

GUYJEST

GUYANA JESUIT NEWS BULLETIN,
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“All of us must be vigilant so that the necessary adaptation will not be accomplished to the detriment of the fundamental identity or essential character of the role of the Jesuit as is described in the *Formula Instituti* as the history and particular spirituality of the Order propose it, and as the authentic interpretation of the very needs of the times seem still to require it. This image must not be altered; it must not be distorted.”

(Insegnamenti, vol. XII, 1974, pp. 1181-1182)



Pope receives Fr. General Adolfo Nicolás (January 26, 2008)

Father General Adolfo Nicolás capped an eventful week as the newly elected superior general of the Jesuits with a private audience with His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. The Saturday audience began with a photo session and then the two sat down for a warm and friendly conversation. The Holy Father was pleased to hear that the general congregation had formed a committee to study his letter to Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, the previous superior general, and then the conversation turned to Japan, where Fr. Nicolás had served for 33 years. The Holy Father encouraged the Jesuit leader to continue with dialogue with culture and evangelization and to ensure a thorough formation of young Jesuits. It was the opportunity for the new General of the Jesuits to reaffirm his personal respect for the Vicar of Christ as well as the esteem of the whole Society of Jesus; it was an occasion also to convey the desire of the Society to serve the Church all over the world.

Then Father Nicolás told Pope Benedict that the Jesuits have a custom that the newly elected superior general should renew his vows before the pope. Father Kolvenbach had done that in writing, so Father Nicolás had written out his vows, which he had in an envelope. The pope opened the envelope right away and read the vows; then he said, 'This is a very good custom.'

Fr Kuru's Visit of South Rupununi Schools.



As part of Fr Kuru's work in establishing contacts with the schools in the Amerindian areas, a good will visit was carried out in the second week of the year 2008. It involved visiting the schools at Aishalton, Achiwib, Karaudarnau, Awarivanau, Maruranau, Shea, Savarivau, Katoornarib, Rupenau and Sandcreek. Interacting with the teachers and the students was the essential part of the visits. The token gifts to the teachers and the students in terms notebooks, pencils, crayons etc were indeed useful and valued by the schools. Fr Kuru plans visit to schools in the Karasabai and Pakaraimas areas in the near future.

MEN IN BLACK



A sinister occasion – not really! But these scholastics from Guyana chose to dress-up on the occasion of the launching of Prov. Brit website, which is an on-line (virtual) journal entitled “Thinking Faith” to which anyone can subscribe. It will attempt to offer reflective comment on world cultures, politics and theology. It is the work of the Jesuit Media Initiative. Check it out at www.thinkingfaith.org/index.htm

[Young Jesuit brothers gathering in Brazil](#)



On the 14 to the 25th of January I went to participate in a formation course for brothers in Belo Horizonte in the state of mina Gerias Brazil. It was my first visit to this state where the Jesuit philosophate and theologate are located.

The Brothers came for the gathering from all over, from the south, the north and the centre of the country. Thirteen were from Brazil, one was from Ecuador, one from Peru and one even from Guyana making them in

all a total of sixteen. Our gathering was good. It offered us an opportunity to share, study, and learn about our vocation and journey together as Friends in the Lord. For me it was great to meet other young Jesuit brothers from the different states of the giant continent of South America. The gathering offered me an opportunity to meet other young Jesuits and for us to get to know each other. It was also an opportunity to learn from which state they came, by their different accents as they spoke one common Portuguese, like us in the Caribbean with our English. They shared with me the interesting history about their respective states, and listening to them I got to know a little about Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, the Amazon, Bahai, Porto Alegre, Parana, Mata Grosso and where ever there are Jesuits.

The course that we did was about Christology and ethics to help us in our present and future pastoral ministries. The topics we covered were for example: the importance of the church in its evangelization today in a globalize world, and the essential elements such as dialogue, sacraments, community, mission and others which should not be excluded in the process of shepherding God's people. It was interesting to learn too more about the church here in Brazil /Latin America and the Caribbean. For example: the different movements and organizations that made up the local church here including the laity, religious orders and different congregations that exists.

The two weeks course was packed with many activities. There was class sessions in the morning and afternoons everyday, and besides the intense class room works and lectures there was time to have fun such as games, video shows, group presentations and a tour around the city to visit places of interest like historical buildings and former gold mines. The visit to these places of interest was great because I got to learn about the history of the state, and how it got its name, Minas Gerias, which in English means gold mines and it was the first place in Brazil where gold was found in huge quantities by the Portuguese during their colonization of the country.

