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REGNUM CHRISTI NEWS OF THE WEEK

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Holy Sepulchre.... There's not much else to say...

**Regnum Christi Live – April 19, 2014
By Megan Luttinen**



The latest installment from Everest Collegiate student Megan Luttinen in the Holy Land:

Who knew that waking up at 5 am and having Mass at 6 am would be so life changing?

Our group woke up so early because we were able to have Mass at the Holy Sepulchre, on the exact spot where Jesus was nailed to the cross and died on Calvary.

Just let that sink in. So powerful.

All of us were able to touch the rock on which Jesus was crucified. It is under a Greek Orthodox altar and occupation. The (Roman) Catholic

Church has its altar on the spot where Jesus was nailed to the cross. We were one of the only groups to celebrate Mass there, and it was a moving experience.

My class mate Ben agreed with me that the entire moment was indescribable. When you realize that you are celebrating the act that Jesus underwent for us, at the exact spot it happened. Wow.

It was especially beautiful inside as well, with columns and adornment in gold and silver. Our entire group had an “experience,” and in all honesty, there's not much else I can say.

As an end note, I would like Archbishop Vigneron to know we prayed for vocations for the Archdiocese of Detroit. And when I prayed for the intention, I felt a spark. God heard our prayers, and now it's just when He will deliver.

Gethsemane and the Mount of Olives, with a little side of Dormition Abbey and The Upper Room on Mount Zion, and a dash of St. Peter at Gallicante

Regnum Christi Live – April 19, 2014
By Megan Luttinen



Following is the next installment from Everest Collegiate senior Megan Luttinen from the Holy Land:

Going to the Garden of Gethsemane on Holy Thursday packs a special “punch.” Amer told us that the word “Gethsemane” means olive press. It was a garden, and also a place where they pressed olives. He also said specifically that it was a symbol of Jesus’ agony in the garden because we pushed and pressed Jesus so much that he sweat blood, almost like pressing an olive brings forth oil.

The church is darkly lit, and the stain glass windows are all shades of purple. An intricate ceiling and a mosaic floor are on display, showing the beauty of the church. But the most epic part is the mosaic on the outside. This depiction of Jesus and his disciples on the northern face is incredible. Small stones, used to make such an impacting image, show the dedication the artist must have felt when making the mosaic. Next we see the panoramic view on the Mount of Olives, and from looking at it, I am humbled and in awe.

Amer shows us the path Jesus walked and the Holy Sepulchre. The path between where He started and where He finished was a mile, but it would have been a grueling trek. The Mount of Olives also has the ruins of a Church built by St. Helen, and the new walls are covered with the Our Father in about 160 languages. It is crowded with people of all cultures, dress and faces, but one main thought is in all of our heads – “I am blessed to be here.”



Megan and Josh at Church of Holy Sepulchre

Next we stop at Dormition Abbey on Mount Zion. This church rests over the strongly supposed place that Mary ended her earthly life. It represents the place where “Mary went to sleep.” There is a statue of Our Lady in stone, and candles to be lit. There is a fresco of Jesus standing holding Mary, wrapped in white linen. The Upper Room is right next door, and it was an interesting place to be.

There were actually 120 people in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit came over them, and they then went out speaking in different languages. We learn that 120 people represent what was needed to break off from Judaism. Authority comes from the number 120.

Our last stop before lunch is at St. Peter at Gallicantu, and this church is designed around the themes of redemption and forgiveness. My classmate Josh and I are talking about how beautiful the entire mosaic walls are. The church is located above the cistern where Jesus was lowered after his

scourging. It would have been cold, dark and full of dirty water. Amer told us that Jesus was actually scourged three times. For me, this is such was a heart wrenching moment because I feel Jesus' pain at that moment. Don't all of us have friends who betray us, or fall asleep when all we want is their comfort? Don't we have moments where we are alone and afraid? Jesus was abandoned, betrayed, spit upon and sworn at. I will always keep the image of the mosaic of Jesus in ropes being arrested in my head. Just remember, Jesus did this for us. And we are saved because of it. Utterly humbling.

"All we can hope is that we come out of this with more faith than we had before."

