



# PASTULAN

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAINCY

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**I** didn't realize that "being a priest" has its disadvantages with respect to spiritual activities and gatherings in the Church – until the Pope Benedict XVI's recent visit to Vienna!

I did not see the Pope when he prayed with the foreign communities (with a big Filipino delegation, of course) at Kirche Am Hof. I mean, I saw him from afar, but not up close and certainly not personally. And, I guess it was not only me, but also all the other priests who were at the Hochaltar. Like me, they might also have wished to have been seated with the rest of the people in the pews, for the latter were blessed with a clearer and closer view of the short Pope.

Of course, it did not really matter to me. And I suppose I would not have been moved had I had a closer vantage point. But, what really caught my attention was seeing some people in that same church exuding their great faith.

I saw a woman who, unaware that she was being televised, was so engrossed in prayer with her eyes closed and a rosary in her hand. I was kneeling and crying while praying in that church. I was touched by the sight of a woman carrying a baby and moved to tears while praying. I was moved by the sight of a woman dressed in his Sunday best, concentrating all his attention on the Holy Father as the latter prayed.

***“Auf Christus schauen ...  
Look to Christ ”***

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The motto of the Pope's visit to Austria was *Auf Christus schauen... Look to Christ*.

I guess these people might have truly looked to Christ – they might have really encountered the visit of Jesus in their lives with the visit and the person of the Pope. And I wish it could have also happened to all of us who were there in the church and throughout the celebrations during the Pope's visit.

Some of us were so blessed to have seen the Pope at close range, some of us might have shaken his hand, some of us were there on several occasions waiting for just a glimpse of him. But to all of us, this question remains, have we really encountered the Lord? Schauen wir auf Christus?

Finding the Lord and keeping our sight on Him are not done in one sitting: it is a lifetime process, a daily struggle and striving amidst the temptations of the world that move our focus away from the Lord. Our wish is that this Pope's visit could become an inspiration to each of us to continue in this struggle and to encounter the Lord in everything that we do. Or, if we haven't found the Lord yet, may we start seeking Him.

Auf Christus schauen – may we invite you to continue looking to Jesus, continue seeking Jesus.

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## *KIM Woche in Stams, Tirol*

KIM is the acronym for “Kreis jünger Missionäre” and is a youth movement for a calling to the church. It was founded in 1962 by Fr. Hubert Leeb in Grieskirchen in Upper Austria, and has since spread to many parts of Austria. In our parish, KIM is supported by Frau Brigitte Grinner, a retired religion teacher and member of the Austrian Pastoral Council, at the annual summer camp organized by the Don Bosco Sisters for 11-18 year-old girls. This year, the summer camp was held at the Don Bosco House in Stams, Tirol and was led by Fr. Gerhard Förtsch (former parish priest at Maria vom Berge Karmel), Sister Maria Schöffl (Don Bosco – Vöcklabruck), Sister Elisabeth Siegl (Don Bosco – Salzburg) and Frau Grinner. MT Brittinger attended the week as observer. There were 20 participants from parishes in northern Bavaria (Germany), western Austria and Vienna and the working language was German. Some of the young ladies had already attended KIM Woche in previous years.



The workshops and activities of this year’s KIM Woche were built around the theme of *Begegnungen* (encounters), and the bases for discussion were Bible passages recounting the encounters of various Biblical personalities with God. For all the discussion sessions, participants and Betreuer/innen sat around in a circle and started by praying. Fr. Grinner’s training as a religion teacher was underscored by the decoration of the centre of the circle in ways appropriate to the topic of the moment. She used, for example, the Bible, a Rose of Jericho, a sprig of dried cloves, candles, snail-shells, coloured pebbles, modelling clay, crocheted sunflowers and other items to symbolize various concepts and ideas. After reading the selected passage in the Bible, only a short time was allotted for discussion before the participants were assigned a creative task

(drawing, handicraft) to express their thoughts and feelings on the topic. These were then collected and displayed in the room for all to see. As the room slowly filled with the results of the handicraft work, and as each participant’s folder began to grow with all the materials that had been dealt with, one could almost ‘see’ the concept of *Begegnung* as it unfolded during the week.

The weather was not very cooperative, so we decided to be flexible and adjusted the programme to allow outdoor activities on the few occasions when it wasn’t raining. On the asphalted area in front of the house, the girls played various team

games with a sponge ball, and used the sports and game equipment in the garage: pedalos, in-line skates, badminton, scooters and land-skis (see photo, trickier than meets the eye). One afternoon, the weather held up long enough for a walk to the hanging bridge and the waterfalls close by. Water in all its forms has an attraction for all

young people, and it didn’t take very long for most of the girls to get wet in the stream, even if the water was verrrry cold! And, of course, we decided to collect pretty stones and carry them back to the house with us.

Indoors, there were many activities to keep us busy: glass etching, cathedral-window-painting, plaster of paris mask-casting, decorating candle holders with coloured glass tiles, making animal forms with glass beads and copper wire, painting stones, billiards, bingo, etc. Father Gerhard had strung up a communications system with a switchboard and 6 telephones strewn around the auditorium. Calling each other up was a favourite pastime, and those ‘phones were constantly busy. Sister Elisabeth was great with the guitar and organized singing sessions. And there was no end of parlour games to play. The top indoor activity was a quiz in which teams vied with each other to answer questions based on passages in the Bible.

