


## Promoting Vocations — It's all in the Family



*Fr. Corey Brost, CSV, talks to parents at St. Viator Parish about how to talk about vocations in their homes.*



Talking about vocations continues to be relevant. Families just need help in starting the conversation. That was that message that came out of a vocations event at St. Viator Parish in Chicago. Nearly 300 adults – and 200 children – attended “The Vocation to Life” and the “Call to Service” event, co-sponsored by St. Viator’s religious education department and the Viatorians’ Vocation Ministry office.

It brought together associate and vowed members of the Viatorian Community, as well as deacons and other lay leaders from the parish, who shared their reflections and testimonies about the idea of vocation as a realized call.

“Parishioners at St. Viator share a concern about how they can develop a stronger ability to hear the voice of God in their daily lives,” said Hector Obregon, a Viatorian pre-associate and director of religious education at St. Viator.

Presenters drew on their own life experiences, describing how they had gained a better sense of how to use their skills and passions to serve God’s mission. One of them, Br. James Lewnard, CSV, described how he had heard his call through music.

“When I was young, I realized early on that I prayed best through my cello and flute,” Br. Lewnard said. “That got me thinking about how I could help others pray better through my love of music. God, I don’t doubt, had that in mind all along.”

Family members lined up at the microphone to express their thoughts about promoting vocations in their homes. One of those who spoke was Tiani Salgado, 14, of Chicago, who helped to revive the parish’s youth ministry group.

“God speaks to you and me every day, inviting us into life, inviting us into service,” Tiani told the group. “Our challenge is learning to trust in that

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## Gospel of Matthew Drives Belize Volunteers



*Br. John Eustice, CSV, front, leads volunteers involved with Matthew: 25 in Belize.*

Viatorians stationed in Belize serve the people in 23 villages that surround St. Francis Xavier Parish in Corozal Town, and increasingly they have become to rely on a new group of volunteers: young people.

These teens worked with adult volunteers recently when they responded to a case of extreme poverty, right within the parish boundaries. Associate Rafael Cob, director of social services for the parish, received notice that an elderly man was living in sub-human conditions.

With a team of parish volunteers, Rafael jumped in his truck and investigated. He found an 89-year old man, Mr. Matura, living in a shack, with a bed made out of an old refrigerator door with a blanket and no indoor plumbing.

The minister of health would have evicted him, but Mr. Matura refused to leave. After considerable coaxing, and mentioning a possible hurricane, Rafael convinced the man to leave his house so that the repairs could be made. During that time the man resided at the parish.

“I am so happy to be working for such a noble cause,” Rafael said. “I will sleep well tonight, knowing that we have Mr. Matura in a safe place.”

Meanwhile, the mix of volunteers immediately responded with building materials and labor. They included nearly 20 high school teens from area schools, who are part of a new youth group called Project Matthew 25.

Project Matthew: 25 is a service learning day that uses the corporal works of mercy as its base for transforming faith turn into action. The workers come together and are told they will meet Jesus that day, only if they are open to it.

After the day’s work, they are asked what jumped out at them, what they observed, and whether they met Jesus that day. They talk about why people live in these conditions and what solutions would make their lives better. Finally, one young person reads Matthew 25:31-46.

When asked if the Gospel came alive on that particular day, the teens’ responses were amazing. They were able to connect their actions with their faith tradition, and many of them said it made them feel really good.

Money for these Project Matthew projects are raised through the Viatorian Mission Appeals program and various mission groups from the United States.



*Viatorian Associate Rafael Cob visits with Mr. Matura in Belize.*

In the coming months several building projects are planned for families in extreme poverty. The youth are learning construction techniques and how to work as a team providing basic necessities for Christ in the world. Mostly, they are being Christ in the world.

As for Mr. Matura, his house was completed in a few days and now sits on higher ground. A local volunteer regularly checks in on him to make sure he is doing well. Upon returning home, he noticed the original structure was flattened and he asked about the hurricane.

When he asked the name of the storm, he was told: “Hurricane Rafael.”

*Br. John Eustice, CSV*

## Bourbonnais Volunteers Pedal it Forward



*Scott Seaton helps a young volunteer with a bike tuneup.*

Nearly 25 years after Viatorian Associate Francis “Foo” Chamness started repairing discarded bicycles and giving them to the needy in Belize, his mission lives on. Adult volunteers are partnering with high school teens in the Kankakee and Bourbonnais areas to advance Foo’s original mission.

They call it, “Project Re: Cycle” and last fall they stored nearly 200 bicycles in a warehouse or “bike shop,” that had been collected by Bradley, Bourbonnais and New Lenox police departments as well as the Kankakee Valley Park District, and area bike shops.

Local teens volunteered to come in and repair the bikes. Working like Santa’s elves, they tightened spokes, replaced inner tubes and greased chains, all in an effort to restore an unwanted bicycle into a new toy for a waiting child.

Scott Seaton, a member of Knights of Columbus Council 7072 in Bourbonnais, helped to organize the project. The Knights quietly have been funding the bicycle project for more than 20 years, and Scott’s involvement continues their support.

Most of the bikes are intended for the Viatorians serving at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Belize to distribute to parishioners in 23 villages and elementary schools. But they also save some bikes for local children as well, just as Foo did from the mid-1980s until he passed away in 2011.

“Foo was a Brother Knight,” Scott says. “The Knights always paid for all the supplies, tires and tubes.”

After their November “repair night,” which drew teens from the Bradley Bourbonnais High School Ecology Club to help with tune-up, they were able to send 23 restored bikes down to Belize in time for Christmas.

