

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS

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of the Congregation of Christian Brothers

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Hno. Edmundo Community --Canto Grande, Lima

The great even of our July mission was the Festival of *Fe y Alegría* in which our school was the host to seven other schools in the zone. Activities began at 7 a.m. on the 22nd of July when thousands of pupils and their families headed towards Huiracocha Park to celebrate Perú's national holiday with dance, art and a cultural fair which covered all the different stages of our history. (Our school did the Inca period.)

The Directress, Gaby Bravo, explained the significance of the celebration and spoke of our pride in the work of *Fe y Alegría* in our district of Lima. On behalf of the school, she greeted the authorities present. Our group of musicians, under the direction of Br. Rafael Inga, played away fervently (*allegro ma non troppo*), while the vice directors, Lourdes and Fanny, as well as Brs. Luis Enrique Ayala and Elmer Hurtado supervised all the details.

The families enjoyed a nice day in the park and the pupils had the opportunity to show forth their knowledge of our culture and to share it with other schools.

After that patriotic display we had some days to rest and we went on an excursion to Lunahuaná (a hilly valley to the south of Lima where wine and pisco are produced). Br Kevin Bernard accompanied us on behalf of the Leadership team and he helped us to focus on our community life and mission.

Rafael celebrated his birthday on 31st and received expressions of gratitude on behalf of the community for sharing his talents with us so generously in our apostolate.

With the arrival of the Missionaries of Santa Cruz (<http://vsantacruz.org/en/>), thirty eye specialists from Canada and México daily attended 300 persons (giving ophthalmological examinations, measuring eyes and preparing glasses as required by each patient). We have been under considerable pressure of work during a seven day period. This gigantic task demanded an extra effort: we had to receive all the families and especially the old people who came to get glasses. People queued from midnight in order to

get tickets for attention. The whole school took this task to heart with heartfelt concern. It was necessary to coordinate efforts of parents, friends and the Brothers of the community of Las Flores and also the school workers. One was able to hear a constant mixture of Spanish, English and French in the school: *ouvrez vos yeux s'il vous plait... right ojo please.*



The foreign oculists examined some 3000 patients in the Fe y Alegría School.

Brothers' Community -- Cardenal Newman - Buenos Aires

Our community is much reduced at present. First, Br. Jack Casey returned to Asunción in June and then Br. Stanislaus Hayes went off to visit his family in Ireland. Later, the community leader, Br. Patrick Payne, also traveled to Ireland so that only three of us, Brs. Jim Doherty, Thomas O'Connell and Hubert Wall, remain at home. However, our religious life continues its normal rhythm of prayer and work, etc.

Over six weeks ago a volcano in the south of Chile began to throw up an enormous cloud of ashes and, as a result, airports around Argentina have had to be closed at times; Br. Patrick's flight was delayed 24 hours. Besides the ashes, we have had a July with exceptionally heavy rain and on one occasion a storm left one dead and

several people injured, though, thanks be to God, here at the school we have had no major problems.

Thomas went briefly over to Montevideo as he is a member of the school board.

Maybe it's due to the international economic crisis, but, anyway, in recent times we have not had our usual stream of visitors. Fr. Liam Hayes, who works in the Province of Misiones, was with us briefly on his way to Ireland where he hopes to collect some money in order to be able to keep his three Cheshire Homes in Oberá functioning. Past pupil, Fr. Luis Lenzi O.P. is with us at the moment. He is currently stationed in San Juan Province (17 hours away by bus). Cacho, a mail nurse and Fr. Liam Hayes' right hand man in the Cheshire homes is also with us. He is in Buenos Aires to see if he can get the customs agency to release a container of wheelchairs, stretchers, medicines, etc. for the Cheshire Homes which has been donated by people mainly in Ireland. Bureaucratically, all the papers are in order, but even after a year the customs are proving difficult.

It is election time in Argentina and these days a variety of elections in a variety of districts have taken place.

A few days ago an English rugby club - the Saracens – played against Newman, which eventually won. The Saracens had got out a program for their tour which included a few words about each South American team they were going to play. The note on Newman contains the following: "Cardinal Newman is a College with a strong rugby tradition... It is acknowledged to be the leading sports school in Buenos Aires."

San Martín Community -- Lima

The Las Flores community sends fraternal greetings to all our Brothers and friends.

We have begun the second half of the year with the same enthusiasm as ever.

Each member of the community continues his work in his own area. Br. Paul Keohane, our community leader, as a member of the regional leadership team has visited two communities: Chimbote for a number of meetings and Moyobamba for the annual visitation.

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Postulant Joel Regalado's parents came to visit us this month. His parents and his little brother stayed in the community for a week. The reason for the visit was his mother's need to have medical checkups in a hospital in Lima. Joel has begun the second semester in CONFER and has some tasks to perform in the community.