*(Continued on page 8)*

# The Rosary



The rosary takes its name from a popular title for Mary: “Mystical Rose.” As a form of private prayer, it originally consisted of 150 Our Fathers prayed daily in substitution for the 150 psalms by those who could not read. It was also a common penance given after confession that had to use beads to count the prayers. By the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, Hail Marys were substituted for the Our Fathers, divided into three groups of 10 (called decades). Three sets of themes, or mysteries, concerning Jesus and Mary (Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious) established the themes for the praying of the rosary. (Pope John Paul II in his Apostolic Letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, in October 2002 also added another set of themes called the Mysteries of the Light or Luminous Mysteries). Some of these were borrowed from ancient prayer services associated with the hours of the day. St. Dominic (died 1221) popularized the rosary through his preaching.

## The Month of October

The month of October is dedicated to Mary under the theme of the rosary because of the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. In the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, there was an extensive promotion of devotion to the Rosary. On October 7, 1571, Christians won an important naval battle against the Moslem Turks at Lepanto Strait (near western Greece). The credit for the victory was thought to be the rosary. Pius V ordered that the annual anniversary of this victory be celebrated with a Marian feast of Our Lady of Victory. In 1573, Gregory XIII permitted churches with a rosary altar to celebrate a feast of the Holy Rosary. After another victory against the Moslem Turks in 1716, Clement XI extended the feast to the universal church. (Reference: Greg Dues, *Catholic Customs and Traditions*, a popular guide)

**May we all realize and experience the value and the power of the Holy Rosary. PLEASE PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY.**



### The Joyful Mysteries

*(Said on Mondays, Saturdays, Sundays of Advent, and Sundays from Epiphany until Lent)*

1. The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary
2. The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth
3. The Birth of Jesus
4. The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
5. Finding Jesus in the Temple



### The Luminous Mysteries

*(Said on Thursdays throughout the year)*

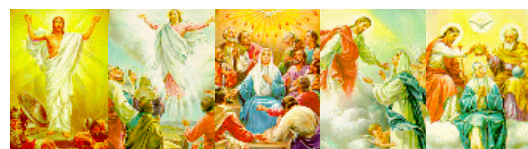
1. The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan
2. The Wedding at Cana, Christ Manifested
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration of Jesus
5. The Last Supper, the Holy Eucharist



### The Sorrowful Mysteries

*(Said on Tuesdays, Fridays, and daily from Ash Wednesday until Easter Sunday)*

1. Agony of Jesus in the Garden
2. Jesus is Scourged at the Pillar
3. Jesus is Crowned With Thorns
4. Jesus Carries His Cross
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus



### The Glorious Mysteries

*(Said on Wednesdays, and Sundays throughout the year)*

1. The Resurrection of Jesus
2. The Ascension of Jesus
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
4. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
5. The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

## *On Education*

As the new school year begins, memories of my school days come rushing back. I pass by my old school everyday on the way to work. It's been 8 years since I graduated from high school, 5 years since I finished my undergraduate degree and 2 years since my name was called on graduation day for my master's degree. Do I miss studying and being a student? Yes I do.

A couple of nights ago, I was chatting with an old classmate of mine about our high school years and how things were so easy back then. You had nothing to worry about and you saw your friends everyday. Ok, there was all the studying to do but that was part of it. We did our studying, but looking back, I think high school was one of the best times of my life, if not the best until now. The main worry was getting good grades or well-enough grades to pass. Now, although I still live with my parents, I have to worry about bills, making sure my salary covers all my expenses as well as putting something aside, maintaining my friendships around a busy work schedule and much more.

What we realized from our conversation is that what we lacked back then was more guidance. Only now do we realize how important a high school diploma is. It's your first ticket into the real world. You get good grades and a diploma and doors are opened for you. It's with a good baccalaureate or *Matura* that you can choose what to do next. You are your own king. Once you're into higher education, it's a ride in the park. It's up to you to get the degree in the subject you want to. But to get to university or to a college, you need your solid foundation.

Education is the most precious gift a child can receive from his parents. Especially growing up in a place like Vienna where there is free education offered to all, we should appreciate this. As the saying goes, "Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day, teach him how to fish and he will eat for life." The same goes for education. Our parents will only be at our side until a certain time, and then it's up to you to stand on your own two feet and get on in the real world. Having an education and a degree in your pocket makes this a lot easier.

So to everyone still in school or at university, enjoy it and make the most of out of it. It's your ticket to the rest of the world. To all parents, encourage your children to study. They won't realize it when you're nagging them to do their homework but hopefully one day they will look back like me and thank you for it as I thank my parents for sending me and my sister to a good school and for standing by during our university years. It's the best thing you've given us. **(Marizel Aguirre)**

## MAKA-PINOY



### *Buhay Kristiyano*

*(Adelo A. Agbon)*

Mula pagkabata'y di ko nalimutan  
Ang aral na turo ng aking magulang,  
Na ang isang tao'y nararapat lamang  
Magmahal sa Diyos, at mayroong dangal.

Kahit mahirap ka at nagdaralita  
Huwag kalilimutan na mayroong Lumikha.  
Siya'y mahabagin, laging nakahanda  
Upang damayan ka at bigyan ng awa.

Itong ating Diyos ay lubhang mabait,  
Ang sabi ng iba ay sadyang makulit.  
Kung nagkasala ka ng ilan mang ulit,  
Ang Kanyang patawad di ipagkakait.

Ngunit mayron Siyang isang tagubilin  
Nararapat lamang bigyan nating pansin,  
Siya ay seloso at panibughuin  
Na tanging Siya lang ating sasambahin.

Ang pagka Kristiyano'y huwag tatalikuran,  
Pagkat kapag tayo dito ay nawala'y  
Wala na rin tayong masasabing dangal,  
Nagpapadakila sa isang nilalang.