Scott kept his volunteers informed of the bikes’ journey down to Central America on their Facebook page ([facebook.com/ProjectRecycle](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectRecycle)), and he also continues to post entries about future repair nights, encouraging followers to “stop by and turn a wrench with us.”

Their bicycles also go to adults in Belize. “All of the Viatorians who have been to Belize testify to the need for better transportation,” says Br. Donald Houde, CSV. “The poor roads, lack of buses and great distances between villages make bicycles a necessity and not just a luxury.”

It was Br. Houde who facilitated the shipping of the bikes from Bourbonnais to Central America, through the help of Antanacio Gongora, a native Belizean now living in Chicago’s north suburbs, who arranged for the shipping. The children and adults receiving these bicycles will never know all the volunteers working together behind the scene to make them available, which is the way it was designed right from the start.

*Eileen O’Grady Daday*



# Four Viatorians Celebrate 50 Years of Religious Life in 2013



Fr. Charles Bolser, CSV, and his 50 years as a Viatorian conjure up a good book title: "P is for: Priest, Principal, President, Provincial Superior and Pastor." He was ordained a priest in Springfield, IL on June 2, 1973. From 1973 to 1979 he was a faculty member at Griffin High School in Springfield. His leadership

and administrative skills have been put to use since then.

He is known for stirring things up. In 1979 he joined the faculty at Gorman High School, and served as principal from 1980-86. From 1986-1990 he was principal of Saint Viator High School in Arlington Heights, and became president of the school from 1990-1998. Fr. Bolser was pastor of Maternity BVM in Bourbonnais from 1998-2001, and became provincial superior for the Chicago Province from 2001-2006. After that he served as president of Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep High School in Waukegan and currently as pastor of St. Viator Parish in Chicago. His many experiences and his wide reading form his thoughts and actions today.

"The role of the laity has had and will continue to have a major effect on the way that we minister to the people of God," he says. "I am convinced that the Holy Spirit moves in ways strange to the human mind, but nonetheless always moves forward. Vatican II gave me hope for the first 50 years. I look forward to the next 50 years with great anticipation."



Br. Patrick Drohan, CSV, has had only one assignment during his 50 years as a Viatorian. His association with the Viatorians began when he became a high school freshman at Spalding Institute in Peoria.

"God gave me a gift to be a Viatorian religious," he says. "In my 50 years as a Viatorian at Villa Desiderata I have seen a lot of

miracles in the 12 Step Retreats here at the Villa. May God continue to bless my ministry and all Viatorian religious and associates in their ministries."

Br. Drohan was joined early on at the Villa by the man who became his partner, mentor and inspiration, Fr. Eugene Lutz, CSV. Together they created the culture and ambiance of the place. "Our mission as a retreat house is to maintain a safe environment that provides all people with the opportunity to develop a deeper sense of spirituality, healing, personal growth and an intimate relationship with God in a Christian community."

Br. Drohan is the "glue" that keeps the place going. From 1963-1975, he worked with high school students on retreat from Saint Viator High School. Since then he has been the constant presence at the facility at Pistakee Bay in McHenry, IL. For these past 38 years his time has been devoted to adults, especially with groups associated with Alcoholics Anonymous, adult children of alcoholics and other addictive behaviors.

## Fr. Perham, CSV, celebrates his 65th Anniversary of Religious Life



Fr. Arnold Perham, CSV, celebrates his 65th anniversary of religious life this year, but don't expect him to dwell on the milestone for long. He's too busy.

He still spends every day at Saint Viator High School, where he has taught mathematics for all but five years of the school's 52-year history.

These days, he no longer teaches a class but starts every morning working with two members of the math team, preparing them for the oral section of the state regional competition. Their topic: vector geometry, which typically is covered in college-level, calculus III.

"I love it," Fr. Perham says. "It gives me a reason to get up in the morning. Any time you can work with young people, it's a good thing."

Viatorians have been part of Fr. Perham's entire life. Having grown up in St. Viator Parish in Chicago and attending St. Viator Elementary School, he knew the community well when he pronounced his first vows in 1948.



Fr. Erwin Savela's two longest assignments during his 50 years as a Viatorian have been at Bishop McNamara High School in Kankakee, and Loma Linda University Medical Center in Redlands, CA.

During his tenure of 18 years at Bishop McNamara, he was teacher of religion

and history, athletic director, baseball coach, assistant principal, and for nine years he was principal. His friends know him for his great sense of humor, his good taste and style, his enthusiasm for sports – especially baseball, the Chicago Cubs in particular. His originality, creativity and sense of humor were always obvious in the execution of his duties.

In preparation for his long career, he did undergraduate studies at Loyola University in Chicago and Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He earned a Master's Degree in religious studies at Mundelein College, Chicago, and returned to Loyola for courses to certify him as an educational administrator. After one year at Griffin High School, three years at St. Viator Church in Las Vegas and one year at Holy Family Parish in Granite City, IL, he moved to Redlands where he has served at Loma Linda University Medical Center. For 17 years, his primary work has centered on the spirituality of the 12 Step Program. "We are called to participate in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ which is to make man whole," he says. "I am grateful for a community that allows me to do that — one day at a time."

Some 60 years later, faculty and students at Saint Viator continue to recognize Fr. Perham's accomplishments. He has been named Teacher of the Year and published materials to enhance student understanding for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, of which he continues to be an active and contributing member.

