



Father Liam Courtney Becomes Pastor at the Shrine in July



For many years, life for William (Liam) Courtney seemed to zig-zag back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean: simultaneously, he managed the food and beverage service for the Plaza Hotel in New York City, and he handled business matters for the 400-year old family farm in Ireland.

In July, one more milestone in his career will be reached when, now Father Courtney, will become the new pastor at the Shrine of St. Therese, succeeding Father Vince, who has shepherded the parish for the past 11 years.

Too Young to be a Priest

He was born on the family farm one and half miles from the village of Drumlish in County Longford, Ireland. He had seven brothers and one sister. His sister, Cathleen, now a widow, has returned to the family farm, and his brother, Bernie, recently retired, has joined her to manage the farm.

Father Liam had long wanted to become a missionary priest. At 18 years of age, he entered a seminary for missionaries, only to be told a little later that he was too young and needed to go out and work a couple of years. Having two brothers in the United States, he traveled to New Jersey where he studied hotel management and eventually, was employed by the Plaza Hotel.

When his father became ill, he returned to manage the family farm and to care for his father for five years. His father gave the farm to Liam on the condition that he would care for his mother for the remainder of her life.

Now Too Old to be a Priest

Following his mother's death, he returned to the U. S. looking for a seminary that would accept him. This time he was repeatedly told that he was too old!

Discouraged and ready to give up his dream, he sat one

Sunday morning at Mass and heard the priest say, "God does not give up on us, we give up on Him." Those words renewed his quest.

Conception Seminary in Conception, MO admitted him at age 50. Coming in independently, without a sponsoring diocese, he paid his own tuition and expenses. The Benedictine monks felt he had a priestly vocation.



Father William (Liam) Courtney

Photo courtesy of Audrey Murray

The People Make the Church

As Father Liam stated, "God speaks to you through other people. The faith of others, helps you discern God's call."

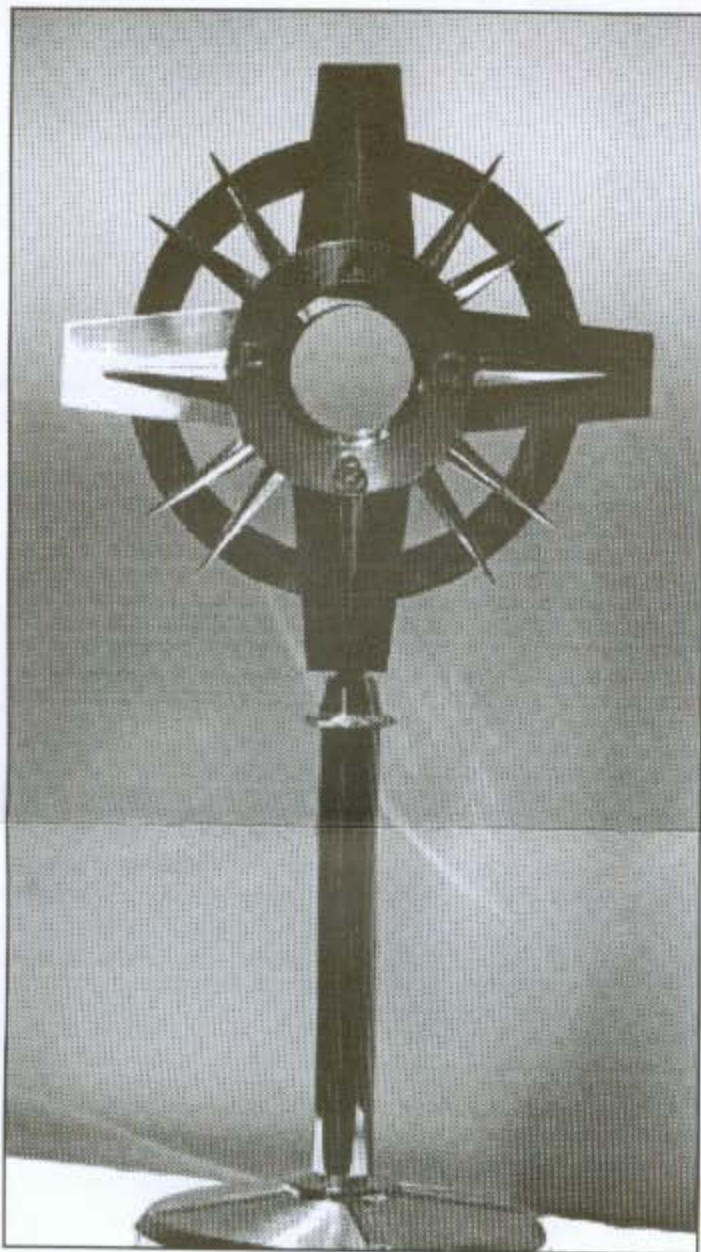
Father Liam became friends with the seminarians from the Pueblo Diocese. He also traveled with them to Colorado for the holidays. Father Dave Ricken, Vocation Director, at that time, gave him courage, and Bishop Arthur Tafoya, on visits to the seminary, was an easy person to consult and converse with. So, Father Liam felt drawn to the Pueblo Diocese, and after some hesitation over his age, the Diocese accepted him as their seminarian. He was ordained in 1999, and his first parish assignment was in Grand Junction.

