



TIME OF MERCY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY
AND CONFRATERNITY OF DIVINE MERCY



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS: Christmas is the time of the year when we are drawn closer to God and to others, when we are blessed with a taste of the eternal heavenly joy and peace. Therefore may the light of our living faith in Jesus shine in our thoughts, our words and our actions for the glory of God the Father and may the Lord's glory be with us throughout Christmas and the coming year, so that we may always shine as a bright light in the love of Jesus and His Mother Mary. May the joy and peace of the Lord always be with you. *The Pauline Fathers and Brothers*

no evil would I fear

Bus, train, and then another bus. That's how I get to and from university. Altogether, travel sometimes takes 4 hours. And what do I do in that time? Well, mostly catch up on sleep. But if I'm awake, I usually just stare at surroundings while having random thoughts, or no particular thoughts at all. Sometimes I pray. Even in the most 'secular' places, God gives reminders of His presence. God never ceases to draw humankind to Himself. You exist only because God has loved you into existence, and it is His love alone that continues to hold you in existence (CCC 27). Hence, life is a pilgrimage. "Man is by nature and vocation a religious being. Coming from God, going toward God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God" (CCC 44).

My journey through life can become routine and incredibly boring. Nonetheless, I find I can still relate to many extraordinary pilgrimages. One of the most dramatic and popular journeys in the Old Testament is the Crossing of the Red Sea. When the Israelites saw Pharaoh and his Egyptian army marching against them, they were terrified and cried to the Lord for help. They complained to Moses, "weren't there any graves in Egypt? Did you have to bring us out here in the desert to die? Look what

you have done by bringing us out of Egypt! Didn't we tell you before we left that this would happen? **We told you to leave us alone and let us go on being slaves** of the Egyptians. It would be better to be slaves there than to die here in the desert" (Ex 14:10-12). And so too it is with us. Too often we are complacent. We are content to settle for second best, content to lead inferior lives. It is lunacy, but too often we are happy to remain slaves to sin. Someone illustrated this with an analogy; it is as though we have set up camp in a sewer. We have become desensitised to the stench and now think it's normal to live this way. But despite our justifications, the truth is sewers stink and we would live so much better in fresh air. Christ came that we might have life and have it to the full (Jn 10:10). Christ fully reveals to us what it is to be human, and makes our supreme calling clear (Gaudium et Spes, n 22). But a life which witnesses to God's truth is commonly considered a defective life. Conversely, a counterfeit life is considered the better life. So why this willingness to remain slaves? It is fear. It is distrust, it is a lack of faith, of hope and of love.

To the Israelites Moses answered, "Don't be afraid! Stand your ground, and you will see what the Lord will do to save you today; you will never see these Egyptians again. The Lord will fight for you, and there is no need for you to do anything" (Ex 10:13-14). Obviously the Israelites had to carry their stuff and keep walking. But God held up the divided waters for them to cross, and kept the Egyptians away

with a pillar of cloud. We too must do our bit, carry our burdens and continue to walk this journey, but God will give us the grace necessary to reach our heavenly homeland and deliver us from all evil. We often forget that with God anything is possible, and that He is always



faithful to His covenant. Jesus shared in our humanity "so that through His death He might destroy the devil, who has the power over death, and in this way set free those who were slaves all their lives because of their fear of death" (Heb 2:14-15). We would do well to often pray the Divine Mercy "that in difficult moments we may not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your [God's] Holy will, which is love and mercy itself." We can find solace in Mary who accompanied Jesus on His earthly pilgrimage even to the Cross. And we should make full use of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist which is our spiritual nourishment, the bread for our pilgrimage.

Yet even though I possess all this knowledge, many times I am still paralysed by fear. I still crumble under the pressure to conform to a conventional and Godless mentality, and thus regretfully find myself

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compromising my faith. It can seem easier to remain a slave than to fight for eternal life, and I guess that is no surprise since I tend to try to fight alone. I stubbornly insist that God does not have to be so involved in my life all the time. As a young Catholic, many times I feel discouraged and incredibly alone. An army of atheists and modern-day pagans seem to besiege me from every direction. Many of my closest friends leave me questioning the practicality of my Catholic faith. To worsen matters, my many human weaknesses bring discomfort as I try to reconcile the discrepancy between my words and my deeds. I wonder, am I crazy? But I

have come to realise these feelings are normal. God is a communion of persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. So it is little wonder that I seek to be in communion with others since I am made in the image of God. We people of faith must be there for each other and "help to carry one another's burdens" (Gal 6:2).