Not surprisingly, Fr. Perham was an early user of computer technology to augment student learning. For many years, he integrated computers into the study of geometry for high school freshmen and sophomores, and he also introduced upperclassmen to computer programming through his class that explored C++, one of the early programming languages that laid the foundation for more complex versions developed later.



Just hearing the name, Br. Dale Barth, CSV, conjures up a smile. He not only has a great sense of humor, but he also has the gift of reducing someone's big ideas to sharp pithiness. He became a Viatorian after graduating from Spalding Institute in Peoria. His longest assignment during the 50 years in community was at Saint Viator High School where he served as director of

the maintenance staff. In that position, he was immersed in student life. The many, many young men who had after school jobs came to associate Br. Barth as an important part of their Saint Viator memories.

"I thank God for the many blessings I have received in my years as a Viatorian," he says. "I also want to sincerely express my deep and heartfelt gratitude to all my Viatorian confreres who have sustained, supported and encouraged me on my faith journey." He spent six years in the provincial treasurer's office, and from 1996-1999, served as business manager at St. Viator Parish in Las Vegas. From 2000 to 2003 he was a pastoral minister at Maternity BVM Parish in Bourbonnais, while studying in preparation for his ordination as a permanent deacon. After ordination he was assigned to St. Patrick's Parish in Kankakee where he worked as assistant novice master for three years. His last assignment was to St. Viator Parish in Chicago before his retirement to the province center residence in 2008.

*Br. Don Houde, CSV*

But by his own description, he has taught every level of mathematics, "from top to bottom." Besides prepping math team members, he also works with the math club and the school's Querbes' Scholars Program.

One of his favorite projects involved working with the Querbes Scholars on a project that examined the rate at which the Transcontinental Railroad was built — laying the rails from city to city — back in the 19th century.

"They weren't graded, it wasn't for any class," Fr. Perham says. "We merely did it for the sake of learning."

Which pretty much sums up his secret to his long life and ministry: lifelong learning.

*Eileen O'Grady Daday*

*www.viatorians.com*

# Q & A with Bart Hisgen

Bart Hisgen is midway into his second year as associate director of vocation ministry for the Viatorian Community, working closely with the director, Fr. Corey Brost, CSV. Still, what's a vocation director to do in these days of Facebook and Twitter? How does one grab the attention of young people, in a world that's filled with ever changing technology and instant access to information?

We caught up with Bart recently, before he led his second contingent of young people on a Belize immersion week and as he helped Fr. Brost prepare for a discernment weekend at the Viatorian Province Center in Arlington Heights.

**Q.** What's happening these days in vocations, in terms of new programs and appeals?

**A.** Lots . . . We have a bunch of initiatives happening in different regions in the country at any given moment. We also have programs for youth, including the Viatorian Youth Congress, and two programs for young adults: the Viatorian Service Corps and the Belize Immersion Program. For young men discerning life as a religious, we host a yearly "Come and See Weekend." These all connect into the overall mission and accompany young people as they respond to God's voice.

**Q.** What is the aim of the vocation office?

**A.** Above all, we want young people to know that they can count on the support of the Viatorian Community from the moment they enter into a relationship with a Viatorian, through one of our schools, parish, religious education programs or in any other way. We want to inspire young people to stay active in their faith so they are ready to respond when God calls them.

**Q.** What's unique about the Viatorians?

**A.** One key aspect of the Viatorian Community is its engagement with lay people of all backgrounds and ages. Viatorians are passionate about connecting with and serving alongside lay people. This stems from the founder's initial impulse — two centuries ago in France — to involve lay people, equipping them for active service in the church. This shared sense of ministry is a dominant mark of the Viatorians.

**Q.** Just how do you reach people these days?

**A.** We respond using social media and all different kinds of campaigns as a way to reach them so that they can hear about the Catholic Christian faith in way that matters. It's important to note that we're not diluting the Gospel message, but we're making a

conscious effort to respond to questions that young people are asking in everyday life. Their questions are similar to those that young people have always asked: What do I want to do with my life that will mean something? How can I use my talents and skills as a person of faith?

**Q.** Tell us about one of your success stories.

**A.** One of my greatest success stories happened with a group of young adults in the Belize Immersion Program. We went down and spent a week connecting with the Viatorians, getting to know them and engaging in their activities there. Throughout the week, we had small group discussions where we talked about faith, about what it means to live as a Catholic Christian in a world that has massive differences between wealth and poverty, and about what it means to live the Viatorian charism. We didn't come to any final answers, but the young people learned to ask better questions, to listen to other people and to be aware of how God is present in their lives.

Play video: [viatorians/about-us/newsletter](http://viatorians/about-us/newsletter)



## From the Archives...A Timely New Acquisition

An old scrapbook turned up in the storage room of the residence wing at the Viatorian Province Center. Knowing it should be stored in better conditions, Don Houde, CSV delivered it to the archives.

The scrapbook had belonged to Fr. Thomas E. Fitzpatrick, CSV, who had been a pastor of St. Viator Parish in Chicago during the 1940s. It contains 19 pages of photographs and ephemera – 45 items in all — including class photos, which indicate dates from that era. It turns out to be a great historical find, and a timely acquisition.