What will Father Liam remember of his first parish, St Joseph's in Capulin, CO? "I enjoyed the people. Remember, it's the people who make the church, not the building. The people are very faith-filled, generous and kind. They are always in my prayers."

Goal for the Shrine Parish

When asked his goal(s) for the Shrine Parish, he said, "The parish is a family. We need to support and encourage each other. My hope is to bring unity and spiritual development to the parish where they can show love, compassion and forgiveness to each other. We all have the potential for spiritual growth." ✨

Eucharistic Adoration Urged Outside of Mass



The newly-regilded Monstrance

The gold monstrance that belongs to the Shrine was recently regilded just in time to coincide with the Pope's new papal encyclical on the Eucharist. His encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (The Church and the Eucharist) was issued on Holy Thursday of this year. In it, one of the many items, urges a revival of Eucharist Adoration outside of Mass. The Pope sees this practice as a source of holiness for the Church.

There is ample opportunity for Shrine parishioners to participate in an Adoration. Adorations are held regularly at these locations and times:

—Alliance of 2 Hearts at the Shrine—
First Friday of each month
8:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. next morning

—Parish Adoration at the Shrine—
Every Tuesday, 7 to 8:00 p.m.

—Adoration at St. Mary Church—
307 E. Mesa
Every third Thursday
Following evening Vocation Mass

Among some teachings of the Pope: he stresses that the Eucharist makes sacramentally present the one sacrifice of the cross and that it is not just a fraternal banquet. He emphasized in the Eucharist the link between the bishop and his priests in union with him, who acts in the person of Christ and have apostolic succession. Moreover, he states that though there have been some abuses, the liturgical reforms of Vatican II, contributed to a more active and fruitful participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass by the laity.

New Additions are to be Made Soon at the Shrine

A reliquary is presently being made by Randy Rasmussen, a local custom woodworker. This will be placed behind the statue of St. Therese in the chapel. The reliquary will be a glass and wood display case to hold two relics of saints which have been in the possession of our parish for years. One relic is of St. Therese the Little Flower. The other relic is of St. Catherine Labre, who like St. Therese was a French nun. She

was a farm girl who became a Sister of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. It was to Catherine that the Blessed Mother appeared and asked that a religious medal of Mary, atop the world, with rays of grace coming from her outstretched hands, be made. This became known as the Miraculous Medal due to numerous healings and lives saved in wars.

A new permanent screen in the confessional will soon be added with a

light to indicate when the confessional is occupied. A hand rail for our communion steps will soon grace the altar which will be a safety feature for Eucharistic ministers descending the stairs. ✕

An ad for a church has a picture of two hands holding stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are inscribed and a headline that reads, "For fast, fast, fast relief take two tablets."

Parishioners Bid Father Vince Farewell



Frances Skoff was one of many well-wishers to say goodbye to Father Vince. Stephanie Campbell awaits her turn.



Dayna Higgs embraces Father with a hug while Bill and Clara Berry await their turn to speak with Father.



Suzanne Lira and Kim Passanante look over one of the many table of treats. Kim was a key person in organizing the farewell reception.



Some of the many well-wishers at the reception include (l-r) Debra and Richard Bassi, and David and Hannah Rush.

Hundreds of parishioners, friends and clergy gathered in the Shrine Parish Hall Sunday afternoon, June 22 to say goodbye privately and in their own way to Father Vincente Paz en la Casa who leaves for Grand Junction June 30 to become pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish.