Regnum Christi Live – April 20, 2014
By Megan Luttinen



These words were spoken by Fr. Juan Solana LC, in an introduction to the Holy Sepulchre where we spent the night. It was somewhat of a calming talk, after the hectic and scary beginning to our night. Fr. Daniel had told our group (almost everyone went) that we would probably have a difficult time getting in to the Holy Sepulchre, but he had talked to a monk, and we hoped it would run smoothly. It seemed that God wanted a little more sacrifice and a lot more "Hail Mary's" before we got what we wanted.

The Greek Orthodox, the Armenians, Coptics and Catholics were all squished outside of the closed doors of the Holy Sepulchre, and there was tension in the air. Our group got almost to the front and was ready to throw up elbows so we could get in. We were determined, united and full of a need. I have to say it was terrifying. We got in one at a time, amidst a yelling crowd and hands that grabbed you back. Fr. Daniel stood by the door grabbing us by the hand and yanking us in like a saving grace. All I know is that I must have counted the group at least 4 times after we were all in safe and sound, just to make sure we were all out of the chaos. I must say our boys were so amazing tonight, keeping the girls safe and sound, acting like trained body guards. It turned out we were one of two groups let in. It was actually a moving experience to see so many people want to experience and know Christ at Calvary.



Now once again, this is a big group of people all together in one place. The Greek Orthodox, Armenians and Coptics have control over the spot where Jesus was crucified, so their chapel is there. The Catholics have control of the place where Jesus was nailed to the cross, so their chapel is at that spot. And they're right next to each other.

(Our chaperone) Mrs. Krogh, and (my classmates) Jackie, Lu, Aaron and I were praying in our chapel while the Greek Orthodox were having their Holy Thursday service in theirs, filled with song. It was beautiful, deep and rich, and set the background music of the first couple hours of our night.

While we are here, we have been able to receive confession, walk the stations, visit Jesus' tomb, and pray wherever we want. Joshua, Ryan and I got to pray together in the tomb and it was powerful to say the least. The tomb itself is finely adorned and many people just wanted to be near to it. Michelle has been wandering through the halls, praying a rosary. Angela and I were interpreting an old painting, only to figure out that it was Jesus

being taken down from the cross. Jeremy was all over the place, while Miss (Valerie) Fifelski and Mary Jo spent their time in the chapel downstairs.

Fr. Daniel was always there to remind us, "Go see the tomb one more time!" or "Just go in there, don't wait!" I've spotted Daman, Chris and Kersten sitting by Calvary, deep in thought and prayer. Jackie and I have found each other a bunch of times just to say hi and smile, but she has been praying very hard for all her intentions. Kimmy was just on her way to the rock of Calvary the last time I saw her. Noah was walking around everywhere, praying. Ben was actually able to touch the rock during the Greek Orthodox ceremony, and shared light with one of the celebrators when Ben did not have any light to read his Bible. Becca and Christina were in an intense conversation when I last saw them and Shannon and Loui were deep in prayer.

Each of us had a different experience, but we had moments together as a group. One thing we all had in common was the cold temperature of the Sepulchre, and the cold kept us all awake, almost as if Jesus was sending it so we would stay awake with him on such a sad, solemn night. We also were kept awake by the Armenian, Coptic and Greek Orthodox cleaning and chanting. We had to move from our spots, sleep without blankets and bunch together for heat, but we all had a good time. I hope that anyone reading this has a chance to visit the Holy Sepulchre because it is something you won't forget. All I can say is after a crazy day, sleepless and prayer-filled night, I'm gonna sleep well on the plane tonight!

Reflections from Jerusalem – Lent at Calvary

Regnum Christi Live – April 21, 2014
By Deb Bauer



In March of this year, Regnum Christi consecrated woman Deb Bauer was blessed to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with other members of the Regnum Christi family and staff. Following is one of her meditations from the Holy Land. (More to come...)

Each day at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, Mass is celebrated at Calvary.

As a consecrated woman, I have always had a special devotion to Christ's Passion and Death.

Don't get me wrong. I am not a "sour puss" gloom and doom Christian. I just live in the joy and hope of Christ's most loving act – how "He humbled himself and took the form of a slave, and became obedient, even unto death, death on a cross."

