

2011 Newsletters in PDF format.

1

ASSUMPTIONISTS OF THE ASSUMPTION  
**the assumptionist...**  
ON REGION, NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCE  
Volume 8, Issue 1 Winter 2011

### THE YEAR OF THE CHAPTER

During Christmas week, representatives from the North American Province of the Assumptionists - including the United States, Quebec, Mexico, and the Philippines gathered in Putnam, CT, at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Retreat Center to prayerfully consider the future of the Province and to do our part in preparing the General Chapter of the Congregation, to be held in Rome this coming May. In keeping with a long tradition across religious life, such gatherings are named "Chapters," a term which signifies the more official situation and greater authority of such meetings. The meeting was the first of a two-part Provincial Chapter, with a second session in July in preparation at the local level for the spirit and direction of the General Chapter.

A special grace of the Chapter was the presence of the extended Assumptionist family in the person of a number of its

2

ASSUMPTIONISTS OF THE ASSUMPTION  
**the assumptionist...**  
ON REGION, NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCE  
Volume 8, Issue 2 Spring 2011

### FIRST ASIAN ASSUMPTIONIST PRIEST IN THE UNITED STATES

Father Vo Tran Gia Dinh, A.S., was ordained to the priesthood on April 2, 2011 in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at Assumption College, Worcester, MA.

Interviewer - Fr. Dinh, would you share with us your journey from your homeland in Vietnam to priesthood as an Assumptionist?

- I was born in Danang, Vietnam in 1972. My mother was a teacher and my father was an electrical engineer before my family moved to Australia in 1980. Both parents are now retired while my older sister is a RNOMI religious serving in Korea. My younger sister is married and has two young boys. In 1989 I went to the

3

ASSUMPTIONISTS OF THE ASSUMPTION  
**the assumptionist...**  
ON REGION, NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCE  
Volume 8, Issue 3 Summer 2011

### THE PROVINCE OF NORTH AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES

...held the second session of its Provincial Chapter from July 28th through the 30th at Assumption College in Worcester, MA. Father Miguel Diaz, A.S., the newly appointed Provincial presided over the Chapter which included fifteen brothers from Canada, the US, Mexico and the Philippines as well as five lay delegates.

**The Province is alive and creative.** The Chapter acknowledged the progress made in the last ten years - the recognition and acceptance of its regional realities. Now, we need to live and work even more closely as members of one body, religious and lay.

**To promote Provincial unity,** the Chapter decided unanimously to suppress the current semi-autonomous Regional structure and to establish four Delegations, each with its Provincial Delegate, whose responsibilities and authority will reflect the specific needs of each Formation. The Provincial

4



ASSUMPTIONISTS OF THE ASSUMPTION

*the assumptionist...*

DAVID BISHOP THE PIOUSNESS OF MARY ASSUMED AND THE PRODIGY

Volume 8, Issue 4 Fall 2011

### What are you looking for?

Richard T. Lammiman, MA

A full-on if the first... A voice from God... There's no doubt, we tend to think of a *vocation* as a spectacular intervention by God, a clear message that tells us what *we* do or what choice to make. But I don't know too many people who get the call that way.

There's one scene in the Gospels that helps me more than any other to understand what a vocation is. It's at the beginning of John's Gospel (chapter 1), when St. John the Baptist has just following him, he turned around and asked them: "What are you looking for?" It sounded like an innocent question, but it struck the disciples. "What are we looking for?" That was the beginning, they were confused. They asked about when he was saying, and Jesus told them to follow him home. I can imagine they were up all night talking, trying to explain to Jesus (and to themselves) what they were looking for, what they really needed at all. I would guess that the following morning they had a better idea of what their "vocation" was and had some confidence that keeping in contact with Jesus would allow them to see things more clearly.

**EDITOR'S DESK**

We have finally finished the last of the Thanksgiving letters (and the Advent one was a very short one) as well as all the pre-Christmas "series" and "presentations". For the Assumptionist family, the private celebration of the first two liturgical Assumptionists leads us to reflect on vocation. The very personal and not universal that God extends to each one of us to follow Him as we proclaim the coming of the Kingdom of God in us and around us.

Father Richard Lammiman, MA helps us to reflect on how we have that call and how we