the Joint Special Operations University in Florida.

Another military man of great Catholic zeal and clarity of mind is **Lieutenant Commander John Sharpe**, U.S. Navy. He

is the founder and president of IHS Press, a Catholic book publishing company dedicated to the traditional social teaching of the Church. John is a gifted writer and scholar, energetically advancing the Social Kingship of Christ as well as the economic studies of great Catholic thinkers like Chesterton, Belloc, and Father Vincent McNabb, O.P.

Another erudite, regular SBC Conference speaker is **Brother André Marie, M.I.C.M.** Since 2002, Brother has been Prior of St. Benedict Center in Richmond, New Hampshire. A native of New Orleans, he graduated from that city's Holy Cross School in 1988. He went on to study at

Louisiana State University's main campus in Baton Rouge. After three years at LSU, he transferred to Holy Apostles College and Seminary, in Cromwell, Connecticut, where he earned a B.A. in Humanities with a minor in Philosophy. He entered as a postulant for the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in May of 1993 and made his final profession of vows on

Epiphany of 1996. Since 1993, he has been mentored in philosophy and theology by Brother Francis Maluf, M.I.C.M., Ph.D. He has written scores of articles and given hundreds of lectures on a vast variety of Catholic subjects, in addition to doing active missionary work with the Order's bookselling apostolate. Recently, he has completed all the course work for an M.A. in Dogmatic Theology. He will receive that degree, God willing, upon completion of his thesis and cumulative exams.

Brother André Marie's talk will summarize the four levels of magisterial authority that are recognized in Canon Law and in certain recent documents of the Holy See. He will examine the status of certain disputed passages of Vatican II in the light of these, demonstrating that, according to currently accepted standards and the mind of this present pope, there is a role that traditionalists (including disciples of Father Feeney) can play in clarifying and correcting the points in Vatican II that are, according to the Church, "reformable."

**Mr. Brian Kelly**, the writer of this article, is the editor of *From the Houselops* magazine and the *Manciopia* monthly newsletter. He is considering a talk on a current ecclesiological issue, viz., the commonly used term of "partial communion" with the one true Church, as it is being extended by the hierarchy to certain non-Catholic Christians. His intent is to defend the integral nature of this union as it is realized in the Mystical Body, wherein there is no fractional membership, but only degrees of vitality (living members and those dead in mortal sin).

One additional speaker, to be announced, will appear on our program.

"Catholicity... is our intellectual and moral life, and we can no more divest ourselves of it than we can divest ourselves of ourselves. It is the element in which we live, think, move, and have our moral and intellectual being."

Orestes Brownson

"The people are thirsting for truth; give them what they need for their souls' health."  
Pope St. Pius X

O Mary, Mother of mercy and Refuge of sinners, we beseech thee, be pleased to look with pitiful eyes upon poor heretics and schismatics. Thou who art the Seat of Wisdom, enlighten the minds that are miserably enfolded in the darkness of ignorance and sin, that they may clearly know that the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Roman Church is the one true Church of Jesus Christ, outside of which neither holiness nor salvation can be found. Finish the work of their conversion by obtaining for them the grace to accept all the truths of our Holy Faith, and to submit themselves to the supreme Roman Pontiff, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth; that so, being united with us in the sweet chains of divine charity, there may soon be only one fold under the same one shepherd; and may we all, O glorious Virgin, sing forever with exultation: Rejoice, O Virgin Mary, thou only hast destroyed all heresies in the whole world. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times. (Pius IX, Raccolta No. 579.)

#### CALENDAR NOTES:

- Mark your calendars for our SBC Conference 2007. It will be held August 17th-19th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, NH. Note, too, our all-day pre-conference Open House on the 16th here at the monastery in Richmond. See website for more details: [www.SbcConference.com](http://www.SbcConference.com).
- Join us for the annual seventy-two-mile Auriesville Pilgrimage, September 27-30. Call us at (603) 239-6485 (men, boys) or (603) 239-6495 (women, girls) for details in joining either of the two brigades. Visit [www.national-coalition.org/pilgrim](http://www.national-coalition.org/pilgrim) for details.

## OUR CRUSADE:

The propagation and defense of Catholic dogma — especially *extra ecclesiam nulla salus* — and the conversion of America to the one, true Church.

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## MANCIPIA May 2007

## THE REPORT OF THE CRUSADE OF SAINT BENEDICT CENTER

### OF INTEREST:

- Saint Benedict Center 2007 Conference. New speakers and a new venue at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Nashua, NH. See special feature, page 4.
- Remembering and living the Fatima message is more necessary than ever. See Kelly Forum, page 6.
- On March 25 two sisters pronounced their solemn vows as Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, while four others received the Order's habit as novices. See page 2 for pictures.
- Reasons to go to this year's promising forum? See Prior's Column [page 1] for answers and updates.



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