In my vocation, I have had the rare privilege to enter into and accompany people in their own hardships and sufferings. I even have to admit I could get angry at God when I see their desolation and pain, from infidelity, the

death of a young child, sudden death, betrayal, rejection; the pain goes on and on.

Yet, when I kneel at Gethsemane and Calvary, through the powerful grace of being there, I remember. I recall and recount that He took on these sins, these sufferings. He knows rejection, betrayal, loss; in fact, He gave up everything – His very Self.

Calvary and Gethsemane represent to me the very purest love one can find – unconditional love never counts the cost; love gives. Love goes out to the other. He put a love into our hearts to be able to accept and bear our pain and sufferings. When life seems cold, desolate, hard, and hopeless, He models the way. His innocent self-offering redeems and transforms our sufferings, if we want to let Him in, if we let His love penetrate our hearts.

These thoughts stir my heart as I quietly pray with a handful of people who made the vigil at Mt. Calvary. They unite their hearts with Him, and around them tourists clamor with their cameras and eagerness to see the famous sites. Devout pilgrims make lines to venerate the place of Calvary – overwhelmed with emotion and eager to have their turn. Amidst this, the miracle of the love takes place each day at Mass. Jesus re-presents Himself in this sacrifice of the Passion and death, and feeds us so we can love and bear our pains and toils – following Him.

For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

Conquest members from California help Missionaries of Charity to feed the poor in San Francisco

In a city where the homeless population has been estimated at 7,000 – 10,000 people, a group of students from nearby Canyon Heights Academy tried to alleviate some of their suffering.



Ten boys from the local Conquest Club joined the Missionaries of Charity in February to feed the homeless in San Francisco. The activity was organized by Br. Emilio Mitre LC and Br. Kevin Gillis LC, with the help of some of the boys' parents.

The group arrived to the Missionary of Charity residence, where they helped prepare the food and load the vans. Before beginning their work, the boys made a quick visit to Jesus in the tabernacle, where they entrusted their work and all the people they were going to meet to the Lord.

“The sisters were not expecting such an enthused group of young kids who energetically helped get things ready very quickly,” said Br. Emilio. “We prepared the boys

by encouraging them in advance to treat their homeless guests with dignity, and to look at them in the eyes and strike a conversation, to let them know that they cared about them.”

The group “set up shop” at a corner of city park and waited, and those in need of assistance arrived punctually at 3:00 pm.



Prior to beginning the meal, one of the sisters lead a reflection about God’s love and providential care, and then the group prayed a decade of the Rosary and blessed God for the meal, Then the guests lined up to receive their food.

The boys helped distribute the pastries, desserts and drinks. One of the boys came up with the idea to give the people in the line their drinks while they waited.

Br. Emilio said, “Toward the end of our time there, a homeless man came to me and said ‘Thank you for bringing the kids.

It made this day very special.’ Another lady decided to sing some blues for us, and she was pretty good!”

When food was gone, the boys helped the sisters clean up and parted ways.



Help for Iraqi seminarians

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

IPS trains prospective priests



(Photo by Ali Jarekji, Reuters via CNS) Iraqi Christians like this boy fled to neighboring

*The following article was reprinted with permission from the **Arlington Catholic Herald**. It was originally run on April 9, 2014.*

Jordan in recent years. IPS is partnering with seminarians in Iraq to better serve their Catholic community.



by Dave Borowski

NBC News reported last year that there were 2 million Christians in Iraq in the 1990s. According to church leaders, that number has dropped to between 200,000 and 500,000 today. Persecution of Christians is a problem all over the Middle East, and many Iraqi Christians are fleeing their homeland because of religious intolerance.

A Catholic New Service report in February said: “The persecution of Christians in Iraq has increased in the wake of the country’s democratic transition. There and elsewhere, religious minorities had enjoyed some amount of protection under the strict law and order enforced by previous rulers. Archbishop (Francis A.) Chullikatt said that today, ‘because of the conflict, Christians are caught in the crossfire.’”

Priests who serve Catholics in Iraq face special challenges. The seminarians in Iraq recognize the atmosphere in which they will serve after ordination and are looking to the Institute for the Psychological Sciences (IPS) in Arlington for help.