# CULTURE SHOCK

## *Kirtag in Austria... Fiestas in the Philippines...*

Fiesta! It is party time, street parades, and merriment. Be it in the big towns or the smallest barrios, it is always a reason for Filipinos to rejoice. It is a celebration of faith honoring the town's patron saint. Marching brass bands rouse the people when the town streets are still dark, announcing the beginning of the festivities where the best dishes are served to celebrate. Church bells ring to summon churchgoers to the first round of masses and set up activities in the quaintly decorated town plaza. Festive bamboo arches adorn the streets, sidewalks lined with stalls offering all kinds of trinkets, toys, and native delicacies.

Such however is not only unique to Filipinos.

The other day, while I was showing around a visiting couple from the States I saw posters announcing a local Kirtag in Neustift am Walde. Asked what Kirtag means, my Austrian friend says: "Kirtag celebrates the patron saint of a parish; it is an annual fair held on the anniversary of the consecration of a church. Everybody comes in their festive local costumes, for feasting and fun outdoors near the church, with stalls for goulash, sausages, Wiener Schnitzel, open-faced sandwiches and cakes and refreshments, accompanied by the local music troupe, and even dancing on an improvised dance-floor. Every church has its own festival."

"My father always collects donations from local businesses for the *Jakobi-Kirtag* for the Church of St. Jacob near the place where my parents live. He hangs up posters and gets someone to grill meat and sausages after church. The women usually bake cakes. There is a minimal fee for consumed food and the proceeds go to a good cause. It is like a fundraiser. In former times it was a welcome break from the hard labour in the fields."



"It is definitely not a 'Thanksgiving for harvest' festival, rather a plea to the patron saint for protection and help!" Local Kirtags tend to honor St. Leopold, who is patron saint to Vienna, Lower Austria, and Upper Austria. Every November 15, Klosterneuburg celebrates his feast day with one of the biggest and most renowned Leopoldis in the Region, including the Leopoldifest and Leopoldmarkt turning the Rathausplatz into a small version of the Vienna Prater.

Our beloved Philippines is also a land rich with fiestas. Below are some of the major ones:

***The Ati-Atihan of Kalibo, Aklan.*** Floods of soot-blackened, gaily-costumed devotees to the Sto. Niño, the Holy Christ Child, troop to the streets amidst the rhythmic drumming and hail "Viva, Sto. Niño!" and "hala bira!" - the ati-atihan cry. Originally it was celebrated by the Negritos (Ati) to commemorate their new friendship with the Bornean datu. However, four or five centuries later, the Panay Filipinos borrowed the festival to celebrate the Santo Niño's intervention on their behalf against the marauding pirates of Mindanao. The Ati-Atihan celebration is echoed in many parts of the country.

***Sinulog, Cebu City's mother of fiestas.*** Characterized by its two-steps-forward-and-one-step-backward swing, thus simulating the Holy Child Christ of the shores, the Sinulog is a century-old tradition observed in the part of Visayas region. The prayer-dance is synchronized to the beat of drums and shouts of "Pit Señor! Viva Sto. Niño!"

***Flores de Mayo / Santacruzan.*** Done in the month of May, it is a novena procession which celebrates the finding of the Holy Cross of Christ by St. Helena (Reyna Elena), the mother of Emperor Constantine. Unlike other processions, the santacruzan does not involve a parade of statues of saints. Instead, a parade of the town's loveliest ladies or chosen townspeople wear costumes to represent different characters from the Bible and the search for the Holy Cross as they walk around the town with the townsfolk carrying candles and flowers.

***Fertility rites at Obando, Bulacan.*** It is a devotional street-dance to the town's patron saints: Sta. Clara, San Pascual de Baylon, and the Virgen de Salambao. It is both a supplication of childless women for the blessing of child and a thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest.

(Continued on page 8)

# **INSIDERS**

## ***FOLLOWERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD***

### ***Family Day***

The annual Family Day of the Followers of the Good Shepherd was held at the garden of the Maria von Berge Karmel Parish church on June 30, 007. The event started with the usual Thanksgiving Mass and was followed by lunch. Thanks to Ms Agnes Palafox, Mrs Evelyn Garcia and little Alexander Schüller, who joined their birthday celebrations to the affair and provided the overflowing array of food. The day ended after a fun-filled afternoon of parlor games and karaoke singing. (MP)

### ***Jovanni de Pedro - the FGS fare thee well!***

The Followers hosted a lunch for Mr. Jovanni de Pedro last August 5, 2007 at the Maria von Berge Karmel Parish garden. Jovanni is a Filipino-American, from L.A. California, who came to Vienna for his education in the field of music. He directed the FGS choir for the past 5 years. Finishing his studies in Vienna, he is moving to London for his masteral degree.

Organizing the event that was attended by his parents, his friends, his LA choir and FGS members, it was a way for the FGS to thank him for all the time and efforts he gave to the choir. (MP)



### ***FGS' TGIF Karaoke Evening***

"Sing your heart out and enjoy the evening while helping raise funds for the carpet of Maria von Berge Karmel Parish Church" was the motto of the fundraising event of the FGS last August 10, 2007 held at the Parish Hall. Although, the expected number was not met, the said event was still a

success. Those present at the event enjoyed a munch of frankfurter and "semmel" with "Ketchup oder Senf" and an unlimited number of songs to sing for just 5 euro. The event lasted until midnight with everyone going home with a big smile on their faces despite sleepy eyes. To all those who supported the event, our thanks to all of you and we do hope to see you again in our future fundraising events. (MP)

## ***EL SHADDAI***

### ***Ika-15 taong anibersaryo... dinayo!***

Noong nakaraang ika-4 ng Agosto ay ipinagdiwang ng kapatirang EL Shaddai DWXI-PPFI ang kanilang ika-15 anibersaryo na may temang „sya ang kahanga-hangang tagapayo, ang makapangyarihang Diyos, walang hanggang Ama, ang Prinsipe ng kapayapaan.“ Dinaluhan ang nasabing pagtitipon ng mga bisitang nagmula sa iba't-ibang religious groups dito sa Vienna. Lulan naman ng isang bus ang mga bisita na nagmula sa bansang Italya. Ang banal na Misa ay pinangunahan ni Msgr. Ruperto Santos na nagmula sa Italya na sinamahan naman ng tatlong paring nag-aaral sa Roma at ng tatlong pari ng ating Chaplaincy. (Tom)