Faith is not an isolated act. No one can believe alone, just as no one can live alone. You have not given yourself faith as you have not given yourself life. The believer has received faith from others and should hand it on to others... Each believer is thus a link in the

great chain of believers. I cannot believe without being carried by the faith of others, and by my faith I help support others in the faith (CCC 166).

We must not scatter like the disciples did during the passion of Christ, lest we remain alone and paralysed by fear. We must come together like they did on Pentecost, that the Holy Spirit might too descend on us. I feel so blessed to be a young Australian Catholic in these times, to be a young pilgrim journeying towards World Youth Day, Sydney 2008. I pray that many others will join me.

Narelle Brito, 21, is studying B Science (Psychology) at UNSW

Preparing for World Youth Day, Sydney, 2008

Over half a million pilgrims, including 100,000 from overseas are expected to attend World Youth Day in Sydney on 15-20 July, 2008. His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, will make his first visit to Australia, presiding over the Final Mass. Young people will have an opportunity to rediscover their baptismal calling, the centrality of the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, and the richness of the Catholic faith. **WYD is a massive pilgrimage and Our Shrine has planned a number of 'mini' pilgrimages to help prepare our young people.** All these important events are for all people of all ages; we're all young at heart and have the same Heavenly Father whose children we are.

Our first special event is a **14km pilgrimage walk from Bundanoon church to Penrose Park on Saturday, 17th of November, 2007.** The purpose is to crystallise in people's minds the notion of pilgrimage. A 'pilgrimage' richly symbolises our journey on earth, where we have no lasting city (Heb 13, 14), towards our heavenly homeland. Traditionally, when a pilgrim travels to a sacred destination, they never stay long in one place, but keep pressing on towards their goal. During our walk there will be singing, praying and inspirational talks. We will meet at Penrose Park where we will be taken by bus to the start of the walk and our pilgrimage will continue through Penrose State forest.

Programme: 8:30am Meet at Penrose Park, **9:30am** Pilgrim walk begins, **12:30pm** Mass at the Shrine church at Penrose Park, **1:30pm** Lunch, **3:00pm** Benediction with a spiritual talk by Fr. Ronan Kilgannon, **4:00pm** Finish.

When registering, please include a small donation to assist with catering. Contact the Pauline Fathers by email: paulinefathers@bigpond.com.au Subject: Pilgrim Walk, or by phone on (02) 48789192.

In February of next year, we will have a retreat weekend of Christian formation. This will involve various activities, seminars and prayers aiming to deepen understanding of what WYD is really about. There will be an all-night prayer vigil since prayer is a vital part of our pilgrim journey and we can never have enough of it. As St. Paul wrote, "pray without ceasing" (2 Thess. 5.14). We hope that the youth will take their experiences back to their parishes and strengthen others in the faith.

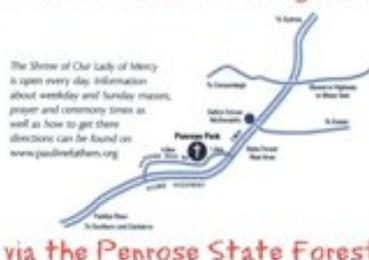
The climax of our preparations will be the **arrival of the WYD Cross and Icon at the Shrine grounds on the 29th of March, 2008.** A reception ceremony within the context of Holy Mass will be held followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. After some light refreshments, pilgrims will be treated to great Christian music by some young energetic Catholic bands. They will encourage singing and actively evangelise the audience. These are not just any music bands, they actually use their musical talents to spread the Good News.

The program for the WYD08 week itself will be activities planned on the diocesan level in and around Sydney. The Pauline Fathers and Brothers will be in attendance helping where-ever they can as well as making overseas visitors welcome in Australia, especially those visiting Our Lady of Mercy Shrine.

We hope that our readers, guided by the Spirit, will find the time to participate in these WYD activities as well as pray for its success. This great event will rejuvenate Christ's Church in Australia and result in many conversions back to God. The entire country can only benefit from such great spectacles dedicated to "the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ" (Titus 2, 13).