Click [here](#) to read the rest of the article at the Arlington Catholic website.

A Meditation from the Holy Land

Regnum Christi Live – April 22

By Deb Bauer



In March of this year, Regnum Christi consecrated woman Deb Bauer was blessed to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with other members of the Regnum Christi family and staff. Following is another of her prayer meditations from the Holy Land. Next, she will share her reflections day by day.

“For you are my treasured possession” (Ex 19:5).

Lord, as I traverse around Judea and Galilee, I’m reminded of these tender words.

You lived, and walked, and had Your being here in this small, but rich country, with a leadership and class system that was obstinate to Your message. Yet, you came to redeem the lost. The reaction and rejection of men did not stop Your work; You loved and pressed on.

Isn’t evangelization in our world today in the same environment? Our world is minute compared to the Kingdom to come. We seem insignificant to the powers that control our economy, media, and politics. Yet, our Church has a voice and a man from a far-off country named Francis who is proving his “Galilean heritage”: he serves to be an instrument of Your truths – to reach out to the lost and to be a compass for the faithful.

In the News

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

For teen, basketball takes backseat to Christ

*This article was reprinted with permission from the **Michigan Catholic** newspaper. The [article](#) originally ran on April 17, 2014.*

by Don Horkey

Clarkston — Credit has to go to Vic Michaels, Catholic League director of athletics, for pointing me in the direction of Lucia Westrick.

“You have to see her play basketball,” he told me. “She’s tough — and she’s going to be a nun!”

I know about those kind of nuns. I had one in the fourth grade who could have been a fullback for the Lions.

But that’s a story for another time. This one is about an 18-year-old popular senior at Everest Collegiate who may or may not be a nun someday, but who has a clear-headed idea of what life is all about and its ultimate goal.

“Passion” is a very important word in Lucia’s vocabulary.

“I have a passion for basketball,” she says, remarkable considering Lucia (pronounced Loo-cee-ah) didn’t play anything close to organized ball until she arrived at Everest two years ago as a junior.

“I recognized her athleticism,” said coach Erin VanWagoner. “She worked extremely hard to be good.”

Her last game for the Mountaineers pretty much exemplified the pivotal role she played in the school’s highest advance in the state tournament, winning district and regional trophies to qualify for the quarterfinal stage, where she scored 14 points and grabbed a dozen rebounds in a seven-point loss to eventual finalist Marine City Cardinal Mooney.

The state girls basketball coaches association acknowledged Lucia with a “special mention” in its all-state selections.



Lucia Westrick poses with her team after they won the 2014 MHSAA Division 4 championship. She is standing, third from the left, next to her coach, Erin Van Wagoner.



What is truly special about this young lady is her outlook on life. “My No. 1 passion is my passion for Christ,” she says.

She is second oldest of 15 children, ranging in age from 20 years to 8 months, of Richard and Cheryl Westrick, of New Bavaria, Ohio, about 50 miles southwest of Toledo. The children are home-schooled. “There is no Catholic school near where we live,” explains Cheryl, who converted to Catholicism a year before she and her husband, who works at a General Motors plant, were married 22 years ago.

“I can’t imagine life without all of the different personalities,” Lucia says.

“It’s my greatest gift.”

She “loves” telling about the time when she received her first Communion, “how I felt Christ invited me to follow Him closely.”

At the age of 13, “I decided to give God the first chance at my life, to find out what He wants of me.”

She enrolled in the Immaculate Conception Program in Rhode Island for high school students interested in the consecrated life of the lay women’s Regnum Christi movement. When the school closed for financial reasons in 2012, Lucia and 10 others were transferred to Everest Collegiate.



Photo courtesy of the Michigan Catholic.



The “very sudden” move was “difficult” to understand, Lucia says, but it was made all the easier to accept by the “warm welcome” they received at Everest.

The girls follow Everest’s academic program and slate of extracurricular activities, while boarding at the consecrated women-operated Family Retreat Center in Oxford. The typical schedule calls for a 5:45 a.m. rising, Mass, and then being bussed to Everest for classes. They return

to Oxford between 6-7 p.m. for an evening of study, prayer and lights out at 9 p.m. Obviously, accommodations were made for Lucia to play basketball, which normally are night games.