### ***Family day humabol sa summer!***

Maghaponng ipinagdiwang ng samahang El-Shaddai ang kanilang taunang Family Day. Mula pagkuha ng tubig sa Donau hanggang sa palarong pahabaan ay sinalihan ito ng mga miyembro ng grupo. Ito ay isang pahabol sa summer na isinagawa noong ika-18 ng Agosto, isang araw na inilaan para maglaro, magbilad sa araw, kumain at higit sa lahat ang magkatuwaan. (Tom)

# PILGRIM'S PATH

## *Gone in a flash*

It was the most exciting of all pilgrimages that our Parish was ever involved in!

But, instead of Fr Joey having to make the myriad arrangements for a trip that started and ended at Stefan Fadinger Platz, he "only" had to coordinate the participation of parish members for two of the stations in the pilgrimage 7-9 September 2007 of Pope Benedict XVI to Mariazell. The state-level preparations for the papal visit started already in December 2006 and many parishes were also involved in the planning process. For us, work started on the simple matter of preparing two participants lists in May 2007 and continued well into August due to stringent security considerations! To accommodate participation from so many parishes, each one was allotted only a limited number of places. For the short service at the "*9 Chore der Engel*" church at *Am Hof* on Friday, 7 September Fr Joey submitted the names of those who actively contribute to church services and activities; and for the mass at *Stephansdom* on Sunday, 9 September participation was planned for our sacristans and a few chaperones.

Every day of the pope's visit was blessed with rain, rain, and more rain but it didn't stop the faithful from attending services, even if it meant standing outdoors for hours on end.

Arriving at *Am Hof* on Friday morning (two hours before the Pope even landed at *Schwechat*), we experienced the first in a weekend full of greeters dressed in yellow-and-handed out disposable raincoats, booklets before waving us security checkpoint. In the formal attire helped us find seats patiently raised and lowered other sections to visit with friends and acquaintances from other parishes (many dressed in colourful national costumes) while waiting for the Pope to arrive. The church, which must have been given a fresh coat of paint for the occasion, was decorated with arrangements and lit with floodlights to the delight of photography buffs for television purposes, but also who would otherwise never have the opportunity to get great lighting for perfect indoor shots. Television monitors had been set up at strategic points to give everybody a chance to view the proceedings, regardless of where they sat.



The atmosphere of friendly, quiet chatter was broken by jubilant applause when the monitors showed the Pope disembarking from his 'plane in *Schwechat*, and from that moment it seemed very difficult to sit and wait until the Holy Father arrived at *Am Hof* in the Pope-mobile. Whilst he was being greeted with tumultuous cheering on the square, those inside the church simultaneously rose as one to face the entrance door and prepared cameras to capture the moment of his entry. Those few seconds seemed an eternity ... and the sense of expectancy increased ten-fold as an advance party entered the church in a rush, only to disappear a split-second later into the staircase that leads to the choirloft. And then it was the Holy Father's turn, and in a flash he, too, disappeared into that staircase!

Well, there was nothing for it then but to sit back and turn our attention to the television monitors and watch as Cardinal Schönborn and members of the Diocese welcomed the pope on the balcony overlooking *Am Hof*. This came to a close soon enough, and we rose again to face the staircase, straining to catch a glimpse of the Holy Father as he emerged and, surrounded by clergymen & security officials, slowly made his way up the aisle towards the altar. As he moved, the congregation somehow broke formation and there was a sudden surge in the side aisles towards the transept where there ensued careful jostling for a good position from which to take souvenir photographs. Flashbulbs were popping one after the other as the Holy Father knelt in meditation on the *prie Dieu*, adored the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the 17 kg glass monstrance and acknowledged the offerings that were brought to the altar by representatives from the Indian, African and Filipino communities. The few motions of the worship service called to mind the long history of ceremony in the church represented at this place and time by its very head, and these were solemn moments when time itself seemed to stand still.

*(Continued on page 14)*

## CULTURE SHOCK

### *Kirtag in Austria... Fiestas in the Philippines*

*(Continued from page 5)*

**Pahiyas.** The "precious offering" in May when the town of Lucban in Quezon Province becomes a blaze of color; fuchsia, scarlet, emerald, lemon yellow, as each house is covered with hundreds of leaf-like rice wafer ornaments, known as kiping, arranged in fans and flowers and hung like chandeliers, framing the windows of houses lining the streets to pay tribute to San Isidro Labrador, patron saint of farmers.

**Pulilan, Bulacan.** While in most of the fiestas the processions involve humans, in Pulilan, Bulacan, the carabao, the national beast of burden, is the principal participant. It is the farmer's fiesta for San Isidro, the patron saint of husbandry, and on this special day the carabao is king. The animals are groomed and decorated with flowers, paraded in the streets and taught to kneel in front of the church.



Here the leaf-shaped rice wafers fashioned into "chandeliers" cascading down the surrounding eaves add a happy color to the Pahiyas, one of the merriest festivals in the Philippines.

**Peñafrancia.** The feast of the Blessed Virgin fondly addressed as Ina (Mother) celebrated on the third Sunday of September when all Bicol roads lead to Naga in September. The most popular and spectacular Marian devotion in the country and considered the feast of feasts, the Peñafrancia fiesta draws millions of Bikolano devotees who participate in its two main religious activities, the traslacion and the fluvial procession. A mass of sweating, heaving bodies of young and old men, the voyadores carry a barge called andas (pagoda) of Ina on bare shoulders. The image of Ina parades till sundown before her devotees line the riverbanks as it makes its way down the river, surrounded by a sea of glowing candles.