Father Vince emigrated to the U.S. from England and came to St. Therese September 1992 after serving in other Diocesan parishes. *We wish him God's blessings and good health!*

Recent Celebrations

Children Honor Mary, Our Mother



In May children honored Mary crowning the French statue of *Our Lady of the Smile*. Kelsey Downs, shown in the left photo, a fifth grader in the Religious Formation Program had the honor of crowning Mary with a wreath of dried roses, baby breath and static. Other children who participated in the ceremony are shown in the right photo: Back row, (l to r): Ashley Sisson, Ty Sisson, Ryan Tucci, and R. Dalton Huber. Middle: Javin Trujillo, Michael Downs, Cody Kraus, Chloe Jones, Abby Cira, and Laura Lundberg. Front: Monica Harris, Justin and Ty Sisson, Gabe Gutierrez, Marissa Steigerwalt and her brother.

Graduation

Anthony Giordano, shown on the right, celebrated his graduation from Centennial High School with a party in the parish hall. His parents, parishioners, Joe and Mary Pat Giordano are also pictured with him. Anthony was a valedictorian at graduation and is a Proclaimer of the Word in our parish.



ons at the Shrine

Confirmation



Alicia Caputo, second on the left, was recently confirmed at the Shrine. She is shown with her mother, Rosalie, on the left, Alicia, Teresa Albo Montera, Dave Montera, and Regina Caputo. Her father, Sylvio, was the photographer.

Jennie Baker received the sacrament of Confirmation at the Shrine. She is shown on the left with Bishop Arthur Tafoya and Beth Robeda, her sponsor.

Shrine students who were confirmed May 10, 2003 include Jenni Baker, Ashlye Brown, Krystle Brown, Alicia Caputo, Christopher Javornik, Meagan Lajoie, Melanie Lajoie, Jordan Montoya, Jeff Payne, Cassie Perkins, Ian Richards, Jason Turner, Rylee Williams, and Thomas Willumstad.

Graduation



Stacie Baker, center, a 2003 graduate of South High School, is pictured at the Tri-parish graduation breakfast for seniors. Shown with her are Jennie Baker, left, and Kellie Baker, right.



Twins Nicole and Danielle Stutzman, shown above, helped out at the Tri-parish graduation breakfast for seniors.



MEMORIALS



Thanks to all who contributed to the Shrine of St. Therese Memorial Fund.
The list includes the months of April thru May 2003.

Gerri Alfonso

Mr. Lawrence Alfonso

Louis Bassi

M/M John Skul

John and Berth Bon

Lucille Cafarro

Edith Crusich

Miss Dorris Gronquist

Deceased members of the Eck family

Mary Eck

Joe and David Ferraro

Mrs. Ann Ferraro

Mary Festi

Phil/Babette Beauvais
Carmen/Ann Correnti
M/M Tony Cortese
Mary Buneta
Rudolph/Elizabeth Bunk
Eleanor Filler
Frank/Patricia Pershin
M/M Anthony Trani

Dr. Harry Gianakan

Bob/Eilene Even

Tony Giordano

Jack Gornick
Lucille Diodosio and family

Eugene Gornick

Bob/Eilene Even

Gornick family

Carolyn Pfleeger

Robert Hawkins

Edward Perry

Stanley Jackovich, Sr.

Mrs. Anna Jackovich

Mae G. Lauricello

Mr. Roy Lauricello

Loretta Lewis

Eleanor Filler

Anna McGill

Frank/Elaine Cash
Joseph/Carolyn Cobb
Margaret Dayton
Rose Griswold
Stanley/Barbara Grundy
Mary Krasovec
James McGill
Fred/Joanne Miketa
Pueblo Diversified Industries
Robert/Frances Robinson
Roy/Eveline Robinson
Dwight/Carol Scott
Ann Skaggs
M/M John Toth

Geraldine Mauro

Paul/Paula Gist
Pisciotta Land and Cattle, Inc
Pueblo Government Agencies, FCU
George/Ida Mae Vunovich

John B. Mauro

Mrs. Joyce Mauro

Mary J. Monack

Miss Rita Schultz

Stephen Monack

Miss Rita Schultz

Mary O'Rourke

M/M John Skul

Louis Orazem

M/M Angelo Patti

Hazel Petrocco

Dr./M Don Creager
M/M Fred Dinero
Lucille J. Diodosio and family
Victor/Anna Marie Fognani
Mariann Giarratano
M/M Charles Haering
M/M William Hrutky
Frank/Carmella Jordan
Ed/Dorothy Pope
M/M John Taravella

Petros family

Carolyn Pfleeger

Pfleeger family

Carolyn Pfleeger

John E. Prado

Michele Prado-Landreth

Austin Spitzer

Myrtle Spitzer

Harold Stoddard

Mrs. Margaret Stoddard

Jennie Taulli

Mrs. Mary Ann Corsentino
Lucille J. Diodosio and family
Jack Gornick
M/M John Krupka and
Vern Dalio

Tony and Ellen Todaro

M/M Frank Pantleo

Mary Tomky

Carmen/Ann Correnti

Christine Torgler

Mrs. Myrtle Spitzer

Fred Ursick, Jr.

