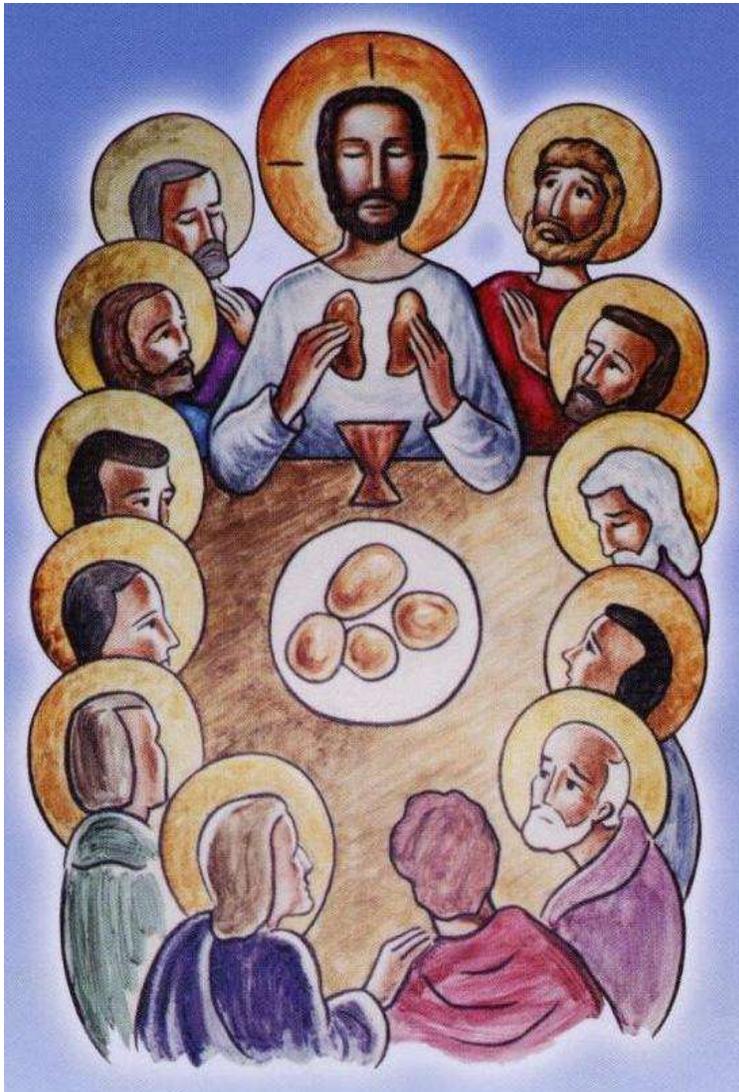


ἀπόστολος

**SOCIETY OF THE MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY APOSTLES  
PROVINCE OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**



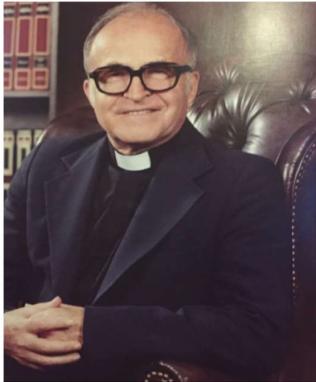
**EDITION: MARCH 2017**

**Editor: Fr. Charles Bak**

**Picture: Fr. Raymond Proulx**

**Pictures: MSA USA**

### From the Desk of the Provincial



**The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr. Menard's passing to the eternal home:** This March 26, we commemorate with a Holy Mass and fraternal gathering this great event of Christian hope and great memories for our family MSA, when our beloved Fr. Menard joined the other MSA in the eternal home. Our Founder, Fr. Menard, had promised he would intercede to the celestial Father for us to have more vocations to the priesthood and committed lay members. And he is keeping his promise in our Province MSA USA, because, thanks to God, we have vocations following our charism and mission. The spiritual presence of Fr. Menard is fundamental to our identity and mission and, for this reason, we try to transmit to the new generations who Fr. Menard is, how he was committed in the promotion of priestly vocations. Our spiritual patrimony always tells us who we are and where we are going. And Fr. Menard in his missionary priestly life, taught to all his MSA family, the meaning of work as missionary and be inculturated in other countries announcing the good news of Jesus to the peoples where we are sent, loving them, and adapting to the differences with joy for the Gospel; searching for native vocations because the owner of the field needs many laborers for his vineyard, and Fr. Menard taught us to do and search for them at any hour of their life: in the morning, at noon, even in the afternoon or late hour, because—as a requirement to be MSA—the laborer of the Gospel needs only to be capable to celebrate only one Mass in his life and he will accomplish his vocation and mission in the Church and in life. This is the novelty which the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles offer to the Church yesterday, today, and always. Even when the temptation to reduce this generosity of the call at any age can suffer the danger of the productivity and efficiency, limiting the age to accept the vocations, is not according to the heritage received from Fr. Menard and which he in his turn received from the Holy Spirit as a gift for the Church. When we talk about the limit of the age too old to be a priest, in this the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles are different than other communities in the Church. Fr. Menard repeated always: We must keep this charism and mission as a gift of the Holy Spirit; otherwise, we must leave the Community. My brothers, are we faithful to our heritage or are we changing our foundational charism? We can consider ourselves Menardians in our spirit and mission? It's in you to find the answer to these questions.

