



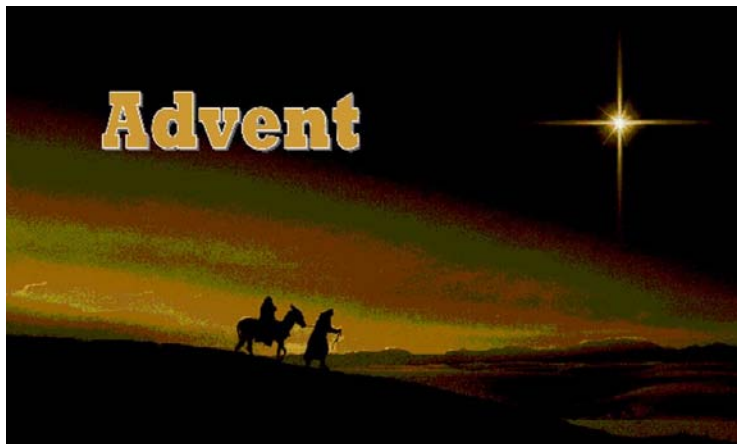
# *The Spirit of the Cenacle*

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Advent 2009

*The Spirit of the Cenacle* is the official Newsletter of the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate. It is published three times during the year in conjunction with the liturgical seasons of Advent, Lent/Easter, and Ordinary Time. The deadline for the next issue is November 15, 2009. Send materials to:

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LET US SHOUT FOR JOY AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, FOR HE COMES!

**The time is now for intense preparation for the holy festival of Christmas, this keystone mystery of the Christian tradition of our faith. We owe it to our Savior to throw out sluggishness, shackles of sin, vain habits to be ready for our king. Be prompt to act with the impulses of the Holy Spirit. Apply the words of St Paul in Romans 13:11-14 “For now our salvation is nearer than we believed. The night is passed, and the day is at hand. Let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, “to put on the Lord Jesus.” What gift will you offer the Christ child?**

Fr. Judge November1926

## FROM THE GENERAL CUSTODIAN+

October 29, 2009

"What then can we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?  
What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will struggles...?"  
Romans 8; 31-35

Dearest all;

The Grace and the Peace in the Most Holy Trinity be with us forever!

When sitting down in front of my computer at about five in the morning, time of silence and stillness, with a choir of coquis (little frogs); in my mind I try to gather all the experiences of this centennial year. From the different trips and works in committees, the great celebration in Holy Trinity, the visit to the Chapel of Perboyer, the messages by email, those that have been sick, those that have been born, those that recover and those that have arrived to the heavenly cenacle; I can only think of how great is the Love of God!

This year we have encountered in each area or regional activity of the area or region, with the purpose to celebrate, dialogue and embrace again with apostolic and prophetic zeal, the "Spirit of the Cenacle, the burning fire of charity". Our activities challenged us to look at the inheritance, the legacy, not with nostalgia but with hope. The experiences of this year invite us to do the walk, not the path of a life in missionary comfort, but the way of the day by day of the Missionary.

All of us laymen and laywomen of the Missionary Cenacle Apostolate, together with all the members of the Missionary Cenacle Family, have celebrated the first hundred years of a Charism that moves us to act and to reflect on the Communion and the Community of the Triune God in works.

We should face the crisis of the financial global economy and to say "Happy are the poor." Confront the world violence and repeat "Happy are those that work for Peace." Confront the competitiveness and consumerism propaganda and say "Happy are those that have patience and are compassionate." We should confront hunger and thirst that is caused by fear, tension, injustice... And offer our extended arms, with love and service, our words full of evangelical hope; the Kingdom of heaven still continues being the Good News, Jesus is the Good News. The Love of the Triune God is the Good News.

When? In the Providence of Daily Life; With Who? With everyone; children, youth, adults, poor and rich, abandoned and believers. Where? On the road, leaving our footprints; forming disciples and missionaries; fishing for apostles for a new generation that can celebrate singing.

“We walk in the Light of God, Yes! We Walk in the Light of God..... “

In love and service;

Alma Robles, ACM

#### + TRINITY REGION NEWS

This is News! Mobile, AL. will be the home of a new cenacle soon. Three people have met together with Nancy Beukenkamp, Trinity Region Custodian, and Noreen Moser from Living Waters Cenacle in Pensacola, FL to discuss formation. Kathleen Day, and Ratzel O'Brien are already pinned MCA, with Jeanne Howard as a MCA candidate. Their enthusiasm is contagious! They will begin meeting monthly in December. Pensacola cenacle is one hour away and will offer formation to usher in the new cenacle. Mobile once had a cenacle but it has dispersed over time. Already some interest is expressed from those familiar with the past cenacle about joining this new one. Please keep all of those involved in this new endeavor in your prayers. The Spirit is Alive in Mobile!