The festivities combine religion with culture and tradition, packing it all in a 9-day fiesta of biblical proportions. In Vienna, Peñafrancia devotees worship with the traditional nine-day novena, and just celebrated the 5th Peñafrancia Fluvial Celebration this year on the MS Admiral Tegetthoff going from Vienna to Hainburg. (*Amie Starnegg, Sources: Philippine Almanac, Halupi, Essays of Philippine Culture, Ina and the Bikol People, A Journey of Faith*)

### *KIM Woche in Stams, Tirol*

*(Continued from page 2)*

This required practice in finding passages, and was not only a useful thing to learn but was also a lot of fun.

At *Bunter Abend* the girls sang songs, presented highly entertaining skits, did a version of a television adventure game and voiced their appreciation to the organizers for an enjoyable week. They had somehow during the week prepared little gifts for everybody and these were presented on this occasion. On the following morning, all the girls helped to tidy up their rooms before leaving the Don Bosco house and travelling home (mostly by train) with promises to stay in touch and return next summer. For all of them, it was a week of fun and friendship spent under the guidance of spiritual leaders.

Find out more about the KIM movement – and KIM Woche 2008 - at <http://www.kim-bewegung.at>  
(*Serva Libera*)

# SUMMER YOUTH CAMP '07

## *It's so nice to meet new friends*

The Chaplaincy announced the 2007 Youth Summer Camp way back in May and the organizers could not be sure how well it would be accepted. Registrations came in very slowly, there were many reports of youths reluctant to join because they knew nobody and it seemed that Fr. Jojo harangued the community at every Sunday mass to donate funds or goods to help make it a success. There were several meetings to prepare the programme and discuss the thousand-and-one organizational details, even a day-trip to the venue to see at first-hand the facilities of the *Jugendhaus* and Ponder possible 'new' activities. And work schedules were such that it wasn't clear from the very beginning who would be available to accompany the youths and help manage the camp. But, things slowly fell into place, Monday July 2 came and there were **FIFTY-TWO** youths eager to put their luggage and the food supplies aboard the bus that would take them to *Jugendhaus Schacherhof* in Seitenstetten for the rest of the week.

Some of the youths had attended previous Camps at Seitenstetten and thus knew their way around. They were a great helping the huge group to settle down, and making sure that everyone

had mattresses and pillows. Tito Julio, Tito Fred and Tante Flor quickly set up kitchen operations and managed to get Monday lunch on the table in no time at all and then – we were off into the programme so carefully prepared by Fr Jojo. Four groups were formed who took turns at dining room and kitchen duties, setting up the meeting room, and housekeeping chores. Almar, Fatima, Ralph and Iggy acted as group leaders, making sure that their members actively participated in the assigned tasks and Ryan floated around from group to group, lending a hand wherever he could. Needless to say, the less experienced needed a little time to get used to doing chores – the most notorious receiving a *Kalabasa* Award at the farewell program – but on the whole, it would have made all mothers and fathers proud to see how well their offspring contributed to the task of keeping the whole *Jugendhaus* clean and in order.

To get us on track for the whole week, we watched the hugely successful Steven Spielberg film "Land before Time" to be reminded that we can achieve great goals

very effectively as a group by working together. This was a common theme in our workshops throughout the week. And we enforced the idea by learning Diana Ross' "If we hold on together".

Our very own dear Gerard, freshly arrived from New York, led the "getting to know you" session on Monday evening. It should have been done around the bonfire at the far end of the garden, with toasted wieners and marshmallows, but the heavens decided to bless us instead with rain so we headed indoors. Which is probably a good thing, because it's easier to manage 52 bodies, and match 52 names to faces within the confines of a brightly lit room (also acoustics-wise) than outdoors in the dark. That being said, it was a challenge even to sit in a circle:

all we could achieve as a seating arrangement was an amoebic form that kept moving every which way. But, we succeeded and inhibitions about making new friends soon dropped.

Get 52 youths to take a shower and brush their teeth before going to bed, knowing that there are only four shower stalls, 4 wash sinks and 4 toilets for everybody. Get them to

quiet down for the night because they need to be rested for a full-packed following day, and knowing that they had no time during the whole day to listen to their beloved MP3 players, play with their various electronic gadgets or even 'phone home. And, of course, they were quickly into the business of becoming close friends with each other and just had to share the stories of their lives and compare notes in such a short time. Get the picture? Our 10 p.m. bedtime always stretched under watchful supervision to 11 p.m. and later, and even early into the morning there would be "quiet, secret conversations" held under the blankets – no matter that others had managed to fall asleep from sheer exhaustion. Poor Fr Jojo even took it upon himself to sleep in the hallway to discourage certain personalities from wandering around at night. And there was no way that the youths would sleep long into the next day, nay, they were so excited about being with their new friends and looked forward to share new experiences that they were always up just at the crack of dawn. Ready for action!