### NEWS

**Provincial Fund-raising:** I would like to thank all the members who responded to this appeal made by our Provincial trying to help our Province to help in their management in which we collected \$10,300; this will help our Provincial to have a discretionary fund in the use of this money in his service to our Province. The money is deposited in the Provincial Account under the supervision of our Provincial Bursar. There also was created, by one member, the *Stilla Maris Fund* with \$140,000 and the annual profit will be used at discretion of the Provincial. Ninety percent of the profit will be used in this way and the other 10 per cent will be inverted in

the *Stilla Maris Fund*. We want to thank our brother priest for his generosity to our Province. If in this time there were few members who helped us in this fund raising, we are sure in the next fund-raising, other members will join in supporting the needs of our Province.

**Mr. Hector Durand's Anniversary:** This March 7, Our MSA USA Province celebrated in our Padre Pio chapel the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of our Cofounder, Mr. Hector Durand, and it was a great opportunity to encourage our work in partnership with the laity. And we thank God for this great man who was in the words of our Founder, Fr. Menard, the cofounder of our MSA family.

**Fr. Menard's Thirtieth Anniversary:** In our Province, each year we gather together all the family of Holy Apostles: priests, brothers, and laity, to celebrate the life and the heritage of our Founder, Fr. Eusebe Henri Menard, O.F.M. Last year, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. This year, March 26 2017, we are celebrating the third anniversary of his return to the eternal home. We will gather around the table of the Eucharist and after, we will share the bread of the confraternity. We welcome every member who wants to join us physically or spiritually; the place where we will gather is the HACS, where Fr. Menard passed many years trying to transmit his spirituality, in the future laborers of the Gospel. I recommend to you brothers wherever you are to celebrate the Eucharist, thanking God for Fr. Menard.

**The General Appeal:** Fr. Isaac Martinez is asking our generosity as each year to share with the General Fund starting March 7, the day of the anniversary of our co-founder, Mr. Hector Durand. This year the apostolic work to be supported is the International Time of Probation (Novitiate), which is housed in Peru, where there are 17 novices and three priests in full-time service. They are forming the future of our Society. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity. You can send your check donation to **Provincial Bursar, 22 Prospect Hill Road, Cromwell, CT 06416** for deposit in the account of the Province. Then your donations will be sent to the General House. Make your check out to "Missionaries of the Holy Apostles" putting "Hector Durand fund" on the line on the bottom of your check.

**Meeting with the General Animator and His Council:** At the invitation of Fr. Isaac Martinez, General Animator, the Provincial and his Council we gathered on March 14 in Canada, where we saw different items referring to our Province and the future of our Society. Thank you to keep us in your prayers.

**The MSA USA Vocational Day:** April 23, 2017. Each year the Province gathers in prayer asking the Lord of the Vineyard to send many vocations for our Society, especially for our Province, and for the Church in general. Our Province has members all around the United States and we consider it pertinent to use the digital communications in order to be united that day. We will start with the MP and Mass at 8:45 AM, and we will continue all the day long with the Holy Hour, you can join us at [msausa.org/vocationalday](http://msausa.org/vocationalday) finishing with Solemn Vespers at 5 PM. Contact the Provincial Secretary (860-316-5926) to let him know at what time you will join in this day of prayer.