Lucia isn't "bothered" that she doesn't participate in such activities as proms, homecomings and the like. "What I give to Christ," she says, "when I get to heaven, the sacrifices I make will be worth it."

Lucia's mother isn't surprised by her daughter's singleness of mind. "She's always been very strong-willed when she believes in something."

Adds VanWagoner, who also is the school's dean of students: "Lucia is a very genuine individual, confident in whatever she does."

By the time you read this, Lucia and her fellow seniors will have returned from their class trip to the Holy Land during Holy Week.

After graduation day May 18, Lucia will consider a handful of options about playing college basketball.

But whatever she decides, "Christ will continue to be the center of my life."

A Day by Day Reflection from the Holy Land

Regnum Christi Live – April 23, 2014
By Deb Bauer



Deb and Maritza

March 5 (Ash Wednesday) – Travel Day 1

4:50 p.m. – 9:20 a.m. Providence, Rhode Island to Newark, Delaware and then on to Tel Aviv, Israel.

I'm excited and distracted. What a gift to start Lent accompanying our Beloved in such a way. "Create in me a clean heart..." (Psalm 51) "Give me back the JOY of your salvation and a willing spirit to SUSTAIN in me." I praise you, Jesus. I open every part of my being; do as you wish for my soul! Mary, I give you permission to direct me and direct my merits and gratitude.

Day 2 – March 6 (Thursday)

We arrive at Notre Dame at and feel right at home. I slept a lot on the plane. Maritza, my companion, didn't, so she is sleeping now, and I just finish my rosary on the patio terrace of the apartment the consecrated women use. The members of my group are all in a meeting with the LCs, so it's a perfect time. Here I am – a 30-minute walk to the Cenacle (upper room)! It took one hour from Tel Aviv to the Notre Dame of Jerusalem Center (where we are staying). I meditate on Jesus going "up" to the Holy City. I am too tired to have more "lights," but I know I am blessed to walk in this land!

On our first day we visit the site of the Annunciation, the miracle at Cana and Mt. Tabor. The words of Mary ring out at the first two places. "I am the Handmaid of the Lord; let it be done unto me according to Thy Will" and

“Son, they have no wine.” (She always looked after the needs of others.)
And, “Do whatever He tells you.” Words to live by.

It’s hard to live Lent when there is so much joy in my heart; when I have the gift to visit Galilee! Lent is about being with Christ and accompanying Him, I know, and I can do that. This pilgrimage makes His intimate, personal love for me manifested in countless ways. Six of the ten days I am able to pray at Calvary. How do I NOT meet His love there? I received Holy Communion twice there; a huge gift for me!

While at Cana, I prayed for the sanctity of marriage, that each spouse can bend when necessary; that each can put the other first.

Imagine what a heavenly relationship marriage can be if the focus is placed much more on the gift of self, of loving, providing for, and serving the other, before our own needs! That’s heroic! That’s the respect, dignity, and delicate love Christ wants each spouse to find in marriage. I’m grateful that my family has been blessed with strong marriages - not without hardships and bumps – but I see the love there. It’s a gift. I prayed also for marriages that have been broken – God’s love can heal, but a broken heart is a deep pain. I pray that there can be openness to accept this suffering; this mystery that touches the lives of so many for a plethora of reasons.



March 7 (Friday) – Gethsemane

I’m sitting on a wall at the garden, and hundreds of pilgrims pass by. Ancient olive trees are right in front of me. The vendors are working hard, with horns, cameras, clamor – yet the truth is here. Jesus suffered for me, for us – here.

On the bus ride to Galilee, I reflect on the dispositions for a pilgrimage and for life’s journey -- be open and attentive to the Holy Spirit, and be flexible. It’s not easy.

Fr. Simon (Devereux) shared with us that he took his new Constitutions to Calvary.....

March 8 (Saturday)

It is Fr. James' birthday! We visit Cana, enjoy a meditation in the garden on the Mount of Nazareth, and sunshine in Galilee. Today, I renew my vows as a consecrated in Regnum Christi.