This year, St. Viator Parish celebrates its 125th anniversary. Finding and sharing these photographs makes them that much more special. Fr. Fitzpatrick



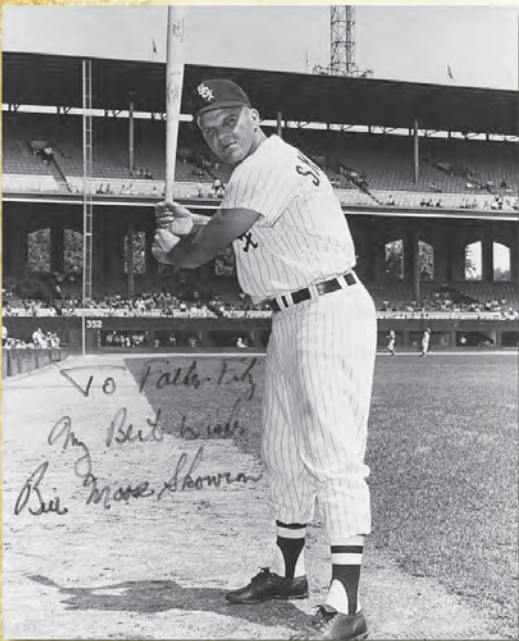
*Fr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, CSV*

was pastor at St. Viator Parish from 1942 to 1948 and then assistant pastor from 1959 to 1966. According to “A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago,” during Fitzpatrick’s tenure as pastor, he added several rooms to the school building and instituted a tuition program. St. Viator had been known as a ‘free’ school since its opening in 1902.

He also replaced the Parish Chronicle – a monthly news publication – with *The Viatorian*, a weekly bulletin that is still published today.

A particularly interesting photo in the scrapbook is one autographed to Fr. Fitz by the major league baseball player, Bill “Moose” Skowron (1930–2012). Skowron is best known for winning four World Series titles with the New York Yankees between 1954 and 1962. He also played for the Chicago White Sox, his hometown team, from 1964–1967. Skowron passed away last year, at the age of 81.

An invitation is extended to you, the readers, to help in identifying these newly acquired photos. Please take a look at all the photos from this scrapbook in a slideshow on the Viatorian website at [www.viatorians.com](http://www.viatorians.com). If you recognize anyone or can identify an event, place or date, please contact the Viatorian archivist with the information at [jsweeney@viatorians.com](mailto:jsweeney@viatorians.com)



*Former White Sox and Yankee slugger, Moose Skowron*

The Viatorian Community Archives is always on the lookout for historical Viatorian materials such as this scrapbook or even a pamphlet, letter or individual photo. You never know when or where things will turn up – sometimes right under your own roof.

So take a look around, get these items out of your damp cool basements and hot dry attics and into proper storage conditions to be preserved for generations to come. Preserving the Viatorian history and making it available for use is the ultimate goal.

*Joan Sweeney  
Archivist and Viatorian Associate*



*St. Viator kindergarten class in 1948*

# 644 Thanksgiving Meals Delivered to Homebound Seniors in the Las Vegas Area

At St. Thomas More Catholic Community in Henderson, Nevada, they call it the parable of the loaves and the fishes.

For the 10th year, parishioners delivered Thanksgiving dinners — all prepared by volunteers — to homebound seniors. In all, they served 644 people, going to 395 homes, including senior apartment complexes, mobile home parks and single family homes.

“It was our biggest numbers since we started,” said Dorothy Distel, director of More Youth and Religion Education at St. Thomas More. “There were 150 more than last year.”

More than 300 families turned out to help with the project, starting out their Thanksgiving morning at church. They call it, “God’s Love Overflowing While Serving” or GLOWS, as they deliver holiday meals – with a helping of companionship during their visits.

“The concept is not to go fast, but to be a ministry of visitation,” Distel says. “It’s a wonderful parable of the loaves and fishes.”

Fr. Patrick Render, CSV, pastor, celebrated Mass for the parish and its GLOWS volunteers, before they reported to the



*Viatorian Associate Juliann Dwyer, right, helps distribute meals to volunteers before they head out.*

community center for their list of drop-off sites, instructions and to fill their meal containers.

Parish members had worked with the social service agency, Hope Link of Southern Nevada, to secure the names of area seniors.

“Since Meals on Wheels does not operate on Thanksgiving Day, we assume the task,” Fr. Render says. “We prepare hundreds of turkey dinners to deliver those who live alone or who are not able to get out of their homes to celebrate with family or friends.”

Even middle school students involved with the parish’s religious education department got in on the act. They crafted turkeys out of pine cones and decorated them with feathers, which expressed different things they were thankful for this year.

“Delivering the meals might be the only visitors these folks might see on Thanksgiving Day,” Fr. Render added. “The visits themselves become blessings, both for the recipient — as well as those who bring the meal.”

*Eileen O’Grady Daday*

## **Promoting Vocations...** *(continued from page 1)*

invitation and finding an intimate place with Jesus in our daily life.”

Hector shared his own calling while growing up on a mountain village in Peru, with the Spanish speaking families in attendance.

“I used to witness the work of the missionary nuns and priests in my hometown, but I did not feel part of it, maybe because I thought it was their work and not mine,” he said. “When I was 16 years old and started to participate with the choir at my parish, I realized I too had a vocation and a place in the mission of the Church.

“The youth leaders in the parish understand this concept well,” Hector added. “They all agree that inspiring others is key in building a new generation of believers and ministers of the church.”

Hector worked with Bart Hisgen, associate director of vocation ministry for the Viatorian Community and Fr. Corey



*Viatorian Pre-Associate Hector Obregon poses with Beatriz Ponce De Leon and youth member Alexis Hernandez during Vocations Day at St. Viator Parish*

Brost, CSV, vocations director, to plan the event. “Promoting vocations is more than asking people to consider a vowed religious life,” Hector said. “It’s about finding out that God’s voice is still relevant. Right now. Right here.”