**The General Assembly 2017:** We are at the door of the General Assembly, which will be held in Bogota, Columbia, August 1 – 15, so it is important to answer the questions personally or in community and send you answer to the General Secretary in Canada. In order to help you, we here copy the questionnaire to be answered:

Here is the questionnaire for the General Assembly 2017:

**GENERAL THEME : « THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN OUR MISSION »  
QUESTIONNAIRE**

**1- FIDELITY TO OUR CHARISM**

In the light of Articles 1 and 2 of our Constitutions and Norms :

**. 1.1 What is the meaning for you of the expression “fidelity to our charism”:**

- Respect and total adherence to our communal identity and to live it fully in word and deed, in our apostolate [L] [SEP]
- To put into practice the requirements of the Gospel in the aspects of our fraternal life and proper mission (Art 1 Const.) [L] [SEP]
- It is constancy that allows us to maintain the initial intuition of the Founder which is to give priests to the Church [L] [SEP]
- Everything must be inspired by our charism and no action should be outside of it [L] [SEP]
- Each MSA must promote vocations for the Church, society, and be available to serve in Seminaries and other houses of formation, without harming other areas of our charism [L] [SEP] (parishes and colleges) [L] [SEP]
- To accept the mission ad intra and ad extra and be an artisan of authentic fraternal life [L] [SEP] that welcomes all brothers without discrimination [L] [SEP]
- Actualization of the charism in the life of the Society according to place and time, [L] [SEP] according to the needs of the Church [L] [SEP]
- Scrupulous respect of the requirements of our charism, rigorous fulfilment of what the [L] [SEP] Constitutions and Norms provide [L] [SEP]
- Innovative attachment to the founding inspiration of our Apostolic Community, [L] [SEP] remaining attentive to the directives of the universal Church [L] [SEP]

**. 1.2 According to you, has our Society remained faithful to its charism today? Please justify your answer. [L] [SEP]**

**NO**

- Fidelity has weakened because of evolutionism that has thrown the majority of its members into a spirit of individualism and egotism [L] [SEP]
- We scorn very important aspects such as formation and accompaniment that are very important and central [L] [SEP]
- Because of the tendency of confreres to abandon the houses of formation for parishes and other solicitations that are more profitable [L] [SEP]
- A lack of vocational groups in our parishes, to reactivate our charism [L] [SEP]
- Unavailability of pastors for the follow-up of non ordained ministers [L] [SEP]

**YES**

- Internationalization is working for the promotion of vocations, the formation and accompaniment of young people and adults for all the ministries in the Church [L] [SEP]
- Our houses are faithful to our charism and spirituality [L] [SEP]
- The construction of new infrastructures for the formation of MSA [L] [SEP]
- The Pastoral of vocations is effective in certain areas of our apostolate [L] [SEP]
- A constant and regular explosion in the number of candidates in the Delegation of Africa [L] [SEP]
- Vocational animation in our houses of formation, vocational matinees, vocational camps [L] [SEP] during holidays, the minor seminary of Bafia [L] [SEP]
- In our local communities where the confreres bring an MSA color. [L] [SEP]
- However, there is still a lot to be done [L] [SEP]

**2- PASTORAL OF VOCATIONS**

We are by our oath of fidelity Missionaries of Vocations :

**2.1 What is your understanding of a pastoral of vocations in your own context?**

- The essential thing is not to promote but to form properly the young people and accompany them and make them fine priests in the Church [L] [SEP]

- The pastoral of vocations requires an insertion and a participation in the awakening of different vocations in the Church. [SEP]
- It is the help and support given to a person so that he may make a good vocational discernment. [SEP]
- That all may respect the animators and that the animators be available to everyone. [SEP]
- To help everyone understand what is a vocation and the different types of vocations. [SEP]
- Our involvement in the houses of formation and in the MSA vocational and diocesan [SEP]matinees. They take place in our parishes where there is still a lot to be done. [SEP]
- It is by promoting vocations and loving what we do and those for whom we are doing it [SEP]and by using modern methods. [SEP]
- It is done by teaching, sanctifying and the governing of our parishes. [SEP]
- Our effective implication in the animation of sessions concerning the discernment and [SEP]accompaniment of those in inter-novitiates and the professed, the formation of formators [SEP]of other religious communities. [SEP]
- A sensitive and fundamental subject for the life of the Church, for each one has a [SEP]vocation. The Pastoral of vocations is for each baptized Christian so that each one may discover and live according to the vocation to which God has called him in following His Son Jesus. [SEP]
- The Pastoral of vocations must remain a priority for every MSA. [SEP]
- Each MSA must become a disciple with all baptized Christians whether he is consecrated [SEP]or not. [SEP]
- The Pastoral of vocations implies good planning, good coordination with objectives, [SEP]great availability to young people and adults, good witnessing of the pastor [SEP]
- The purpose is to give each Christian his proper place in the Church. [SEP]
- We are still fortunate that the vocations come to us so that we may choose a few for [SEP]accompaniment. Today, many of our young people in formation come from

our parishes. [L] [SEP]

