

Japan-Korea Delegation Newsletter #1

(October 2007 Issue)



September 2007 Fukuoka

From Jude: Changing Times peirisp@gmail.com

As I woke up in the morning I felt very cold. The weather seems to be changing. Even the people and the situations are changing. Whether we like it or not we all are getting old. I have a letter that I got from Bishop Misobe yesterday about our new contract with the bishop. He is expecting us to help with his plan which will cause us to face some changes. The bishop of Osaka is asking us whether there will be any Oblate changes in the diocese of Osaka.

I take this opportunity to thank the newsletter team for taking charge of putting up this new Delegation Newsletter for us, which is again a change. In Koga I also see lots of changes: the absence of Bernard, not only Kenoichi and myself, but also the parishioners feel this very

much. Sometimes I feel challenged, discouraged and tired when things change. I know when changes take place, it is a call to face reality and this certainly will help me to grow even though I am not ready to accept it. How about you?

From Bert Silver: bnsilver@lime.ocn.ne.jp

Just a note to let you know what is up. Originally, I was to go in to the Komatsushima Red Cross Hospital in August for an operation on an aneurism that was discovered after coming back from Jordan and Israel. The tests indicated that I required a triple heart bypass before this could be taken care of. The bypass went off well. Came back to Anan on my birthday, the 31st of August. Conditions for letting me out: no smoking, no salt diet, cut down on liquor. Have managed to keep these conditions. This in preparation for the aneurism operation. Saw the Doctor on the 9th and he thought I could go for it. So, will go in the Red Cross hospital on the 22nd of this month and the operation will be on the 24th. I will receive an explanation of the procedure on the 23rd. Ask for your prayers for a successful operation.

From James Jeyachandran: jeya11@hotmail.com

Thanks Jerry for the Kochi news. You have done a wonderful work. It seems that you are going to India from 20th to 4th of Nov. I like to know which part of India you are going to visit. If it is Madras (Chennai), my parents are there. It will be nice of you, if you can visit them. It is an hour from the delegation house of the Oblates. Feel free to do. Take care. Bye.

From Fran Hann: treyhahn@ceres.ocn.ne.jp

Jerry asked me to write a few words, and while most of you probably won't believe it, I don't have much to say.

I did have a great 7 weeks in the States and saw almost everybody I wanted to. While away, three persons I know and respected were "called home" to the heavenly Father, two good persons from the parish and Fr. Jiro Koike a Japanese Osaka diocesan priest in whose parish I did my first Neo catechesis. He was a great and holy man and I do and will miss him,

as well as the parishioners who were also two very good and special persons.

I'm here in Itami 1 year and 9 months and it seems that so much has happened, comings and goings, Jan arrives, Jan leaves, Iru arrives, and now soon he'll leave. Plans for a new Kindergarten and rectory, are being made but then again that all seems still in suspended animation. The one thing that remains constant is I am busy counting money and sheep. The one thing nice about the Bursar's Job is I get to drive you all crazy by phoning every so often. That's probably while I don't feel like communicating so much, but then again that's probably just an excuse, I'm getting lazy in my old age. Hope you are well and days full of Grace and Peace. You are all remembered daily in prayer.

From Anselmo Ryu Hi Gu: mocoo@hanmail.net

Greetings Everyone. I have got a new situation since my past email. First, I got a new job. That is I am an assistant to Fr. Vincencio. I follow him all the time. I joined the Anna House which is a welfare association. Here, I take care of the homeless and the most abandoned young people. Second, I moved into the Seoul OMI community from Suwon OMI community. I enjoy joining this community. Third, every Sunday I also help at the Suseo Parish which is near the Seoul OMI community house. That's all my news which I send you. Take care. Please stay in contact with me.

From Iru Raj: irudaya2003@yahoo.co.in

Greetings from Irudayaraj! Nice to meet you all through this newsletter. Hope and pray that all may have a good health of mind and body. I have lived and learned many things from the Itami community. I am happy and grateful to this community. In December I will be at Koga. Before that I am taking a holiday. Hope to see you all at Kochi for Christmas. Wish you all the best for all. God Bless you!

From Tosa Yoshikazu: xytosa@mail.bbexcite.jp

No real news from the east of Kochi city.

I have no work.

I have no conferences.

I have no 'dates'.

I have no plans to return to a hospital.

Once a month I visit my heart doctor and get a 4 weeks portion of medicine.

I walk everyday. I walk better now than 3 weeks ago.

I write my 'memoirs'

From Giovanni Zevola: mocoo@hanmail.net

Here we are in the "Immense Hope" program, nothing exceptional ... just hoping to have some good weather. It has been raining most of the time and very cloudy. Thanks for your work, we will try to send some news. P.S. My mother is getting better, still under observation; thanks for your prayers.

From Jan Van Hoydonck: hjanomi@yahoo.com

Dear Jerry, you expect me to send some contribution to the Delegation Newsletter. I have hesitated to do so as there is really nothing that I can report on yet. All I can tell is that from the 17th September I live in our house of De Panne, near the seashore. It has taken a couple of weeks to get my connection to the Internet, and I am still waiting for the documents from the health insurance (without which I can't get the rebate for my medicine - which at the full price cost a fortune) and other official requirements.

From many of my confreres in Japan and Korea I received birthday greetings, for which I thank everyone until I can get around to thank the senders individually. I send my best wishes to everyone, and pray for each one. For now I leave it at that, until there is some more news. For those who wish to have my address:

Rev. Jan Van Hoydonck, OMI,

Paters Oblaten

Bortierlaan 44-2

8660 De Panne

Belgium

Always yours in Our Lord and M.I.