*(Continued on page 12)*



# SCHEDULE OF PARISH ACTIVITIES

| Day/date                    | Time                      | Place   | What   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| <b><u>October 2007</u></b>  |                           |   |  |
| 7                           | 10:00 a.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church,<br>Stefan Fadinger Platz 1 | Patrozinium  |
| 20-21                       | 10:00 a.m.-<br>17:00 p.m. | Parish Hall, Maria vom Berge<br>Karmel Parish             | Flohmarkt  |
| 21                          | 10:00 a.m.                | Stephansdom   | Mission Sunday Celebration with<br>ARGE AAG (African, Asian and<br>Latin American Communities) |
| 25-28                       |                           |   | Pilgrimage to Poland   |
| <b><u>November 2007</u></b> |                           |   |  |
| 1                           | 11:00 a.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | All Saints' Day Mass   |
| 24                          | 8:00 a.m.-<br>17:00 p.m.  | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | Chaplaincy's Advent Recollection   |
| <b><u>December 2007</u></b> |                           |   |  |
| 1-2                         | 10:00 a.m.-<br>17:00 p.m. | Parish Hall, Maria vom Berge<br>Karmel Parish             | Adventmarkt  |
| 7                           | 19:00 p.m.                | <b><i>to be announced later...</i></b>                    | Adventfeier with African, Asian,<br>Latin American Communities                                 |
| 8                           | 11:00 a.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | Immaculate Conception Feastday<br>Mass   |
| 15-23                       | 19:00 p.m.                | UN Church & Maria vom<br>Berge Karmel Church              | Simbang Gabi   |
| 24                          | 20:00 p.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | Christmas Midnight Mass  |
|                             | 21:00 p.m.                | UN Church   | Christmas Midnight Mass  |
| 25                          | 11:00 a.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | Christmas Day Mass   |
| 31                          | 20:00 p.m.                | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | New Year Midnight Mass   |
|                             | 21:00Uhr                  | UN Church   | New Year Midnight Mass   |
| <b><u>January 2008</u></b>  |                           |   |  |
| 1                           | 11:00                     | Maria vom Berge Karmel Church                             | New Year Mass  |

## FCC Parish Council Installed to Service

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2007, new members for the Parish Council of the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy were installed to service by Fr. Joey Demoy to serve the community for a 5-year term. The 12-member council took oath before the parishioners during the 11 o'clock regular Sunday Mass at Maria vom Berge Karmel Parish, Stefan Fadinger Platz 1, 1100 Vienna.



To note, it is the first time that the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy in Vienna had an election for the council members. Seven out of 14 candidates were included in the current council and 5 others were appointed. This election set-up is patterned after the statutes of the Archdiocese of Vienna. In the past, members were only identified by the Chaplain and were asked of their willingness to serve the community. The past set of members served for more than three years.

The newly installed members will be assigned to different areas of services namely finance, social outreach, youth activities, liturgy, among others. Additionally, they will assist the Chaplaincy in its activities and the programme for the community. First of the many activities they will have is the fund-raising for the church carpet in a form of *Tombola* and the celebration of the Feast San Lorenzo Ruiz on 30 September 2007.  
(Bong Segura)

## FRISCHE GEDANKEN

Das diesjährige Youth Camp fand zur Freude aller in unserem geliebten Seitenstetten statt. Mit diesem Ort verbinden viele Jugendliche wunderschöne Momente, unvergessliche und prägende Erfahrungen und so manch andere bilden hier Freundschaften fürs Leben.

In diesem Jahr hatte sich Father Jojo ein etwas anderes Programm als sonst ausgedacht. Zur Freizeitbeschäftigung standen diverse Workshops zur Verfügung, darunter Malerei, Tanzen, Taichi und Theaterdarstellung.

Am Tag der Ankunft wurden die Jugendliche in 4 Gruppen aufgeteilt, die unter dem Kommando und Verantwortung von Fatima, Miguel, Almar und Ralph standen.

Durch das vielfältige Programmangebot was für jeden etwas dabei. So manch andere verborgene Talente, die in einem schlummerten, kamen zum Vorschein. Musik stand neben Gebet im Mittelpunkt der Veranstaltung. Es war nicht nur als *praising* gedacht oder als Symbol des Glaubens. Gleichzeitig war es auch ein Ausdrucksmittel von Emotionen.

Das Hauptthema in diesem Camp war Vertrauen und zwar nicht nur das zu anderen Menschen, sondern auch zu sich selbst. Abermals wurde man daran erinnert wie einzigartig und wichtig jeder einzelne Mensch ist und das nicht nur vor den Augen Gottes.

Einer der Höhepunkte dieser 5 Tage war eindeutig der letzte Abend. Keiner von den Beteiligten wird jemals die *Kalabasa Awards* vergessen. Wer hat schon die einmalige Chance an einem Abend Britney Spears, Beyoncé und Heide Klum als Gastgeberin zu genießen? (Ein Hoch auf Kuya Gerard!) Vor lauter Begeisterung hat es uns vor lachen Tränen in die Augen getrieben. Ein wahrlich köstliches Erlebnis!

Mit Abschied ist immer etwas Herzschmerz verbunden und so war es auch an dem Tag an dem wir wieder nach Wien mussten. Unsere Abfahrt bedeutete nicht nur „das Loslassen“ von diesem Ort, sondern auch das Zurückkehren in unser alltägliches Leben, zu unserer Familie und zu unseren anderen Freunden.

Ich selbst hatte auf Grund von der Arbeit nicht die Möglichkeit von Anfang an dabei zu sein, was mich zuerst etwas traurig gestimmt hat. Jeder Moment dort und auch allgemein ist ein Geschenk den man auskosten soll. Trotz einiger Schwierigkeiten konnte ich ein Teil von dieser Veranstaltung sein, wofür ich sehr dankbar bin. Sogar mehr als das. (Mel Santiago)

# SCHEDULE OF SERVICES



## MASSSES

### *Anticipated Mass*

Saturday, 19:00h

Stephansdom

### *Sunday Masses*

11:00h

17:00h

Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel \*

Christus, Hoffnung der Welt (Donaucity Kirche) \*\*

### *Wednesday Masses and Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help*

12:30h

18:30h

Christus, Hoffnung der Welt (Donaucity Kirche)