- It is therefore the lifestyle and testimony of the confreres that are the best examples for a [L] [SEP] Pastoral of vocations. [L] [SEP]

## 2.2 How do you explain the decline or vocational crisis in your milieu? There is a decline.

- Apparently, there is not a crisis or decline of vocations in Africa, Cameroon, yet, it is evident that the harvest is abundant and not enough laborers. The lack of laborers can be explained by the fact that : because the cost of formation is very high, very few candidates are accepted in the houses of formation; also, an important number of young people in formation do not complete their journey, either because of inadequate motivation and especially because of a lack of formators ready to undertake the task of accompanying the young adults. [L] [SEP]

- Because of a bad or lack of comprehension of commitments, of a greater capitalist mentality, of the evolution of science and technology, poverty and misery, and also of the revival of the economy. [L] [SEP]

- A lack of formators for a spiritual discernment that is rigorous and authentic. [L] [SEP]

- The influence of ideologies, the bad example of certain religious, egotism, individualism, emotional disequilibrium, ancestral tradition, the proliferation of sects, [L] [SEP] pressure from the families... [L] [SEP]

- Weakening of the faith, a change of mentality, a lack of modernisation in the Church and [L] [SEP] of a proper functioning. [L] [SEP]

- The fear of an uncertain future, a downfall of faith among young people during their [L] [SEP] formation. [L] [SEP] **There is neither a crisis nor a drop in vocations** [L] [SEP]

- This crisis does not exist in my milieu. We need persons available to awaken, accompany, form and get young people interested. [L] [SEP]

- Young people and adults come running to our MSA vocational matinees. [L] [SEP]

## 2.3 What do you propose to take up these growing challenges?

- Good catechesis with modern methods [L] [SEP]

- Intervene in the media and social networks to promote vocations. [L] [SEP]

- Courage to go beyond. [L] [SEP]
- Take the time to discern the true vocations. [L] [SEP]
- A new evangelization through proximity and witnessing of a lifestyle. [L] [SEP]
- To give up our social securities and go to the outskirts. [L] [SEP]
- To take new initiatives in favor of a good pastoral of vocations. [L] [SEP]
- To entrust vocational animation to young confreres. [L] [SEP]
- To encourage the creation of vocational groups in our parishes. [L] [SEP]
- To support and encourage young people without intimidating them. [L] [SEP]
- To receive a greater number of candidates requires the means and a structure. [L] [SEP]
- We need good and generous formators with the capacity and the will to accompany [L] [SEP] young people and adults in today's world. [L] [SEP]
- The formation of persons capable of helping to discern the numerous candidates [L] [SEP] knocking on our doors. [L] [SEP]
- Total confidence in God who takes the initiative of calling disciples. [L] [SEP]
- To teach the young to cultivate a sense of interior freedom, to develop a sense of responsibility, to cultivate a spirit of belonging, proud of being consecrated, to be witnesses of God's people. [L] [SEP]
- A return to spirituality, devotion, rigor and seriousness in the formation of priests, rigor and seriousness of formation. [L] [SEP]
- To associate the learners as part of their formation (andragogy) [L] [SEP]
- To redefine the methods of approach of the pastoral of vocations. [L] [SEP]
- To create new strategies to interest the young in religion. [L] [SEP]
- To be good living witnesses as ecclesiastics. [L] [SEP]
- To involve all students in theology in a pastoral of vocations in parishes, vocational [L] [SEP] matinees and vocational camps. [L] [SEP]

- To render the charism more evident from the beginning of formation.
- To continue to awaken vocations and respect those in progress in order to avoid the anticipation of a crisis in Africa.