Jan, his brother and wife at Brussels - 2007

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From Jerry Novotny: jerry@star.quolia.com

Yesterday we had our day of recollection. Brad was the moderator and did a tremendous job informing us of JPIC, the background, what it means for the Asian Oblates and used the Philippines as a specific example. He said that two things are necessary for the Oblates to bring about Justice and Peace: 1. A transformation of unjust structures; 2. Conversion of Heart. JPIC is not a separate ministry, rather it is the "umbrella" that covers all ministries. Contact Brad for more details.

The next newsletter will be a photo newsletter on Eduardo's ordination.



Ed's house, father, sister and daughter.

Dick Harr sends his greetings to everyone. He ask that when you write to him that you use the new address, not the old one. You can also send Dick an email through Bill McSweeney, OMI: Wpmcsweeney@aol.com

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Jack Quinn and wife, Dick Harr, Jerry Novotny

John K. Mahoney sends his personal best regards to all the Oblates both Japan and Korea. He has his own computer, 24 hour nurse care, and enjoys the surroundings. He would like to hear from you. frjkmomi@hotmail.com



John at his desk writing letters.

From Formation Committee

Brad: brozairo@gmail.com

Nobuhiko: nobby@kb4.so-net.ne.jp

Ray: bourgoin@trust.ocn.ne.jp



Birthday in Korea

The Formation Committee was named at the spring meeting this year. The members are Brad (chairman), Nobuhiko and Ray. Our role is to take care of those in first formation, may they be Japanese or foreigners here to experience the mission. We meet every 3 months. We are also open for special meetings in between if necessary when the Council so determines. As you all know, at the moment we have only Bernard in first formation. He is in Japan for a 2 year exposure program. The formation committee has made a program for him (see below). If everything goes well with the help of God, Bernard will make his perpetual vows in Japan next spring. Please keep him in your prayers.

Bernard's program

SEPTEMBER

September 13 to 18 he remains in Koga to attend graduation from language school on the 18th.

September 19 to Kochi which will be his central headquarters to move around the mission.

September 20 to Aki.

September 27 return to Kochi.

September 28 to Itami to attend the MAMI meeting and remain in Itami.

OCTOBER

October 13 return to Kochi.

October 15 to Shimanto (Nakamura).

October 31 return to Kochi.

NOVEMBER

November 12 to Naruto.

November 19 to Tokushima with a possible overnight stay of one day with Nobu's brother.

DECEMBER

December 1 return to Kochi.

December 7 to Toyohashi

December 21 return to Kochi till December 31.

On December 11 the formation committee will meet to determine what happens from January 1.

From Bill Maher: imomb@m4.dion.ne.jp

It Was Great! Just a little over three weeks ago, I flew straight to Buffalo via Detroit to visit Angelo and Ron was waiting at the airport for me and we went directly to the house where I had a very pleasant visit with Angelo. He said he had just come back from his mother's home where his sister was taking care of him so he had gained a little weight. I ate with the pre- novices and Ron on the third floor and they are a very good group. Then Ron, Angelo and myself went for a drive by the lake and had a good chat even though by that time I was falling asleep from the jet-lag. The weather was great except for Texas where it was hot but apart from that I was blessed with heavenly cool in contrast to the humid heat I left in Japan. I think every one has heard that since then Angelo has had a bout with pneumonia but Len has just got back from a visit and he's out of the hospital and doing much better. Len said the last day he was there Angelo was even walking a little without his cane. But we have to keep him in our prayers.

After one night with my brother in Chicago who couldn't go to the Shrine because of fracturing both hips, I met my two sisters in St. Louis and we went out to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, where the celebration for the jubilarians was held the next day. It was a beautiful Mass celebrated by Bishop Schwietz of Anchorage Alaska who was celebrating his 40th anniversary of ordination. It was followed by a banquet of you guessed it Alaskan salmon and baked Alaska for dessert.

Next one week in Bremen Georgia with my four siblings and my sisters children which made two groups of siblings together. Very interesting to say the least! Lot's of parties and meals and good connecting after such a long time where we couldn't all get together. Usually at our ages, it's for funerals but this was for a joyful occasion.

Then to San Antonio to visit John Mahoney. John was doing very well considering he's still fighting Parkinson's. The treatment he's getting there seems to be giving him better control. I was able to spend a night and the better part of one day with John and also see him again before I left Texas. We had some inspiring liturgies with the communities there and the meals were delicious. The day I left for a few days in the valley Jerry Novotny came and he'll probably tell you some more.

A friend whom I met last year at the de Mazenod Experience, Jim Foelker came up to San Antonio and took me down to Sarita where he's pastor of the parish where the retreat house is. So I met Nemeck Kelly and saw the house of prayer Lebh Shomea. Jim was born and raised in the area so we spent a night on Padre Island where a friend of his has a summer home. Again more fine eating. After a few days in that area, back to San Antonio a short visit with John and Chicago for a few more parties and back to Japan. It was great.

It was good to get back but not so easy to get back to work. Now every thing is in full swing so we're busy again. Last week was a full schedule and this week promises to be the same but the rest helps a lot. I'm happy that we seem to have a good group for the new 100 Shukan Bible course but since it will probably take three years it's always had to start. Keep Bert in your prayers he's going in for the next operation on the 22nd, and the operation is on the 24th.

I'd like to thank Nobuo for the many years of terrific news letters, they got better and better as the years went by. The last one was a very colorful one portraying the hope of our delegation. Thank you Bro. Yagi. And I'm looking forward to the next one by the new editors.