Mrs. Mary Ann Ursick

Carl Valentish

M/M Charles Valentish

Catherine Vider

Miss Sharon Trontel

John Weber

Mrs. Pauline Weber

Agatha Wiseman

George/Mary Ann Beauvais



Two Newly-Ordained Priests for Diocese

Two newly-ordained priests are shown with Bishop Arthur Tafoya, center, following their ordination at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

Father Don Malin, left, received most of his education in California and was working at Holy Trinity Parish in Trinidad prior to his entry into the seminary.

Father Martin Frias, right, is originally from Mexico, and completed his pastoral year at St. Pius X in Pueblo.

Photo courtesy of Audrey Murray

Shrine's First Communicants 2003...



Twenty children of the Shrine received their First Communion May 4 from Father Ron Roche. Highlights of the celebration were the beautiful homily Father Ron delivered on "The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist", and the song, "My First Communion," which the children sang to Jesus during the preparation of the gifts. Pictured above, front row, left to right: Lauren Brunfield, Anne Bennett, Victoria Reyes, Ashley Carrillo, Leah Keller, Robyn

Coleman, Alicia Borcic, Morgan Valentish, and Grace Lobato. Middle row: Craig Egging, Duncan Richards, Michael Downs, Dominic Charles Lira, and Dominic Brandon Lira. Top row: Brent Bravo, Javin Trujillo, Mrs. Mary Frances Kelley, Father Roche, Dominic Moya, Corey Sexton, and R. Dalton Huber. Michael Patrick is not pictured.

Photo courtesy of Rick Avalos

Knights of Columbus Dedicate Shrine Flag Poles in June



Three flag poles stand tall on the Shrine property. Courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, the poles were dedicated and blessed by Father Vince June 14.

The U. S. flag, the papal and the state of Colorado flags will be displayed. The Knights of Columbus Council 12720 raised approximately \$3000. through parish Sunday morning breakfasts and chili suppers.

"We hope to add some flood lights so the display can be seen at night," according to Grand Knight Dwight Scott.

The poles are located at east entrance off of Goodnight Ave.

◀ Knights at dedication (l to r): Dominic Filangi, Don Lira, Sr., Dwight Scott, and Tony Cortese.

Sonrise at the Shrine



Youngsters from pre-school through 5th grade may register to participate in Sonrise at the Shrine August 4 through 8. Children from our parish will be given first chance to join in the morning program of religious learning through arts, crafts, games and songs. Children from other parishes will also be allowed to participate. There is a small fee. ☞

New Direction

The Parish Activities Committee headed by Lydia Pearson changed focus this year from one large event like the parish festival to a number of events. The latest in May was "New 2 You", a rummage, bake goods sale, plus the raffle ticket drawing. Net profit was \$3,306.00 which will be used to paint the trim of the parish hall. Raffle winners were Jay and DeAnn Sisson, \$1,000; Steve and Jeanette Hiza, \$500.; and Paul Wright, \$250. Some of these funds were tithed back to the parish.

Other fund raising successes were the St. Patrick Dinner under the direction of Kim Passanante, a member of the committee, and the Valentine Dinner/Dance arranged by Lisa Iberg, also a committee member.

Future plans include an October Fest. More details will be announced in the future once all arrangements are complete. ☞

THE ROSE

A publication of the Catholic community of the Shrine of St. Therese, 300 Goodnight Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81004.

—OUR MISSION—

The Shrine of St. Therese newsletter is to reach out and inspire a sense of community and family by means of a regular and timely publication.

Spiritual Adviser
Fr. Vicente Paz en la Casa

Editor
Sally Stricca

Contributors Babette Beauvais, Paula Giordano, Bill Hrutky, Elaine Lajoie, Sister Regina Marie Massarotti, O.S.F.

Photographer Babette Beauvais

Consultant Services Richard Garrigan

The Rose is published four times a year. Parishioners are encouraged to submit articles for publication to the editor.

The Shrine Welcomes Father Liam

NON-PROFIT ORGAN.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PUEBLO, COLORADO
PERMIT NO. 57

The Shrine of St. Therese
300 Goodnight Avenue
Pueblo, Colorado 81004
Phone: (719) 542-1788