*Eileen O’Grady Daday*



## *In the Footsteps of Our Founder...*

### **Organizing the New Pontifical Congregation**

After the public jubilation and the parish prayer service, Fr. Querbes joined the circle of his catechist brothers. The brothers had come to Vourles to be with their founder for their annual reunion and retreat.

The retreat master was a Jesuit, Father Brumould, who had preached their earlier retreats. Fr. Querbes greatly respected the Jesuits. While at St. Irenaus Seminary, he considered applying to the Jesuit. Fr. Brumould allowed ample conference time for him to discuss the changes, which would come with the evolving status of the community.

Until now, the statutes of the diocesan society were authorized by the Archbishop of Lyons. Members of the society pronounced their vows to God before the Archbishop. Fr. Querbes was their director but under the Archbishop. With Pontifical approbation the diocesan society became a religious congregation whose members now pronounced their vows to God before Fr. Querbes, the Superior General of the congregation. The new congregation was to be governed “in conformity to the holy canons, decrees of the Council of Trent and the statutes recently approved by the Congregation of Religious in Rome”. (Pierre Robert, From this Root, 182)

Current catechists were invited to renew their vows in conformity with the statutes approved by the Holy See. Most complied immediately. Some hesitated and were given time to decide. It was agreed, where possible, the school year would be shortened so each religious could come to the novitiate yet to be established.

The requirement of a “Novitiate” takes on special meaning for the new religious congregation and presented an organizational challenge for Fr. Querbes. Canon 646 specifies: “The novitiate, through which life in the institute is begun, is arranged so that the novices better understand their divine vocation, and indeed what is proper to the Institute, experience the manner of living in the Institute, and form their mind and heart in its spirit, and so that their intention and suitability are tested.”

Canon 648 requires that “the novitiate must include twelve months spent in the Community itself”. Canon 650 requires that “the novices be formed under the guidance of a director according to the program of formation defined in proper law”. Canon 651 requires “The director of the novices is to be a member of the institute”.

Establishing the Novitiate became the immediate task. Presently postulants were gathered at a house at Le Poyet, in the mountain region of Forez, near Montbeisan (Lorie). The location proved too remote from Vourles. Fr. Querbes was immediately confronted with questions which would influence the future success of the Institute. “Where do we locate the novitiate, who will be the director (master of novices), and where will he be trained?”

*Gracious God,  
be forever blest for  
your gift in  
Fr. Louis Querbes,  
dedicated pastor in the  
education of youth,  
and in the service of  
sacred liturgy,  
and founder of the  
Viatorian Community.*

*Br. Leo Ryan, CSV*

## Viatorians Collaborate with the Latino Union of Chicago



*Latino Union members at the opening of the exhibit at Hull House that features domestic workers.*

Two core values – collaboration and commitment to those accounted of little importance – animate the many Viatorian ministries. One agency the Viatorians have a close relationship with is the Latino Union of Chicago. For example, the LU personnel have worked with religious leaders, of which Viatorians participate, to advocate for undocumented day laborers that the immigration authorities recently swept up in a raid reminiscent of Postville, Iowa.

Being a volunteer English teacher at the union for the last several years, I had the opportunity to see firsthand their advocacy for the workers' rights of both men and women. Elisa Ringholm, the Latino Union development director, and I sat down for lunch where she described the work of the Latino Union and how the organization is empowering women,

particularly domestic workers who work as nannies, caregivers for the elderly and disabled, and housecleaners in private homes.

As they care for others, they also have their own families. Many are single mothers with histories of domestic violence and abuse. For many, their undocumented status and being victims of human trafficking makes them especially vulnerable and isolated.

The first groundbreaking domestic worker study by UIC and the National Domestic Worker Alliance – of which Latino Union is an affiliate – found 23 percent of domestic workers are paid less than minimum wage and 48 percent earn a wage below the level needed to adequately support a family. While they would naturally strive for invisibility to protect themselves and their families, their misery compounds itself because they are excluded from basic labor laws.

For example, the National Labor Relations Act, passed during segregation in the 1930s, specifically excludes domestic and agricultural workers because most of the workers were people of color. Furthermore, domestic workers are also excluded in various ways from the Fair Labor Standards Act, OSHA, federal anti-discrimination law, and many state employment laws.

Elisa went on to explain that the Latino Union has hired community organizers who went where domestic workers would congregate: bus stops, street corners, Bible studies, outreach centers, and domestic violence groups. The organizers

## Marie Segal, 1929-2012



The Viatorian Community lost a faithful member last fall, with the passing of Associate Marie Segal. She was an active member in the Las Vegas/Henderson region of the community, whose devout faith and devotion to the Viatorians inspired those around her.

She passed away Oct. 25 in Las Vegas, at the age of 83.

Fr. James Crilly, CSV, worked with Marie when he headed up the associates' program in the Las Vegas and Henderson region.

"She had a real sense of serving others," he said, "and of being aware of her vocation to reach out to others."

Marie was a Chicago native who began her career as business manager at Consolidated Wire and Cable. She eventually met her husband, Allen Segal, and the couple relocated to Las Vegas in 1983.

When her husband passed away, Marie moved from the residential community near



*Planning session gets underway to advocate domestic workers rights.*

won the trust of many of them and went on to form the Chicago Coalition of Household Workers.

Three women from different backgrounds, who were domestic workers, run the program, which has reached approximately 125 domestic workers from many ethnic backgrounds.