Please contact Pauline Father's for more information about Our Shrine Events. But for more information about WYD 2008 and to Register please visit: www.wyd2008.org

14 kilometres from Bundanoon through to Penrose Park



via the Penrose State Forest

Demonic Possession

Fr Jaroslaw Zan

“Does Satan really exist?” “Can devils really possess people?” “Did Satan really take over people’s minds and bodies and make them do what he wanted?” “Does it still happen today?”

I hear these questions very often. Some theologians would say that these are difficult questions with complicated answers. The Church teaches otherwise. These are easy questions, with simple answers.

Does Satan really exist? **YES.**

Can devils really possess people? **YES.**

Did Satan really take over people’s minds and bodies and make them do what he wanted? **YES.**

Does it still happen today? **YES.**

Let’s clarify these questions.

Does Satan really exist? Some theologians claim that Satan is merely a literary anthropomorphism invented by the authors of the scriptures to personify evil, much like we use Tassie to personify Tasmania. This is not true. Jesus referred to Satan and the devils on numerous occasions as real creatures, not as fiction characters. Someone may object that Jesus didn’t really say that, but had those words put into his mouth by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. This is not true. The Church has always taught, as a tenet of faith, that Satan is a real person, that the other devils are real persons, and that Jesus meant exactly what he said. Does Satan really exist? Yes.

Can devils really possess people? The gospel is not science fiction. There are many biblical accounts of demonic possession. The Church has always taught, that the Bible is inerrant, which means that the teachings of the Bible are correct. Can devils really possess people? Yes.

Did Satan really take over people’s minds and bodies and make them do what he wanted? There are not only civil records, but Church records of diabolical phenomena in society throughout history. A famous case happened in 1949, in Maryland, to a 14-year-old boy. Newsweek magazine (not the best source of truth) described it correctly this way: “Pictures, chairs and the boy’s bed would suddenly move about. At night, the boy could barely sleep. After he was admitted to Hospital... the boy began to mouth fierce curses in ancient languages, and at one point, while strapped down helplessly in his bed, long red scratches appeared on his body.”

This is in the medical records, and is not the hallucination of some religious fanatic. The priest who was called in to perform the exorcism was successful. The boy survived and today lives a normal life just outside of Washington, D.C. The exorcist, has taken a vow not to discuss the event. I feel that this is unfortunate, since the 1970’s movie that was based on the event, called The



Exorcist, changed the facts so much and contained so much impossible silliness that it can only be ranked as poor fiction. The latest movie "The Exorcism of Emily Rose" is more realistic. Still there are few controversial aspects which will never be supported by the Church’s teaching. In fact, the possession and exorcism did occur in both real life stories.

Did Satan really take over people’s minds and bodies and make them do what he wanted? Yes.

Does it still happen today? This is the easiest question of all. Listen to the voice of Jesus saying, “Can you not discern the signs of the times? Can you not tell a tree by its fruit? Yes, it’s happening. I *told* you it would. But I founded my Church on the rock of Peter and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it! You shall not be harmed. Have faith in me, and I will protect you. I have promised it, and I will do it!” Look at the news lately. The court system in Australia is without a doubt one of the finest in the world, but look at the evil decisions that have been made by juries and judges lately. Our government system, is without a doubt one of the finest in the world, but look at the evil laws that have been passed lately. Politicians are the most respected people in the country, but today we have so many who not only trample on the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness of all unborn citizens, but are trying to make all of us pay for the abortions that they inhumanly demand. The young were honored throughout history as models of simplicity and peace, but today’s youth are insubordinate, violent, stressed-out, and angry.

Tell me: where could such evil come from? Are we caught in the toxic tail of some comet? Are the effects of artificial flavor and color in our foods slowly catching up with us? Perhaps, as they proposed in the last century, traveling faster than 20 miles per hour slowly destroys your brain?

We have no need for such foolish explanations. We already have one that not only makes sense, but is supported by 2000 years of Church teaching and the word of God Himself. It is in the devil’s best interest to destroy the good things in our world. If the devil could somehow get inside the minds and bodies of enough people, he could begin a reign of terror of apocalyptic proportions. Literally. Does the devil possess people? Look around you and tell me what you see!