It is with a cenacle sadness that also rejoices in God's salvation that we announce the death of long time MCA , Blanche Baker from Living Waters Cenacle in Pensacola, FL. Blanche was in one of the original Angel Cenacles in 1934 and made her Act of Consecration in 1982 along with Noreen Moser and Van Fell to begin the Living Waters Cenacle. She served as Custodian for these formative years of the cenacle, and was known as a voice of reason and calm. She mentored many through her years as an elementary school teacher and then as an elder with wisdom to share within her fellow MCA in her cenacle. Those that knew her know without a doubt that she graces the heavenly constellation in God's presence. We pray for the repose of the soul of Blanche Baker but can smile, knowing she is praying for all of us!

Trinity Region is celebrating its 101 Year Celebration on Saturday, May 22 of Pentecost Weekend 2010. This same weekend of May 21,22, 23 will also be one of the annual weekend retreat weekends for MCA in our region. The celebration will be Saturday from 10am-4pm. We will begin with an extensive liturgy celebrating our heritage and our predecessors, all centered around the Mass. Candidates will also be pinned at this Mass. The end of the liturgy will be followed by a festival/feast. More detailed information about accommodations will be sent -out in January. MCA looks forward to celebrating our annual retreat the same weekend that will also provide for the

celebration on Saturday with MCF.

In the Trinity,  
Nancy Beukenkamp  
Regional Custodian for Trinity Region

As we approach Advent, Trinity Region has celebrations planned to draw closer to God and to celebrate his holy birth. Areas have planned Guadalupe celebrations, retreats, and Centennial celebrations.

Congratulations to Jim Bolner on the gallery exhibit of his inspiring photographs of birds. Jim partners with artist Dixon Smith who interprets Jim's photos on canvas. The video of the exhibit was marvelous. Thank you for sharing it with us, Jim! Have you met God in his creatures recently?

#### + HOLY SPIRIT REGION

May the Grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever!

The Area of the West Coast of the USA had a big celebration on August 29, 2009 due to the 100 years anniversary of the Missionary Cenacle Family, with an attendance of 500 Family members and close relatives. The event took place at the Parish Hall of Our Lady of Victory Church in Compton California and it began with a reception and succulent food while the cenacles of all the branches of this Family Area were presented. The event began at 1:00 pm with a welcome by Fr. John Seymour, ST; Rocio Gutierrez, MCA and Martin Zavala, MCA. Then, members of the MCA made a recount of anecdotes of the beginnings of the cenacles in the areas where they began.

At 3:00 pm the Eucharistic celebration began with Father Francisco Valdovinos, ST. as the celebrant and Fathers Charley Piat, ST and John Seymour, ST, Co-celebrants. A beautiful painting of Father Thomas Augustín Judge, Mother Boniface and Dr. Margaret Healy; as well as a painting of the Missionary Cross, adorned the church. The homily was given by Father John Seymour. During the offertory the memory of deceased members of the Family of this area was honored with a Eucharistic Dance of Candles. The dancers raised candles that carried each deceased member's name; their names were respectfully mentioned out loud during the dance. As the dance came to an end, the candles were placed around the Altar.

During the Eucharistic celebration a special recognition was given to Fr. John Seymour, ST; Josie Morales, MCA and Luz de la Torre, MCA for their great collaborative work

effort in the development of the MCA Spanish speaking cenacles in the area. A letter directed to them from Alma Robles, General Custodian, was read.



After the Eucharistic celebration everyone went to the parking area that had previously been adapted and appropriately decorated to receive everyone. During the meal, we were entertained with Mariachi music and Father Francisco Valdovinos sang some of the songs with them. Folkloric dances also took place where beautiful and colorful Mexican attire and music was displayed. Those with energy left, danced the night away with DJ music.

All the participants enjoyed this celebration of our Centennial, feeling most grateful for the opportunity of having lived it.

Submitted by Martín Zavala, MCA





A NOTE FROM SYLVIA RAMOS, temporary editor of the Spirit of the Cenacle: Our sharing builds our Missionary cenacle Family and keeps us close while we are apart from one another. Please, share your joys and sorrows, your successes and attempts with all of us. Gratitude goes out to those who contributed to this newsletter. The deadline for the next Spirit of the Cenacle is March 1, 2010. Please submit your articles in both English and Spanish to me by that date.