At the end of the two weeks course it was time to disperse again with everyone departing to their respective destinations. Renewed and inspired after the bonding with certainly plenty food for thought and to practice what we had learnt in our pastoral works where ever it be, in the class room, community, on the street, in the ghetto, or in the Amazon with Amerindians in Guyana and Brazil. Our next gathering will be in July, this time in Rio de Janeiro. So until companheiros! AMDG. Medino Abraham sj

[SEARCHing in unity](#)

Scholastics indeed utilize their time to meet young people of Georgetown apart from their routine hectic school work. They along with the youngsters try to search as the title of the youth group suggests. The First Sunday of this month all the members of the Search Group met at Brickdam as usual. The theme for the meeting was COMMITMENT, in religious life and in the life of laity. There was a young and a cheerful couple (Chris & Noelma Lam) who enlightened us all with their pragmatic approach to married life. Sch. Jerry Dias had to browse the books and the document of the Society of Jesus to make a presentation on the topic. He had to end his presentation half way through because of the time constraint, without being able to recount his own experiences for which the searchers are still awaiting.

Sch. Clyde was the overall organizer who made this day a great success. Of course Sch. Ramesh prayed for all of us quietly, for he could not attend it physically because of his ill health.

JESUIT GATHERING AT BRICKDAM

Jesuits of Georgetown gathered once again for their monthly evening of community prayer and relaxation. It started with Night Prayers as usual, followed by dinner with some chilled beer and grilled fish. It was a wonderful occasion for all of us not only to get to know each other but to know what is happening at GC35.

We all learnt that we have a director cum actor in our midst after watching the short film by Sch. Ramesh. This is a “magnum opus” of Ramesh, which emphatically suggests a metanoia of a smuggler through the support of a mother as the title of the film suggests ‘Maa taught me’.

We also witnessed the reality of the British Province in a DVD produced by the British Province. Now we indeed know the British Province somewhat better.

SPIRITUAL GATHERING AT BRICKDAM

WE THE JESUIT COMMUNITY AT BRICKDAM WILL BE HAVING OUR FIRST DAY OF RECOLLECTION ON THE SATURDAY OF THIS MONTH. THIS WILL BE ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS WHICH MAY TAKE ITS ROOT HERE AFTER IN OUR COMMUNITY. SCH. JERRY WILL BE GIVING US THE POINTS FOR THE RECOLLECTION KEEPING IN MIND GC 35.

TALK ON GOSPEL OF MATHEW

FR. DERMOT PRESTON INDEED ENLIGHTENED MANY PEOPLE OF GEORGETOWN THROUGH HIS EXPERTISE ON THE GOSPEL OF MATHEW. HE HAD HIS TALK ON THE TOPIC ON THREE CONSECUTIVE MONDAYS. HE IN FACT UNDERLINED THE SIGNIFICANCE AND THE RELEVANCE OF THE GOSPEL OF MATHEW IN TODAY’S WORLD OF LITERATURE, TO THE PACKED AUDIENCE.

OUR GUESTS AT BRICKDAM

GILES AND PADDY

We have two guests, gap students, from Jesuit Missions who stayed with us a few days here at Brickdam. They are Jesuit volunteers from Britain who have gone to the Rupununi (Lethem) for an experience of the Mission of Fr. Cary-Elwes whose work they are familiar with through John Bridges' "The Rupununi Mission".

Schs. David and Gabriel SJ.

Two Jesuit regents from Ecuador are with us at Brickdam to work towards a good command of the English Language. They indeed feel comfortable to be with us as they improve their English and we take our first steps in Spanish.

Away from the Region

Frs. Bob Barrow and Paul Martin are away from the Region in the UK. Bob is on work-study at Farm Street, organizing an interface with the Treasurer of the Province. Paul Martin is on sabbatical, and will be spending sometime at Loyola Hall getting hands-on experience of the Exercises.

AD MULTOS ANNOS

MALCOLM RODRIGUES 23rd February

GEORGETOWN GATHERING.

Our next Georgetown Gathering will be on Friday 7th March. As usual we begin with Night Prayers at 18.15 hrs, followed by drinks and supper. After washing-up we shall view "THE CONSTANT GARDENER." – starring Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz, novel by John Le Carré.