Pfarre Mariahilf \*\*\*

### *Other Masses:*

*First Friday & Novena to the Divine Mercy*

18:30h

Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel

*Last Friday & Novena to Our Lady of Peñafrancia*

18:30h

Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel

## CONFESSION

Every Sunday, 10:30-11:15

Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel

## BIBLE STUDY

Every Friday, 7:30-8:30

Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel

\**Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel*, Stefan Fadinger Platz 1, 1100 Vienna

\*\**Christus, Hoffnung der Welt* (Donaucity Kirche), Donaucitystrasse 2, 1220 Vienna

\*\*\**Pfarre Mariahilf*, Barnabittengasse 14, 1060 Vienna

# SUMMER YOUTH CAMP '07

## *It's so nice to meet new friends*

*(Continued from page 9)*

Breakfast was always fun because that's when the Encouragement Box was emptied of its slips of paper and their contents read for all and sundry to appreciate. It was great to hear the nice things that the youths had to say about each other, and there was also a lot of teasing because, for example, one particular male youth seemed to be appreciated by a number of his peers for his good looks. As the week wore on, and shyness wore off, we found more and more messages in the Encouragement Box and the feel-good atmosphere at breakfast went up by the notch with each passing day.

*(Continued on page 13)*



## *It's so nice to meet new friends*

*(Continued from page 12)*

Fr Jojo had very encouraging lectures about our worth as individuals and our place in the family and society, and he helped us learn that religion is not only heard about in church but is something that can be applied in our day-to-day life. Tante Jack and her friends introduced us into the world of painting and we were pleasantly surprised at the results of our first efforts with the brush! Tante Dolly, Tito Rick and their friend demonstrated hip-hop, swing and salsa (much to the distaste of the younger ones who could not bear the thought of dancing, much less with a partner) and we were very sorry when they had to go. When the rain let up, we hiked up to the farmhouse (from where we daily got our breakfast milk) to learn about keeping cows and making hay, but found some little kittens to be a lot



more interesting. At first we didn't know what tai-chi was, but after having practiced it early one morning, we couldn't seem to get enough of it. We were looking forward to one afternoon at the *Erlebnisbad Haag*, but the weather was more conducive to a visit to the *Feuer und Erde Landesausstellung* in Waidhofen/Ybbs – this was an enjoyable afternoon, by the way, and we would love to see the other part of the exhibit in *St. Peter in der Au* if only it were possible.

Except for a few little agonies in the form of stomped-on feet, severely-jolted legs, the occasional tummy ache and upset stomach (from sampling all the goodies that the storeroom had to offer), we were a relatively healthy lot and didn't tax the nursing skills of Tante Alice and Mamida too much. Healthy, that is, except that we didn't care much for the salads or vegetables that were served with meals, concentrating instead on protein, protein, protein and carbohydrates.

As in previous years, we were lucky that the parents of some of the youths visited us in the daytime to lend a helping hand, especially in the kitchen, and by so doing earned the right to enjoy an afternoon siesta under the

apple tree. Mary Ann helped organize our garden games and other activities, when she didn't have to work on her lap-top.

Of course the highlight of the week was the programme on Thursday evening – attended by some parents – when the groups presented very imaginative and hilarious skits, song-and-dance numbers and all manner of happy entertainment. And the finale lay in the distribution of awards, some of which were quite nice (most helpful, most resourceful, most cheerful) while others were satirical (most talkative, tago-ng-tago sa trabaho, vacuum cleaner sa pagkain). It was an evening of laughter and merry-making, with the boom box going at full volume, everybody moving around to talk with everybody else and everyone just having a good time.

The thought of having to pack, clean up the *Jugendhaus* one last time and return to Vienna into the arms of our waiting parents made the atmosphere a little less festive on Friday. The week was brought to a close with the para-liturgy at the Maria vom Berge Karmel church, when we had an opportunity to hand our parents the letters of appreciation that we had written during the week. They missed us, we missed them too. It was an opportunity to voice our appreciation to all those who had donated goods, time and effort for our Summer Camp.

MT told us that in the essays that we all had written the common theme was, "It's so nice to meet new friends". The wonderful thing was that summer had just begun and there was the rest of July and all of August to spend with all of our new friends.

Summer Camp was a great idea, after all.  
*(Serva Libera)*



*All of us, after the farewell programme*

# PILGRIM'S PATH

## *Gone in a flash*

(Continued from page 7)

But, alas, even that came to an end, and the Holy Father had to move on to the next part of his programme. Before we knew it, he had stepped out of the church and was gone. And suddenly, it all seemed to have happened so quickly. In a flash.

The main station of his pilgrimage was the Pope's visit on Saturday, 8 September to mark the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the basilica of *Mariazell* which houses the 13<sup>th</sup> century miraculous image of *Magna Mater Austriae*.

Sunday, 9 September. While the good people of Vienna slept in the quiet early morning hours, sacristans from many parishes gathered with their chaperones in the Franciscan monastery that is a stone's throw from *Stephansdom*. Changing into their vestments, and after passing security clearance, they formed a four-across procession that left the monastery at 8:30 and made its way up *Singerstrasse*, through *Churhausgasse* and across *Stephansplatz* to the Archbishop's Palace. By this time, *Stephansplatz* was filling up, television coverage for the Mass scheduled at 10 a.m. had started, and the weather was clear. At the Archbishop's Palace, we were arranged several deep in the

arcades around the central courtyard and didn't have long to wait until – together with a sudden heavy downpour – the Pope arrived. Again, seeing God's highest representative on earth with one's own eyes and at a very close distance, gave one a sense of wonderment and a feeling of deep gratitude for the rare privilege of the once-in-a-lifetime experience. And the rain didn't stop him from approaching the sacristans, greeting them and having short conversations while the news photographers had a field day capturing it all on film.