David Fontes from the United States came to Lima to finish an investigation about family catechetics and stayed a week with us.



The Assumption

As part of his annual visit to accompany the communities in Peru, Br. Kevin Bernard was with us for a while. He also visited some friends in Lima.

This month also we have had the pleasure of receiving a visit from two young men, Jorge

Távora from Trujillo and Jan Carlos Miñano from Pucallpa, who are interested in our Congregation.

Br. Carlos Flores from Chimbote spent a few days here occupied in bureaucratic activities connected with his studies.

Santos Mejía, a second year postulant, decided to leave the Congregation. We wish him every success and happiness in his new situation.

Br. Jim Glos has been on an almost two week visit to Arequipa in connection with his work in the Yachay Wasi Institute which prepares laboratory manuals for use in the teaching of science in high schools.

Elmer Hurtado was transferred to the Las Flores community a few days ago but will still teach in *Fe y Alegría* in Canto Grande while continuing his own university studies.

Br. Alberto Llanos is visiting the Moyobamba community in connection with his work as vocation coordinator.

For some days now we have had the visit of a group of oculists from Canada. They treated some 3000 persons, giving them free eye tests in the *Fe y Alegría* school. Brs. Paul, Jim and Alberto helped out by acting as translators.

A few days ago, as part of his work as moderator of the Associates in Lima, Paul with a group of Associates made two visits to helping homes in Lima.

On 27th July the communities of Las Flores and Canto Grande had an enjoyable get-together which included pizza and a movie.

La Esperanza Community– Chimbote, Perú

From 20th to 25th of July, Br. Kevin Bernard made a pastoral visit to our community and directed the monthly retreat. Thanks, Kevin.

We have several travelers in the community: Br. Sean DiFiglia left a week ago to spend a month with his family in the United States; Br. Carlos Flores, trying to get his diploma, spent a week in Lima fighting the bureaucracy of the Institute where he had studied computing; Br. Vincent Peragine visited his beloved Monsefú to help in the organization of the national assembly of Associates of Edmund Rice which will be held there in January 2012.

Br. Richard Glatz who is a member of the directorate of CONFER-Chimbote has a series of meetings planning a meeting of Northern Region of CONFER which will be held from the 16th to 18th September.

Br. Williams Cano has begun classes in computing in SENATI and meets twice a week with one of the professors of English from the school to polish his knowledge of the language of Shakespeare.

MUNDO MEJOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Not without some special effort, the parents of the school have begun practicing at night for the Olympic Sports which will begin on Sunday, 21st August. The students in their turn are enjoying inter year games of small court soccer, volleyball and basketball.



Br. Carlos (in the middle with blue jersey) taking part in an exercise with the pupils during a retreat.

Carlos is engaged in the preparation of a platform for a “virtual classroom” which will allow students to enter classes *via* internet. He also tutors students who belong to the Edmund Rice Project

and, along with Williams, he accompanies the different groups on their days of recollection. The two junior Brothers supervise the external pastoral activities of the students.

TECHNICAL-PRODUCTIVE CENTRE

As of 15th August, under the watchful eyes of their professors and a supervisor (a master technician in the business), the students go out to different businesses and workshops to do their pre professional practices.

Several of the students and professors of the Welding specialty took part in a workshop offered by *Aceros Arequipa*, an important steel factory. One of the students won a competition and so will travel to Pisco, south of Lima, to visit the plant there and to visit also the natural marine reserve of Paracas.



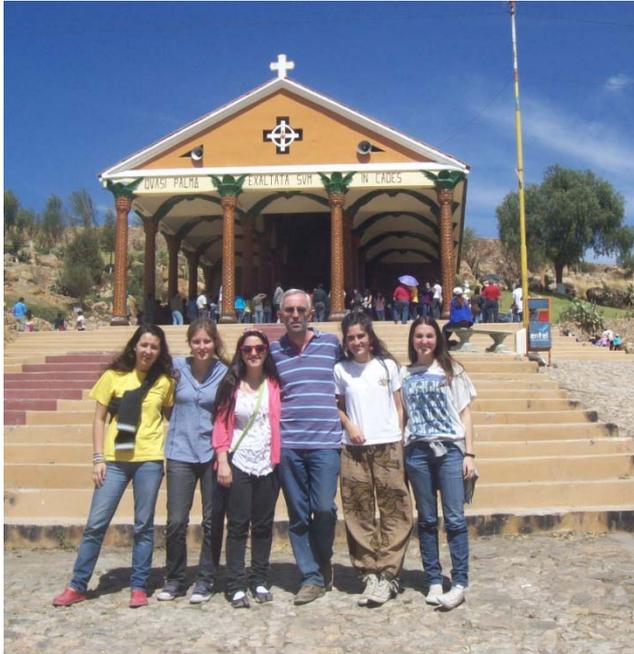
Professor Guzmán (2nd from left) and Sr. Cano, Director (2nd from right) admire how the students succeeded in converting a gasoline engine to GLP gas.

