



Redemptoris Mater

NEWSLETTER OF THE REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY OF BOSTON

MY EXPERIENCE IN INDIA

My name is Felipe Gonzalez and I am a seminarian at Redemptoris Mater Seminary. I just finished my second year of Theology. In preparation for the priesthood, God brought me to the missions in Asia for 4 years (2004-2008) where I worked with the team responsible for the Neocatechumenal Way in India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Nepal. I lived with Father Leonardo, a presbyter from Rome, Italy, and the greatest gift that I still keep from those years in the mission is the certainty that God is enough. Sometimes amidst difficulties and trials all around us, I always felt the tenderness of the Lord taking care of all my needs. This time in mission transformed my life and gave purpose to my vocation, teaching me that happiness comes only from God. I feel that the time I spent in the missions announcing the love of God and the power of Christ's resurrection was as much a time of school for me as a grace of God, helping me to see day-after-day in my life and the lives of those around me that God is faithful.



Life in the Seminary...

“Daily life in the seminary begins at 6:30 in the morning. After Morning Prayer, there is breakfast and the seminarians are off to lectures either at St. John’s Seminary, or at Boston University, where some of them study English. Depending on their schedule, they either return home for lunch or have lunch at St. John’s Seminary. At about 4 o’clock they

return home and prepare for the Eucharist in the seminary at 5PM. On Thursdays from 5-8PM there is the Scrutatio of the Word. Every week, on average 2 or 3 nights, the seminarians celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharist with their communities. Dinner is served at 8PM and, after washing the dishes, cleaning the kitchen and setting

up the dining room for tomorrow’s breakfast, night prayer at 10:00, concludes the day and announces complete silence in the seminary. Saturdays are typical cleaning days in the seminary” (From the slide show on the Redemptoris Mater Seminary. To view the entire presentation, go to www.cardinalseansblog.org May 21, 2010).



GALA DINNER



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Dear Friends

As the seminarians spend a few weeks in parishes before the summer holidays, I would like to share with you some of the events that marked the life of the seminary this past semester. On February 27th Kiko Argüello made a brief but very eventful trip to Boston. He came to visit with Cardinal Sean and on the way stopped to greet the seminarians and to give us a word. Kiko, together with Carmen Hernandez, are the initiators of the Neocatechumenal Way, a charism of the Church born after Vatican II to help initiate people to the faith by rediscovering or preparing for their baptism. The Neocatechumenal Way is an essential component in the formation of all our seminarians. It began in a shanty town of Madrid in 1964 and today is present all over the world, including in our Archdiocese where there are 20 Neocatechumenal Way communities.

During Lent and especially Easter, the seminarians took part in various parish missions all over the Archdiocese and beyond. The Easter Vigil was truly an unforgettable memorial for all of us. From the preparations during the Paschal Triduum to the all-night vigil, it was a pivotal event in the life of the seminary and of all the communities.

On May 5th seven of our seminarians received the Ministry of Lector and one received the Ministry of Acolyte. These are important steps along their formation to the priesthood to help them discover the centrality of the Word of God in their lives and the importance of service at the Eucharist. Cardinal Sean presided at the rites in the course of the Eucharist at Our Lady of the Assumption parish, in East Boston. The Mass was well-attended and we were particularly moved to see so many priests present.

Finally, on May 16th the seminary held its first annual Gala Dinner at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese. After the Eucharist presided by Cardinal Sean, there was a cocktail hour and dinner. I am truly grateful to the many people that contributed in so many ways to the success of this event. From the Archdiocesan employees that so generously gave of their time and talent, to the many priests from throughout the Archdiocese who called to express their support, but also the many people without whose help we never would have succeeded, I express my deepest gratitude.

Wishing you a restful summer in the Lord,

Fr. Antonio F. Medeiros



EASTER MISSIONS
 REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY OF NEWARK VISITS BOSTON
 EVANGELIZATION IN AND AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE
 KIKO ARGUELLO VISITS THE REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY
 EASTER VIGIL IN THE PARISHES

MAY 16, 2010, OUR FIRST ANNUAL GALA DINNER AT THE PASTORAL CENTER
 MAY 5, 2010, SEVEN SEMINARIANS ARE INSTITUTED LECTORS AND ONE ACOLYTE