And then, it happened! The best possible thing! Linda, who had been making sure that our little sacristans had a place up front to be as close as possible to the Pope, found herself pushed into a tiny gap that had suddenly developed in the front row and was babbling, "Hello, Pope! Hello, Pope!" in her excitement. The Holy Father had just gone past her, with Cardinal Schönborn at his heels, when the latter caught sight of Linda. As she automatically said, "Grüß Gott!" the Cardinal – recognizing Linda from the recent Confirmation services – tapped on the pope's arm and told him that Linda represents the Filipino community in Vienna. Whereupon the Pope turned around, took a step toward Linda, offered her his hand and gazed deep into her eyes ..... Linda doesn't remember any words that may have been said, just the feeling of deep peace and contentment that filled her during that moment. And then the moment was gone.

Later, as the Pope and his entourage made their way from the Archbishop's Palace to *Stephansdom*, we again had the opportunity to see him at close range because we (sacristans and their

(Continued on page 15)

## Gone in a flash

(Continued from page 14)

chaperones) had been asked to line one side of the path. After the dignitaries had entered the church, we experienced another pleasant surprise: ushers gave each of us a collapsible stool and bottled water to help us be comfortable throughout the Holy Mass. It was easy to follow the televised mass which we could view on the large screen that was set up not far from our assigned place. However, being outdoors, and seeing the very large crowd of people who had filled *Stephansplatz* it was a bit difficult to remember that we were indeed attending Sunday Mass. There were moments when our attention wandered to take in all the little details that were unfolding around us as we tried to commit the wonders of the setting to memory. One of those moments was communion: so many people wanted to receive the Holy Eucharist but there was hardly any space to move around in, so everybody shuffled around and tried to make himself as small as possible to create the much-needed space for others to move around in. And then there were the shots on the TV screen of the little boy in church who was happily playing, quite oblivious to all the pomp and ceremony going on around him.

Finally, at the end of the mass, the Pope blessed us – and all the rosaries and other religious articles we had stuffed in our pockets and handbags to be also blessed in this indirect way – and the atmosphere took on a festive air as more and more groups of people on the square cheered, clapped and waved the flags and banners that they had brought with them. The crowd quieted down again for the *Angelus* which the Pope prayed from the stage facing *Stock im Eisenplatz*. Finally he left *Stephansplatz* waving at his flock in his dignified and almost-reluctant manner and headed back to the Archbishop's Palace, presumably for a mid-day meal.

As for us, we went back into a rather loose formation to join the procession to the Franciscan monastery where we changed back into civvies, received a package each of *Lebkuchen* from *Mariazell*, rejoined our waiting families and started reminiscing over this pilgrimage and our part in it. It seems like such a long time ago that we started preparing for the Pope's visit. He arrived. He returned to Rome. It seems like everything happened in a flash. **(*Serva Libera*)**



*The Chef's birthday grill party last 31 August.*



*Penafrancia Fluvial Procession and the Mass for INA celebrated by Bishop Joel 'Bong' Baylon of Masbate last 15 September.*

# Thinking about Youth Camp and Home

(Editor's note: One of the activities at the parish' 2007 Youth Summer Camp was a session on creative writing. The objective was to give the participants simple tips that make the task of writing, e.g. essays in school, less daunting. The topic – the difference between youth camp and home – was chosen because it touches a very personal experience and requires no research work and hence is something that all participants, regardless of age, can spontaneously write about. It was NOT the intent to elicit judgmental statements about home being better than youth camp or vice versa, but it was hoped that the results could be used to gauge how well the objectives of the Youth Camp were being understood by the participants, and also to help the organizers plan future Youth Camps to meet the needs of the participants.

The results of the writing exercise were somewhat of a nice surprise. On the one hand, many of the submitted pieces showed that the tips explained at the beginning of the session had been well understood. On the other hand, the topic was taken seriously to heart by some participants whose work glows with sincere honesty and purity of thought, and is therefore something that we can truly learn from. The youth have ideas that can guide us in our daily lives: they remind us of the deep responsibility that is borne by those whose role it is to lead the youth, and the joys that lie in reaching a communion of the minds. In faith.

*Youth Camp is about helping each other, respect other people, to discipline yourself, to communicate and to teach you how to develop yourself. At home, you can't do anything and it's boring there. In the Youth Camp you can meet or you can find new friends. At the beginning of the Youth Camp, I was so shy but after a while I realized that those kids wanted to know me and they wanted to have new friends. We had a lot prayer which we did and a lot of activities which we have made. But sayang malapit ng matapos yong Youth Camp. I want that everybody won't forget me and I hope na makikita ko pa sila. Maybe next year, sasama ako ulit kasi doon sa bahay is always boring. Pero I miss my family so much. And I thank the staff and to Fr. Jojo who care so much and who give us strength every day. And yong cooker who give us and serve us food. Hmn sarap. I'm unique. Thanks God for all blessing you gave us.*

Here, then, is the text submitted by a participant, whose identity will never be made known. It is being reproduced, unedited, in its entirety, not to expose areas of one individual's unhappiness but to show the depth of feelings of a young person. All of us go through teenage years. Do we recognize ourselves in these lines? Are we as God-focused and grateful as this young person?



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(African, Asian and Latin American Catholic  
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**Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel**  
Stefan Fadinger Platz 1  
A-1100 Vienna

Tel: +43 1 6172346, Fax : +43 1 5267316  
Email address: fccpastulan@yahoo.com

**Fr. Jose Demoy**  
Chaplain

**Fr. Ely Dalanon**  
Assistant Chaplain

**Fr. Cyril Villareal**  
Assistant Chaplain

\*\*\*\*\*

**PASTULAN STAFF**

Marizel Aguirre  
Angie Castor  
Rhona Rectra