In the two years that the program has been existence, they have actively collaborated with other stakeholders to introduce legislation in the Illinois Legislature for a Domestic Worker Bill of Rights modeled off similar campaigns in New York and California to ensure that they receive the respect that they deserve.

This Bill of Rights includes domestic workers in basic Illinois labor laws, including minimum wage, overtime, protection from discrimination, one day of rest per week, meal breaks, and five hours of uninterrupted sleep for live-in workers.

Through the Caring Across Generations Campaign, the Coalition is collaborating with retirees, people with disabilities, and caregivers to improve the care industry through job creation and training, fair standards, a path to legalization and affordability for families in need of care.

Recently, the Chicago Coalition of Household Workers co-curated an exhibit at the Hull House Museum in Chicago, entitled “Unfinished Business: 21st Century Home Economics” in honor of Mary Keyser, the domestic worker and a co-founder of the Hull House.

Its location is particularly noteworthy. Here, in the settlement house that Jane Addams founded in the nineteenth century, people once again can come together, discover their own strength within a community context, learn the principles of community organizing and then demand respect for their human rights. The display opened recently for a yearlong exhibition. It is a living testimony that the struggle continues.

If you are an employer or domestic worker who would like to get involved, please contact Latino Union at (312) 491-9044 or [info@latinounion.org](mailto:info@latinounion.org).

*Fr. Thomas Long, CSV*

Sunrise Mountain, to be closer to St. Viator Parish in Las Vegas.

She became involved in its senior group, eventually serving as president, while also working in the office as a volunteer and helping every Monday with the accounting of the Sunday collection.

“She was fiercely independent, and was a woman of integrity and a very giving person,” says Laura Shepard, who volunteered with Marie in the parish office. “Her faith was most important to her, and no one was a stranger to her.”

St. Viator’s pastor at the time, Fr. Thomas Langenfeld, CSV, noticed Marie’s faith and involvement in the parish, and he invited her to become a Viatorian associate.

As a result, Marie joined the community as an associate in 2005. She re-committed herself as an associate for five years, back in 2009.

“Marie was dedicated to the Viatorian Community,” said Fr. Thomas von Behren, CSV, provincial. “She attended every regional gathering and supported the community through her service and prayer.”

He pointed to a message Marie had written in a reflection during one of the community’s many faith gatherings: “God has had his hand in each move, especially in my move to Las Vegas.” She will be missed.

# Around the Province...

The Province of Chicago welcomes **Pre-Novice Nestor Yam** who entered the pre-novitiate in Belize on September 19. Nestor, a native of Patchakan Village, teaches 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade at Mary Hill School in Corozal Town. He graduated with a B.A. in Education from the University of Belize. Bienvenido, Nestor!



*Viatorian Pre-Novice Nestor Yam poses with some of his students*

**Fr. John Milton, CSV**, may have retired from teaching physics, but he still keeps his hand in the field as a resource to other teachers. On October 26, he presented a paper at the fall meeting of the Chicago and Illinois Sections of the American Association of Physics Teachers, held at Joliet Junior. His presentation, RC Circuit Analogy for Thermal Energy Transfer, was well received.

On November 4, Cardinal Francis George recognized **Br. Donald Houde, CSV**, for his many years to service at St. Josaphat parish with the Christifidelis Award during a special ceremony at Holy Name Cathedral. Br. Houde was nominated for the recognition by Fr. Richard Prendergast, current pastor of St. Josaphat. At the same ritual, Cardinal George recognized **Frank and Mary Pat Serpone** for their service to St. Viator parish in Chicago. They were nominated by their pastor, Fr. Charles Bolser, CSV.

**Br. Donald Houde, CSV**, shipped nearly 50 boxes of books to the Viatorians serving in Corozal District, Belize. He organized donated books into academic and recreational reading groups. As a former curriculum director with the Archdio-



*Br. Don Houde packages up books for Belize in the Province Center*

cese of Chicago, he was able to box them up by subject area and grade level. Most of the books had been withdrawn from the Arlington Heights Memorial Library's collection



*Down in Belize, the books arrive*

**Br. Michael Gosch, CSV**, and **Fr. Thomas Long, CSV**, joined several Chicago area religious sisters and brothers in Springfield, IL to lobby state legislators for temporary visitor drivers' licenses for immigrants. They stressed that until comprehensive immigration reform takes place, undocumented motorists need to drive to work, to drive their children to and from school, to drive to doctors' appointments, etc. And, they need to do it safely. TVDL's require motorists to take written and behind the wheel tests and purchase auto insurance.

Thanksgiving was a busy time at St. Viator Parish (Chicago). Its charismatic group, led by **Pre-Associates Virginia and Antonio Gallegos and Gema and Jose Rangel** prepared Thanksgiving dinner for over 400 guests at the parish rec center. This annual event draws many people from both within and outside the parish.

**Br. Daniel Tripamer, CSV**, spent part of his Christmas vacation from Saint Viator High School visiting the Viatorian mission in Belize with his mother, Marty. Together, they spent time with the Viatorian professed and associates who minister there and joined with members of the Matthew: 25 youth group in helping to build new housing for struggling families. "The need is so incredible and the volunteers are so dedicated," Br. Tripamer says.

In its ongoing effort to promote issues of justice, the Provincial Council of the Clerics of St. Viator recently added its signature to three sign-on letters in the fall of 2012.