I do *not* believe that we are in the End Times. I believe that God has many more glorious plans for this world, and that it’ll be around for a long time to come. But we must stop ignoring the influence of real evil! If we are to be part of God’s plan of bringing the Kingdom of God to earth, then we must be vigilant in our discernment of spirits. Next time you hear of a person doing something so evil it makes your skin crawl, don’t just wring your hands. Say a prayer. Say, “Get thee behind me, Satan!” Say, “St. Michael, the archangel, defend us in battle. Cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.”

November Mass Intentions for the Holy Souls

For 2000 years, our Roman Catholic Church has prayed for the faithful departed. Way back in the 2nd century prayers for the deceased were already an established tradition. In 1748 Pope Benedict XIV designated, November 2nd as the feast of All Souls. Friends and family would visit the graves of their loved ones, and bring flowers and light candles. Let us continue to pray that the poor souls in purgatory may come to share in the resurrection of Christ.

The Church commands us to remember the faithful departed. In obedience, we do so, praying that when we have departed from this world, others will remember us, pray for us, make sacrifices on our behalf, and most important of all, have Holy Masses celebrated on our behalf so we may quickly be assured the eternal beatified vision of God.

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who on the day

dedicated to the Commemoration of all the faithful departed, piously visit a church and each day from the 1st to the 8th of November by visiting a Cemetery; on other days of the year it is partial. To gain a plenary indulgence you must perform the act with a contrite heart plus you must go to confession (one confession may suffice for several plenary indulgences), receive Holy Communion, and pray for the Pope's intentions. (An Our Father and a Hail Mary said for the Pope's intentions are sufficient, although you are free to substitute other prayers of your own choosing.) The final condition is that you must be free from all attachment to sin, including venial sin.

Each day, throughout the month of November, a Holy Mass for the departed members of our families and friends, will be offered in the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park. If you want to include the names of your deceased, please fill in the slip for November Masses and return it to the Pauline Fathers.

Maria Regina Mundi

m. Jan Astriab
tum. Marian Plezia

The musical score is written on three staves in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ma - ri - a Re - gi - na mun - di. Ma - ri - a Ma - ter Ec - cle - si - ae Ti - bi as - su - mus Tu - i me - mo - res vi - gi - la - mus! Vi - gi - la - mus!

There are many elderly and sick Members of the Confraternity.

If there are deceased or sick Confraternity members please post intentions so that we may offer Mass and pray for them in front of the altar of the Divine Mercy in our Shrine Church.

Are you Changing your address?

If so, please inform us so that we can send TIME OF MERCY to the new address.

Upcoming Celebrations

All Saints Day, Thursday November 1.

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day), Friday November 2. During the month of November we pray for all who have died and ask God that they may be given a share in the victory of the risen Christ, the Conqueror of death. May all our loved ones rest in peace.

Our Lady of Mercy of Penrose Park, Saturday November 24. THE MAIN CELEBRATION OF OUR SHRINE. 11AM SOLEMN MASS celebrated by His Lordship Peter Ingham, Bishop of Wollongong; 1:30PM A festival of music and folk dancing, with the opportunity to buy food prepared by our volunteers.

Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, Saturday December 8. 10AM Confessions; 10:30AM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Rosary; 11AM Solemn Mass followed by Marian Devotion.

Christmas Eve, Monday December 24. 12 midnight English Mass at Shrine church and Polish Mass at Nativity chapel.

Christmas Day, Tuesday December 25 (Holy Day of Obligation). Masses: 10AM Polish and 11AM English

The Holy Family, Sunday December 30. Additional Spanish Mass at 12 noon.

New Years Eve, Monday December 31. 11PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; 12PM midnight Mass (Welcome New Year)

Mary Mother of God, Tuesday January 1. Masses: 10AM Polish and 11AM English.

Feast Day of St Paul the First Hermit, Tuesday January 20. Masses as on Sunday. 11AM Solemn Mass on the Feast of the Pauline Fathers' Patriarch followed by devotion to St Paul and a traditional blessing of the fruits of the palm, a food of St Paul for 90 years. Monthly Devotion to the Divine Mercy.

Australia Day, Saturday January 26. Mass 11AM followed by devotion and the prayers for Australia.

Ash Wednesday, Wednesday February 6 (Day of Fast and Abstinence). After 11AM Mass distribution of ashes followed by Stations of the Cross.