March 9 (Sunday)

Today we take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, visit Capernaum and the site where Jesus forgave Peter, and said "Feed my lambs." The place is called the Primacy of Peter. Our Lord gave Himself and healed here. I get a quiet moment to stick my feet in the Sea of Galilee – a gift. We wander around enjoying our peaceful surroundings. Also, Fr. Juan Solana gives a testimony to us about his own suffering at a certain moment in his vocation. It helped me tremendously to be an open, humble, with a faith-filled unity with my sisters and RC family.

March 10 – Long Day

We are visiting the city of Magdala. I gaze at the sea and enjoy where Jesus walked. Then we go to Bethlehem for shopping – a sacrifice for me! This was a day that stretched me. I gave a lot. One man actually prayed over me! The day was long and I was tired. We celebrate Mass at 9:00 p.m. and I am ready for bed. I thank the Lord for His love towards me.

March 11 (Tuesday) – Bethlehem

The beautiful grace of this day is holding Baby Jesus during Mass

We consecrated are meant to be "Moms!" (spiritually) you know!

We also visit the caves of the shepherds, and feel the tension of the West Bank.

March 12 (Wednesday) – Mass in the Holy Sepulcher

We participate in the Stations of the Cross devotion and have Eucharistic Adoration.

The location of Calvary is empty and I pray for all of you at the place where the Cross was placed – I spent a long time there.

March 13 (Thursday)

We visit Calvary, the site of the Ascension, where Jesus taught the “Our Father,” the Cenacle, and the place of the Visitation. It is a full day packed with activities. The highlight was Mass in Gethsemane. I read the petitions in the main Basilica, in this place that is very close to my heart. I reflect on the moral suffering Christ felt, that overtook Him, and it moves me to accept the moral sufferings in my life. He died and suffered for us, the saved and even the lost. I unite with Him and seek to console Him in my simple, meager, weak way, by giving Him my sins, my nothingness, and dying with Him to be strengthened, to be His handmaid.

Back at the Notre Dame Center, before the tabernacle where He is present and listens and works, I pray for all of you. I remember His action and sacrifice at Calvary. I was at that spot when the priest at the Mass there said, “Through Him, with Him and in Him...all Glory and Honor are yours.”

March 14 (Friday)

What didn't we do today? Again we go to Calvary and I receive Communion there. We visit the Holy Sepulcher, and get to go through, a little miracle! We visit Bethsaida, where Jesus was with Mary and Martha and Lazarus. We take a camel ride in Jericho. We go to the Jordan River, the Dead Sea and Quorum. And again I'm in Gethsemane in a Holy Hour praying for you and the team members by name. My prayer is dry like the desert, but the experience and the conversions of the pilgrims are transforming.

March 15 (Saturday)

Bonus day! Mass at Calvary at 7:00 a.m., and then breakfast. We pack, and go to the Domus Flevit, the Church where Jesus wept. We see some of the Via Dolorosa, the Western Wall, and then enjoy a good, long lunch with members of the Jerusalem team. They are really “alone,” the four of them, isolated from other RC consecrated women. Their team life is small. Theirs is a special apostolate of instant hospitality and welcome. This is why we wanted to spend time with them. They invited us to everything -- Mass, a little shopping, and departure at 7:00 p.m. for our flight.

Good bye to the Holy Land!

MEC Choir to Sing at Divine Mercy Mass

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

The Mater Ecclesiae Choir will be singing during the Mass at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy on April 27, 2014

The members of the [Mater Ecclesiae](#) Choir will again be singing at the Divine Mercy Mass at the [National Shrine of the Divine Mercy](#) in Stockbridge, Massachusetts on Sunday, April 27, 2014. This will be the fourth year the choir has been invited to sing during this special event.



The Mass will be broadcast live on the EWTN network, with the event preshow beginning at noon. Live streaming from the network [website](#) will also be available. The actual Mass starts at 1:00 pm ET. (Check local listings for the channel/s in your area.)

Click [here](#) to access the schedule on the EWTN website.

The Holy Land Never Leaves You

Regnum Christi Live – April 24
By Deb Bauer



In March of this year, Regnum Christi consecrated woman Deb Bauer was blessed to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with other members of the Regnum Christi family and staff. Following is her final reflection upon returning home.