The first letter, written by United Church of Christ and signed by several religious leaders from diverse faith traditions, was sent to Julius Genachowski, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, urging the FCC to support the Wright Petition which addresses the exorbitant telephone rates paid by families who place telephone calls to those who are incarcerated. As stated in the letter, "Without ties to their families and community networks, inmates are at a much greater risk of returning to prison after their release." For more information, please visit [www.uccmediajustice.org](http://www.uccmediajustice.org).

The second letter, written by American Civil Liberties Union and signed by several religious leaders, labor and justice organizations, was sent to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director John Morton, requesting that DHS's ICE "terminate all existing 287(g) agreements and reject all pending applications." The flawed 287(g) program "deputizes state and local law police to enforce federal immigration laws." This has led to abuses and profiling which has been well documented. For more information, please visit [www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org).



to abuses and profiling which has been well documented. For more information, please visit [www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org).

The third letter, dated December 21, 2012 and written by Rights Working Group, was sent to President Barack Obama regarding his stated commitment to pass immigration reform. The letter requested President Obama "to ensure that U.S. immigration and border policy is crafted and implemented in a way that is fair and upholds constitutional protections and human rights." For more information, please visit [www.rightsworkinggroup.org](http://www.rightsworkinggroup.org).



*Br. Michael Gosch, CSV*

These are concrete ways the administration of the province advocates on behalf of those accounted little importance, which is mandated by the Constitution of the Clerics of St. Viator.

*Small Random Acts of Peacemaking  
In a world where violence seems to rule,  
we commit, O God, to small random acts of peacemaking.*

*Where people are oppressed  
because they look, act, speak, think or love differently,  
we will affirm their freedom.*

*Where people are exploited  
because they lack the strength or resources to refuse,  
we will seek to create alternatives.*

*Where people are controlled  
through threat and fear,  
we will offer safety and hope.*

*Where people believe their violence and power  
give them the right and ability to act as they please,  
we will call them to account.*

*Wherever violence is done to another,  
through physical force, manipulation of truth,  
or the subtle workings of power,  
we will opt out,  
we will speak out,  
and we will stand out in opposition,  
through small, random acts of peace making.*

*by: John van de Laar*

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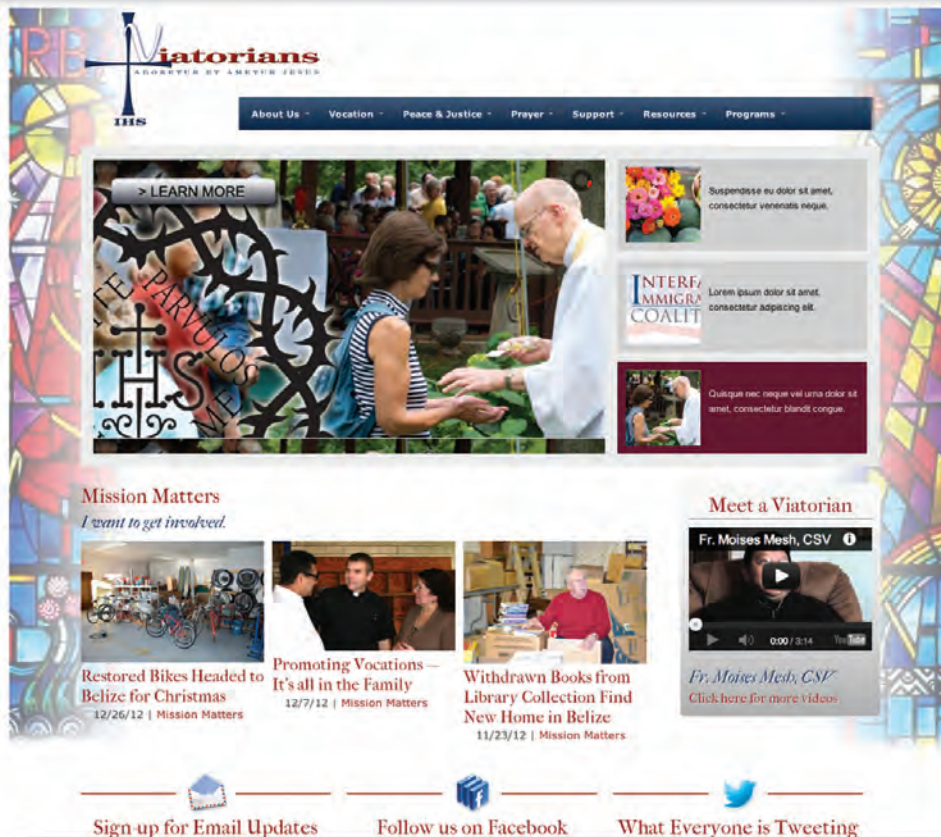
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## Viatorians Launch New Website...



Fresher content, vibrant images and more interactive features. Those were some of the talking points we undertook last fall when we went about designing our new web site: [www.viatorians.com](http://www.viatorians.com).

Check it out. We launched the site last month with the idea of developing more meaningful relationships with our supporters and partners, as well as advancing technologically and sharing the Viatorians' stories with new visitors.

One new feature was named by our provincial, Fr. Thomas von Behren, CSV. He calls it: "Mission Matters." In some ways, it was intended to be a play on words, offering several meanings to the section. Its stories range from social justice initiatives to upcoming programs that allow for visitors to get involved with the Viatorians on mission-related activities, that *matter*.

Our latest postings on social media stream regularly on the site, both from our Facebook page and Twitter account. You also will see that we ask for email addresses. The better to alert supporters of new programs, announcements and ministries getting underway.