First Sunday of Lent and Our Lady of Lourdes, Sunday February 10. (World Day of prayer for the sick). After 11AM Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and devotion to Our Lady.



13 FEBRUARY Around 1000 pilgrims attended this Fatima Day. The main celebrant was Fr. Marek who gave a lovely Marian homily which inspired the congregation with a love of Jesus and Mary.

13 MARCH The main celebrant was Fr. Tadeusz Soremot who is the Parish Priest of Pymble. He encouraged the congregation to trust in Our Lady in all difficulties.

GOOD FRIDAY 6 APRIL Around 3000 pilgrims devoutly honoured the Lord's Passion. The day was drizzly at first but cleared nicely. Pilgrims witnessed a moving portrayal of the events of Jesus' Passion by all the actors, especially Jeff who played Jesus. Following the Stations around the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Way of the Cross devotion also took place. At 3PM the Good Friday Liturgy was celebrated with all solemnity in a packed church.

EASTER VIGIL A fully sung ceremony was celebrated to mark the Lord's Resurrection. The intricate liturgy went off splendidly and the congregation wholeheartedly participated.

13 APRIL Fr. Jaroslaw Zan was the main celebrant and gave a powerful, spirit-filled homily which reminded us that Christ is *The Way* to Heaven, the *only* Way, all other paths are erroneous.

15 APRIL Divine Mercy Sunday. Many of the faithful took advantage of God's special favours reserved for those who receive the Sacraments of Penance and Communion on this day. Solemn Mass was followed by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament which wound its way to the Grotto. A special blessing and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick were administered there.

MAY 13 Around 5000 pilgrims attended this glorious 90th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions. The 10th anniversary of the dedication of our church was also celebrated. Bishop Peter Ingham celebrated the mass at the outside altar. He focussed his homily on the need for us not to be luke-warm Christians, but to fervently dedicate our whole life to God. The Philipino choir made the day extra special with their singing. At the Grotto, Fr. Janusz Pawlicha gave a moving homily about the need to love our neighbour no matter what the cost and not to be shy about our faith but to courageously live and proclaim

it. Fr. Janusz was the previous prior and instigated the church building project.

JUNE 13 Over 1000 pilgrims attended this Fatima/St Anthony's Day. The bread of St. Anthony was specially blessed after the solemn Mass. Fr. Jan Chrzczonowicz, the main celebrant centred his homily on the unity of Christ with His Church, and our need to be faithful to God at all costs.

JULY 13 Bishop Rolando from the Philipines officiated on this Fatima Day. In his homily, he recounted his experiences working for the church, and uplifted the congregation with his witty remarks.

29 JULY Bishop Ingham confirmed 34 children from Moss Vale Parish in our church this day.

13 AUGUST Fr. Ronan Kilgannon from Kangaroo Valley officiated on this Fatima day. He encouraged the faithful to fully trust in the Divine Mercy. Fr. Zan asked pilgrims for continued prayers due to the monastery's building project being strongly opposed by the local council.

8 SEPTEMBER Pilgrims happily celebrated Mother Mary's Birthday. By God's grace, Br Peter made his 1st profession of religious vows during the mass.

13 SEPTEMBER This Fatima Day was celebrated by Fr Chris Gebski, a Navy Chaplain from Jervis Bay, Nowra.

1-5 OCTOBER The Annual retreat of the Pauline Fathers was held at Penrose Park for the members of the order in Australia. The Retreat Master was Fr Johny Arattukulam, OCD from Varroville Carmelite Friars. Fr Jarek remarked that "it was very good. 1 years worth of meditation." Attendance was by the Pauline Fathers from Penrose Park, Smithfield, Canungra (Queensland), & Fr Marek Okarma from the Order of St Michael.

13 OCTOBER More than 6000 people arrived at the Shrine to celebrate the last Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917. The main celebrant was Fr Larry Faraon. The procession to the grotto was led by Abp (name) of Sienna. He and other members of the committee from Vatican are visiting Sydney to oversee the World Youth Day preparations.



Our Shrine's Millennium Project is the construction of a Pilgrim centre for all our present and future pilgrims. This spiritually empowering centre will be a place where pilgrims can visit and stay, and organise meetings and religious retreats. It will be big enough to accommodate at least 60 people and include all facilities they may need such as dining & kitchen area, and a Chapel. At present the plans have been given conditional (87 conditions) approval so please continue to keep this project in your prayers and where possible through your financial support. As you are aware, this is a very large project! In appreciation, the Pauline Fathers will include all benefactors, supporters and their families in our annual Saturday Masses and Daily Prayers. A special candle will be lit on your behalf, for your intentions, in front of the Black Madonna in Our Shrine.