The Director, Williams Cano, and Br. Richard Glatz, Academic Coordinator are studying the options for purchasing a plasma cutter in order to implement the final welding module. We thank the Edmund Rice Trust (Ireland) for agreeing to finance this project.

Community Once36* – Cochabamba, Bol.

Greetings. This month together with several friends from other religious congregations and also with some lay persons we celebrated Br. Dermot Cregan's Golden Jubilee and gave him a send off on his journey to Ireland for a holiday. We also celebrated Br. Renato Llerena's birthday with a small get-together at home. The Brothers studying in the university have had their mid year break and Francisco Tuiro took lessons in Quechua.





Vacu, Marce, Florencia, Br. John, María and Pía in front of the chapel of Our Lady of Urkupiña.

Our house was full for a week owing to the arrival of a missionary group from Stella Maris College, Montevideo. They undertook a variety of activities in the southern zone of the city, the area of the city with the greatest needs. We hope that their stay among us may have contributed to their personal growth. You can check their blog: www.misionerosedmundorice.blogspot.com for more information and photos.



Maribel, Br. Alberto and Br. Xavier during a celebration of "coa" with the Uruguayans

Bolivia celebrated 186 years of independence on 6th August. Thanks to all who sent messages of congratulations. These days the city of Cochabamba is filling up with tourists and pilgrims who are coming for the feast of Our Lady of Urkupiña. There is also a national debate going on over the illegal construction of a motorway through a zone which is protected as a natural

reserve. For further information see: www.isiborosecure.com.

May everything turn out well and may justice triumph this time over the mercenary interests of groups of power and wealth.

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters.



Br. Renato (seated far right) and his group of children who work odd jobs in the streets.

Stella Maris School- Montevideo

The of Missioners of Edmund Rice group from our school had an immersion experience in Cochabamba, Bolivia, during the week 30th July – 6th August.

The experience tended to be very impacting for those who took part. Daily life was "different but complete" and one came in contact with the customs and style of life of Cochabamba. The missionaries, desiring to prolong their experience which helps them to grow and brings surprises every day, tell their story on the blog:

<http://misionerosedmundorice.blogspot.com/>



Missionaries Victoria, María and Marcela with some school children in the city of Cochabamba, Bolivia.

We ask God to enlighten them with His Spirit and that they may always be able to make known His Word and that with these experiences they may raise the awareness of others.



Br. John Casey (left) acts as guide to the Uruguayans on their visit to the Christ of Concord.

Cardenal Newman School- Buenos Aires

We had our winter holidays during the last two weeks of July.

On Thursday, 4th August the students in the college rugby First XV were hosts to the Saracens from England whom they put up in their homes and they also played a match against them. The match was played here at home and Newman won 65-0.

“We shared some unforgettable moments with them. It was a unique experience to be able to share daily life with people from other parts of the world.”

(Federico López Saavedra, a 6th Year student)



The Newman Rugby selection gave a good lesson to the English team on the art of playing rugby in Argentina.

We continue with the workshops on communication and affectivity for all the secondary students. The idea is to create a space in which the young people can share their lives and listen to each other so that each may come to know himself and others better.

Teachers, professors and the authorities are preparing a document on the “Protection of the Child”, and they are working also on implementation of such protection in the whole school. The document touches themes such as abuse, bullying and how to prevent such and also how to act in the face of such.

In September the students of the senior year will go on a rugby tour to Ireland and England. They will visit different schools of the Congregation and will be put up in the homes of the students there. Currently the students are engaging in different activities in order to collect funds. Among such is the preparation of a magazine with publicity, the sale of briefs, a kiosk, etc. Each Friday night they have a meal together and work on informing themselves about the journey.

The *Group of Humanistic Studies* in the College organized a conference: *What can parents do so that their children may triumph in life?* It was given by Angeles Marulanda, who is a specialist in family and education who has been living in the United States for the past 25 years where she is part of The Parents College. Her work also includes the publication of many books on education which have been well received by specialist critics.

Holidays and Holydays

15th August: Assumption of Our Lady

29th August: Death of Bl. Edmund Rice (1844)

19th September: Beatification of Cardinal John Henry Newman

Birthdays and Celebrations:

Michael O’Donnell: 20th. August

Kevin Bernard: 20th. August

Carlos Flores 1st. September