Some of the site looks the same, including our stained glass window panels, that are taken from those in the chapel in the Viatorian Province Center. Now, we include a brief description of the artist that created them in the 1950s and of his history with the Vatican.

The front page of the site still includes our "billboard" stories, or features that we update regularly with news going on around our province, including in Belize, Bourbonnais, Chicago, Colombia, Kankakee, Henderson and Las Vegas.

We also offer plenty of information about the Viatorians, their founder and our locations, both domestic and international, as well as access to our archives and its treasure trove of historical documents.

Overall, we have tried to incorporate more videos, especially in our Vocations pages, which feature interviews, clips and comments from students involved in ministry as well as Viatorian associates, brothers and priests.

*Eileen O'Grady Daday*

# Destination: the Viatorian Province Center in Arlington Heights

It was something of a historic gathering last month, when Viatorian leaders from around the world descended on the province center for a week of meetings. Typically, the Extraordinary General Council convenes every year, but more often than not, in Rome.

However, with the election in July of Fr. Alain Ambeault, CSV, of Canada as the community's newest superior general, the decision was made to hold the convocation in the Chicago Province, and during the week, take time to visit some of its ministry sites.

Pastoral leaders who attended included:

**Fr. Alain Ambeault, CSV, Superior General, Province of Canada**

**Fr. Harry Célestin, CSV, Vicar General, Foundation of Haiti**

**Fr. André Crozier, CSV, Secretary General, Province of France**

**Br. Luis Álvarez, CSV, General Treasurer, Province of Spain**

**Br. Carlos Ernesto Florez, CSV, General Councilor, Province of Chicago/US**

**Fr. Claude Roy, CSV, Provincial, Province of Canada**

**Fr. Thomas R. von Behren, CSV, Provincial, Province of Chicago/US**

**Fr. Eduardo Millán, CSV, Provincial, Province of Chile**

**Fr. Gregorio Esquíbel, CSV, Provincial, Province of Spain**

**Fr. Léon Desbos, CSV, Superior, Delegation of France**

**Fr. John Peeters, CSV, Translator, Province of Chicago/US**

**Fr. Dudley Pierre, CSV, Translator, Foundation of Haiti**

"This is an intense moment of Viatorian internationality," said Fr. Ambeault, in a letter urging members to come to the meeting with an open mind and prepared to work. "We need to have a perspective that calls us to a future we need to discover and welcome with hope."

Their discussions ranged from establishing resolutions regarding the community's global identity and international solidarity, as well as identifying ways to promote vocations within the communities where Viatorians minister and advance social justice.



*Eileen O'Grady Daday*

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## Provincial Perspective

During the early morning hours of December 31st of each year, I go to my office to write the “Provincial Perspective” for the winter “VIATOR” newsletter. This tradition began rather innocently and has evolved into a happy obligation that I embrace as part of my ministry as provincial.

As I write to you on the Dec. 31, I am well aware that you will be reading these words nearly six weeks later. Nonetheless, I would like to pause and reflect upon the past 12 months as we look forward to the coming year.

Let us take a quick look at just a few of the highlights from 2012. In January, our Colombian confreres elected a new superior and leadership council who quickly began exploring the possibility of establishing new ministries and new communities in Bogotá. Due to these efforts, on Aug. 15, the Archbishop of Bogotá, Cardinal Rubén Salazar, announced the establishment of St. Viator Parish in the northern sector of Bogotá.

This new parish will offer Viatorians for generations to come an opportunity to implant the Viatorian charism more firmly in Colombia. It also will create a place for vocation outreach and pastoral training for our younger brothers as they develop within the context of a Viatorian sponsored parochial ministry. This new parish offers great hope and I believe is a blessing of new life within the Viatorian Community in Colombia. Please keep this new project in your prayers and in your heart.

In February, I received a phone call from Fr. Christopher Glancy, CSV, who had received a phone call from the Papal Nuncio asking him to accept the invitation from Pope Benedict to be ordained a bishop and serve as the Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Belize City-Belmopan. On May 5th, our Fr. Glancy became Bishop Christopher Glancy, thus becoming the first Viatorian from the Province of Chicago to be ordained a bishop. While this is a loss for the Province of Chicago, it is truly a gift to the Church in Belize.

In July, a delegation from our province joined over 60 international Viatorians to participate in the 29th General Chapter of the Congregation of the Clerics of St. Viator. During our days together in Rome, we elected a new superior general and adopted two priorities for the next six years: vocation ministry and the promotion of justice and peace. I ask that you join Viatorians throughout the world as we seek to invite new members to our community and to work for a lasting peace in our world.

Finally, as I look toward 2013, I am encouraged on several fronts: visioning a retreat center/catechetical center in the Las Vegas/Henderson Region, supporting the creation of a welcoming community for immigrants released in Chicago from detention centers, and Viatorians continuing to serve in schools and parishes, sharing the charism of Fr. Querbes through reaching out to the young and those less fortunate.

Most of all, I am encouraged that Viatorians everywhere continue to live their lives in holiness, prayer and service all in the name of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

May 2013 be filled with blessings for you and your family. On behalf of the Viatorian Community of the Province of Chicago, I extend our heartfelt appreciation for your support, your prayers and your love. Your partnership sustains us, strengthens us and is a true blessing in our life. I close, with the prayer and motto of our Founder, Fr. Louis Querbes: “Adored and Loved Be Jesus.” Happy New Year!

In St. Viator and Fr. Querbes,

*Rev. Thomas R. von Behren, C.S.V.*

Rev. Thomas R. von Behren, CSV  
Provincial



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