On the return trip, I'm in the Newark Airport Chapel with the Blessed Sacrament, writing my reflections. One thought comes to mind. "You don't need to go to the Holy Land to encounter Him. He is with us – just as real."

However, the visit helps our faith and imagination.

It was a trip with loads of prayer. Thinking now, there is so much to unpack. This experience reaffirmed my Christian vocation and my consecrated vocation. I'm so attracted to the sacred places where He gave Himself for me. I feel so strangely at home. At Calvary, the Pit where he spent his last night, Gethsemane, and the Stations. There I want to pray and thank God for my vocation. I feel like Mary Magdalene, going to the tomb because I want to be with Him, to stay near to Him, console Him, and offer Him my life, my gratitude and prayers for others in the intentions.

My trip to the Holy Land seems surreal now. But I realize the experience "marks" a person. Every time I hear the Word of God, and even pray the rosary I will think, "I've been there."

Vision

Regnum Christi Live – April 24, 2014
By Fr Aaron Smith LC

I had a privileged perspective. From my vantage point in the corner two very different sceneries flashed before my eyes. Through the window, to my left, was the austere beauty of an early spring day. The grayish and blue hued sky arched above the fresh green grass with trees not yet in bloom. In its solemn setting, it bid new hope of a future soon to come and at the same time now present.

As my gaze shifted, the second scenery appeared, something that my eyes had never seen before. It was a banquet hall displaying a true festival of praise being lifted up to the Lord. The whole family was present and each member shined forth as those who have weathered a storm and come out the better from it. They were no longer bogged down by the many frightful moments, the tempests or the wounds that half healed at times still sting. They were happy not so much for what they had done, of victories or successes. The radiance came from the joy of just being alive, of the gift of God's merciful love.



Which scenery is more beautiful in your eyes?

For me, nothing matches the gift of family. The spectacular sight of the whole family present is one of the greatest marvels of God's creation. The many "colors" in a family photo are not in conflict with each other but maintaining their own distinctive hue enrich the picture.

Regnum Christi is like television, it is no longer black and white but is now becoming full color! The "black and white" suit of the legionary has not

disappeared but rather has been complimented by the richness and brilliance of the colors of the other branches of the Movement that compliment it and allow it to be what it should be. At one point in time “black and white” television was thought to be impossible. At first, as it appeared, it fascinated as a break through. Even still, something was missing. As the great transformation took place black and white was still present, yet it was radically different. Black and white became vivified by the richness of the colors forming a picture in high definition.

The Regnum Christi family has taken on new beauty in the autonomy of each of the branches of the Movement. The splendor of harmony in the richness of color is now called to shine forth in our lives and apostolates. It is spring and the whole world of the Movement is being refreshed with new beginnings! Happy Easter!

Winter Ski Retreat

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

Nearly 90 boys and dads gathered to enjoy the snow at Sacred Heart Apostolic School last month



Not everyone was disappointed with the snowy weather this past winter. Boys and dads – 87 to be exact – gathered for a weekend retreat of skiing and spiritual growth last month.

The event was organized by Fr. Jacob Dumont LC, through Sacred Heart Apostolic School in Rolling Prairie, Indiana. Skiing took place at the Bittersweet Ski Resort in Otsego, Michigan.

“The dads, young men, and boys came from Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and even Kansas,” said Fr. Jacob.

Retreat reflections were presented in three “tracks,” one for dads, one for high school young men, and one for boys in 5th – 8th grade.

“Daily activities for the boys and teens included sports, dynamic team activities, spiritual talks, Mass, and an opportunity for confession,” said Fr. Jacob. “The dads joined the boys and young men for some of their activities, but also had time to get together to speak about parenting, the Theology of the Body, and how to help their family to continue growing in the faith.”

Hubcaps

Regnum Christi Live – April 25, 2014
By Fr Simon Devereux LC



"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less." - C.S. Lewis

I have a doctor friend who drives a beat-up 1997 Honda Civic. His friends joke that robbers feel so bad for him that instead of stealing the hubcaps, they put on new ones! However, he explains that even though he could afford a luxury car, he is saving for his children's education. Now that's a real man!

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