What are the vows that a priest or religious takes?

A diocesan priest takes two vows at ordination; vows of celibacy and obedience. The vow of celibacy means that you draw your support from the Lord while married people rely on their spouse for support. The vow of obedience should not mean blindly following the wishes of the bishop or superior but you together with the bishop or superior discerning what is best for the kingdom of God at this time. Diocesan priests take two vows, celibacy and obedience. Religious take a third vow, poverty. This does not mean that they are poor but it means they do not own anything individually but everything is owned by the community. Everything is communal. Religious call the vow of celibacy a vow of chastity so the three vows religious take are poverty, chastity and obedience, known as the evangelical counsels.

Is Jesus saying to YOU: "Follow Me!" Jesus needs humble and obedient Catholics who are willing to serve Him through the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church that He has instituted on earth.

If you have a niggling feeling that you would like to be a priest or religious why not talk to us about it? Pauline Fathers and Brothers ask young people to consider giving yourselves for Jesus in a life that is really worthwhile. You are not leaving things behind, you are leaving some things for better. To pursue your vocational calling, you may wish to contact our Vocational Director on (02) 9604 1199 or (02)4878 9192 or inquire through your Parish Priest.

Blessed Eusebius of Esztergom

Order of St Paul the First Hermit has been formed in 1250 by Blessed Eusebius (+1270) of two communities, one founded at Patach in 1215 by Bishop Bartholomew of Pcs, who had united the scattered hermits of his diocese, and the other consisting of his own followers. In 1246 Blessed Eusebius, Canon of the cathedral of Gran (Esztergom), resigned his dignities, distributed his goods among the poor and withdrew to the solitude of the Pilis mountains, near Zante (probably related to present day Pilisszántó) to lead a life of penance with a few companions. One night while praying he had a vision. The entire Pils mountain range was full of tiny flames, which started to move towards him and finally in front of his cross, the small flames converged into one enormous flame. Eusebius then heard a voice coming from the cross: "Eusebius, summon all the hermits and found a monastic community. The love present in each one will be the bond that will unite you and enable you all to give loving service. In 1250 he gathered into community the other hermits living in the vicinity, for whom he built a monastery and church. In the same year he proposed and obtained affiliation with the Patach community under the rule prescribed by its founder, and was chosen superior. He received the approbation of Ladislaus, Bishop of Pécs, for the new congregation, but the publication of the decrees of the Lateran Council at this time necessitated a journey to Rome to secure the further sanction of the Holy See.

In 1263 a new rule was given the congregation by the Bishop of Pécs, which was superseded by still another drawn up by Andrew, Bishop of Eger, after the death of Eusebius (January 20, 1270). In 1308, the Order of St Paul the First Hermit has been officially recognized by the Holy See and was obtained to adopt the Rule of St. Augustine. In 1309 Pope Clement V approved our first constitutions. The Order was accorded many privileges by succeeding pontiffs, among others that of exemption from episcopal jurisdiction, and provisions were made for the pursuit of higher studies in many of the monasteries, one papal regulation ordaining that no member could be raised to any dignity in the order without the degree of Doctor of Divinity, for which a rigid examination was prescribed.

The order spread rapidly through Hungary, where alone it soon numbered 170 houses, and it attained an equal degree of prosperity in other countries, being divided into five flourishing provinces: Hungary, Germany (including Croatia), Poland, Istria and Sweden.

Next year in 2008 our Order will celebrate 700 years of confirmation by the Apostolic See.



Adopt a Seminarian!

Through the grace of God, Pauline Fathers in Australia has two new vocations to the Religious life. Br Peter Zytka (left) has now completed his novitiate and left Australia for Rome to study for the Priesthood, joining Br Richard Green (right) who is in his 2nd year. The cost of educating Priests is a high one. if you would like to help train Priests for the Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit your contribution would be most appreciated. Please send your donation to:

Seminarian Education Fund of Pauline Fathers, 'Penrose Park', 9 Hanging Rock Rd, Berrima, NSW, 2577