### 3- CORESPONSIBILITY In the light of Article 56 of our Constitutions and Norms:

#### 3.1 What meaning would you give to the co-responsibility in our commitments?

- To help out charitably in the different tasks of the community.
- To live with the confreres and the laity, to take on sacerdotal ministry...
- To be useful and give a helping hand whenever necessary
- To trust others, mutual help, fraternal and communal solidarity.
- Family spirit, team spirit, a spirit of peace, unity, collaboration, a sense of openness and acceptance of the other, allow others to help me.
- Communion, understanding, communication, cohesion, harmony and having the same objectives, being responsible for others by concrete actions and rendering an account of ones management, helping those with responsibilities.
- Co-responsibility as a service and rendered with joy and love for the glory of God and the fulfillment of the confreres.
- To be able to work with any confrere for the edification of our Society.
- To live according to the Gospel with our confreres and collaborators.
- Together we are shareholders in the mission of the Church. May each confrere be aware of his position, his role in the edification of a fraternal community.
- To work together for the development of the community.

#### 3.2 How do you live concretely this coresponsibility, with the confreres, with the laity and/or with other collaborators?

- Dialogue, communication and exchanges by highlighting one another's talents in the pastoral success. By being attentive to confreres, trusting one another, soliciting the collaboration of others according to their abilities, by truly engaging ourselves in our tasks.
- By being available in Christ's name as leaders according to the recommendations of Fr. Menard but always in all humility.
- By working together for the good of all.
- By favoring communal interest.
- By a frank and constructive dialogue with the laity.
- By dividing up the work with the confreres, collaboration with the laity.
- By having communal encounters.
- For the laity, an association in Yaoundé favors monthly encounters during which the latter are trained in their role within society.
- By respecting the differences and encouraging the sense of interior freedom, by awakening the common sense, by developing responsibility, availability, dedication, attentiveness, openness, flexibility, mutual respect, assistance, complementarity, mutual encouragement, by seeking a climate of peace and harmony among confreres, laity.
- Friendship and revision of life, becoming tame with one another, avoid prejudice, labeling, suspicions, rumor-mongering, slander, sabotage.
- By allowing each one to accomplish his task with responsibility and confidence.
- By showing the laity their responsibilities and by accompanying them in their accomplishment.
- By learning to delegate, not to believe we are indispensable, to consider ourselves as ordinary laborers, by accepting others as they are.

#### **4- VISIBILITY OF OUR CHARISM, VOCATION AND MISSION IN THE CHURCH AND IN TODAY'S WORLD**

In reference to Article 13 of our Constitutions and Norms:

#### 4.1 Is our community identity visible in our Province, Delegation and/or local community?

YES

- By the participation of our young people in diocesan vocational matinees (Yaoundé, Bafia), our MSA matinees, vocational camps, courses at the institute of philosophy, spiritual accompaniment of persons other than MSA. [L] [SEP]
- By wearing the community habit, cars of the community identified with our denomination, our logo. [L] [SEP]
- Our quarterly newsletter “LIEN”: Different reflections of the confreres, charism, spirituality, conditions for admission and the publicity of our community activities. [L] [SEP]
- Publicity fliers for the promotion of vocations. [L] [SEP]
- Houses of formation and new constructions (Postulate) [L] [SEP]
- Academic activities at Laval University concerning “the integration of initial formation [L] [SEP] of the MSA in Africa”. [L] [SEP]
- The increasing number of members. [L] [SEP]
- Our presence in poor parishes. [L] [SEP]
- The apostolate of underprivileged families, the association with families of the MSA and [L] [SEP] the laity [L] [SEP] NO [L] [SEP]
- In our Delegation of Africa, our community identity is not visible, for in our parishes there is no vocational group. [L] [SEP]

#### 4.2 How can we make our mission, communal charism more visible, more manifest in the present social and ecclesial context?

- By receiving a sound formation in secular and ecclesial areas in order to teach in Universities and other schools of formation. [L] [SEP]
- By creating a centre of accompaniment and spiritual retreat. By engaging more in formation. [L] [SEP]
- The necessity of communication in different areas of the media and of social networks. [L] [SEP]

- By spreading everywhere our prayer for vocations.
- By creating community works and by cultivating a sense of belonging.
- The formation of ordained and non ordained ministers and the implication of confreres in parishes according to the spirit of our Society.
- By implicating ourselves humanly and financially.
- By studying the different languages of the community in order to facilitate the integration of the English and Spanish speaking candidates in Africa.
- By valorizing regular encounters and exchanges on the occasion of celebrations of community events (ordinations, fiftieth anniversaries...)
- By multiplying apostolic commitments, by emphasizing the initial formation of the young MSA.
- By creating a web site.
- A campaign of evangelization. Let us be daring.
- By being more visible in parishes. By creating vocational groups hosted by young people in formation; by developing a pastoral for families.
- By building colleges, elementary schools, parishes according to the personnel that is available.
- Let us not be afraid of wearing our habit. Let us go to the most insignificant ones of the Gospel.
- By consolidating our fraternal communities with at least three members.
- By extending the community to other countries of Africa and other regions of Cameroon.

**5- INTERNATIONALIZATION** The Society according to its vocation of missionaries has recently opened local communities in Vietnam, Indonesia and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Inspired by Art.4 of our Constitutions and Norms:

### 5.1 What importance do you bring to the Internationalization of the Society?

- It is of capital importance. A good initiative to spread the Good News throughout the world and a great challenge. It allows the mission of the Society to be

more visible in today's world. [L] [SEP]

- We must live it on a daily basis; to help out, work and make this apostolate of the Society grow, to feel like an MSA wherever we are. [L] [SEP]

- Our presence in Vietnam and Indonesia has been a grace. We encourage an exchange of confreres between Provinces and Delegations. However, we must take into account the local needs in terms of personnel. [L] [SEP]

- Our Society sends us where we are needed most. [L] [SEP]

- It is a co-responsibility and interdependence in the life of our provinces, Delegation and local communities. [L] [SEP]

- It is a good way of living our motto: "United in the Lord Jesus". [L] [SEP]

- Provided that it be an apostolate of communal discernment. Otherwise, it does not [L] [SEP] engage everyone. [L] [SEP]

- It helps us live a certain detachment and our vocation as missionaries. [L] [SEP]

- Let us not strip Saint Peter to dress Saint Paul. Let us not overdo it! [L] [SEP]

- It helps us experience our differences, which is a gift. [L] [SEP]

## **5.2 Are you disposed and available personally to commit yourself to wherever there is a lack of MSA priests and brothers in today's world? How?**

### **YES**

- I am available and anxious! Totally free and ready to answer the needs of the Society, through my pastoral commitment and my insertion to live and confront the realities ahead. [L] [SEP]

- Fully available to commit myself, by cultivating obedience, the spirit of self-sacrifice and detachment (family, material things), loving intensely the Society by living the charism and spirituality of the Society. Ready to lay down one's life for others. [L] [SEP]

- I am available and willing to go wherever there is a need for priests. [L] [SEP]

- I remain available for the mission provided that our apostolates in Africa are

equipped with persons qualified and formed. This is why it is urgent to specialize and I am anxious to begin.

- Yes, in a spirit of self-sacrifice and disinterested service.
- As a temporary member, I am disposed and available for the mission by obeying my animator and out of love for our Society.
- By offering at the service of the community, of the Church and especially of God, whatever talents I may have.
- Yes! Not as I wish but as my Animators and the Holy Spirit may decide.

#### **NO or on condition**

- The authorities of the Society should publish the needs in Internationalization in order to help the confreres choose according to their convenience.
- Yes! And only if the groundwork is solid.
- There are needs everywhere. There are some in my milieu.
- It would be ideal, but to think that those who generally go are the strong links that are available. So, I am thinking about my mission in Cameroon. However, God may think differently.
- Let us also think of the dimension “ad intra”. We support through prayer our confreres who go on missions.

### **6- PROPOSITIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, SUGGESTIONS**

If you have other propositions, recommendations and suggestions for the General Assembly 2017, we would be happy to receive them.

- Priority to the formation of formators
- Promote and encourage the apprenticeship of communal languages.
- Encourage specializations immediately after the initial formation.
- The Animator General should consult the other relevant bodies of the community for important questions concerning the whole Society.
- Recycling the formators at a defined frequency every three years, for

example. [L] [SEP]

- Send qualified formators to our houses of formation (moral integrity, a sense of self-sacrifice, a love for the community). [L] [SEP]
- Elaborate an understanding concerning the pastoral of vocations [L] [SEP]
- Continue to initiate projects of auto-financing. [L] [SEP]
- Adopt rigorous policies at the level of financial management. [L] [SEP]
- Insert a course in spiritual accompaniment in the cursus of formation. [L] [SEP]
- Form each member until the obtainment of a Master as a basis. [L] [SEP]
- Give life to different structures of our Society for those experiencing difficulties (Province of Canada and the USA). [L] [SEP]
- Prepare students during their years of formation for the mission, once the initial formation has been completed. [L] [SEP]
- May the student candidates of the DRC follow the normal course of formation and may this mission be embedded in the Delegation of Africa. [L] [SEP]
- Build a high school within the Delegation of Africa. [L] [SEP]
- Organization of sessions of formation for MSA members wherever they may be in order to give shape to the formation of our Scholastics that are having problems because of relativism, individualism and egotism. [L] [SEP]
- Send qualified formators to the houses of formation in order to avoid forming future hypocrites. [L] [SEP]
- To set up a team of formation that would encounter each student. [L] [SEP]
- To adapt to present realities and place a particular accent on the mission.

[L] [SEP]-----[L] [SEP]

## NECROLOGY

### **Rev. Michael A. Nofi**

Rev. Michael A. Nofi MSA, of Amityville and Rockville Centre peacefully entered the loving arms of his Lord at his home on February 1, 2017.

Fr. Michael was born on May 7, 1942, the eldest son of John and Elizabeth (Melchore) Nofi. He was predeceased by his parents, Stepmother Margaret Nofi

and his sister Elizabeth. Loving brother of Vincent (Susan), John, Thomas (Mary Ellen), and Peter (Nancy), Patricia Pettigrew (Michael), Rita Orefice (James), Mary Poletti (Mario), Teresa Rupert (Albert) and Regina McGinley (George Arthur). Devoted stepbrother of Michael Fries (Sue), Mary Arundale (William), Valerie Gilmor and Patricia Torquato. Loving Uncle of numerous nieces and nephews.

A special thank you to his primary aide and Guardian Angel for the past 17 years, our unofficial adopted sister, Minnie Thomas and to the members of the of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church who had welcomed Fr. Michael into their lives.

After completing his studies at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell, CT, Fr. Michael was ordained to the Diaconate in 1973 and to the priesthood on February 8, 1974. He served in his role as a Missionary Priest for over twenty-five years in Peru, Brazil and Venezuela as well as parishes in West Virginia, Connecticut and Washington D.C.

Although disabled for many years, the last eighteen years he resided in Amityville where he was frequently found saying Mass in the surrounding communities, cooking for people in his apartment complex and tending to the requests of anyone who needed him.

#### **2017 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES OF THE MSA USA PROVINCE**

JAN	06	BIRTHDAY OF FR. MENARD (1916)
	16	ACADEMIC SEMESTER begins
	24	AGGREGATION OF THE MSA TO THE FRANCISCAN FAMILY (2011)
	25	CONVERSION OF PAUL, APOSTLE
FEB	22	CHAIR OF ST. PETER, APOSTLE
MAR	07	MR. HECTOR DURAND (MSA CO-FOUNDER +1972)
		FUND-RAISING BEGINS
	26	FR. MENARD DAY (+1987) IS OBSERVED
	31	PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
APR	09	HOLY WEEK begins
	13	DAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER meal (and Mass)
	23	MSA USA VOCATION DAY
	23	MSA FUND RAISING ends
	25	ST. MARK, EVANGELIST
	28	PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MAY	03	SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES
	06	HACS ACADEMIC YEAR ends
		*from May – July vacations can be planned in accordance with the competent animator
	14	ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE
	26	PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE	07	SPECIALIZED FORMATION begins
	10	COMMISSION FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL ANIMATOR BEGINS THEIR WORK.

- 14 SPECIALIZED FORMATION ends
- 29 SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE MSA AS A SOCIETY OF PONTIFICAL RIGHT  
FUND-RAISING FOR THE NEEDS OF THE PROVINCE BEGINS.
- 30 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

- JULY 03 ST. THOMAS, APOSTLE
- 25 ST. JAMES, APOSTLE
- 21 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

- AUG 01 GENERAL ASSEMBLY begins
- 15 ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIFICATION OF MSA (1995)  
FUNDRAISING FOR MSA USA PROVINCE ends
- 24 ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE
- 25 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
- 29 ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS

- SEP 10 COMMISSION FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL  
ANIMATOR ends
- 21 ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
- 29 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

- OCT 04 ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
  
MSA USA SOLIDARITY WITH THE POOR DAY
- 18 ST. LUKE, EVANGELIST
- 27 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
- 28 SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

- NOV 05 ALL SOULS MSA USA
- 24 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING
- 30 ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE

- DEC 08 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (PATRONNESS AND  
QUEEN OF THE FRANCISCAN FAMILY).
- 10-12 MSA USA SPIRITUAL RETREAT
- 13-16 PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY 2017
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 27 ST. JOHN, APOSTLE and EVANGELIST