

## CARMELECTA

Father **Mark Attard**, O. Carm. has been promoted from Adjunct Professor to Extraordinary Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Father Mark, a popular academic with Carmelites throughout the world, is a member of the Maltese Province. Besides his more than thirty years of service to Rome as Professor of Moral Theology at several Universities, he has been a dedicated member for his Province and the Carmelite Order. He, also, is currently the Prior at San Alberto (CISA) in Rome.

Father **Alfred Isacson**, O. Carm. Recently authored and published two new publications, The Carmelites, the Province of Saint Elias, and Always Faithful, the New York Carmelites, the Irish People and Their Freedom Movement. Both books are available at the Carmelite

Gift Store in Middletown, New York (845-344-2226).

The Carmelite Friars of the St. Elias Province are deeply saddened to learn of the death of Sister **Nora Cronin**, PBVM on March 3, 2004. Sister Nora was a beloved teacher of Carmelite Seminarians at St. Albert's Junior Seminary during the 1970s and a great friend to the Carmelites over the years. May she rest in peace.

Congratulations to Sister **Eileen Sullivan**, O.P. upon her appointment as Principal of Pope John Paul II High School in Boca Raton beginning in the 2004-05 School Year. Sister Eileen, of the Adrian Dominican Congregation is well known to the

PJPII community where she has served as Religion Teacher, Chair of Religious Studies, Assistant Principal and Principal during the years of 1983-98.



The Fiano Family gathered to celebrate Father Guy's birthday in Boca Raton, Florida in January Happy Birthday!

Provincial Newsletter of the North American  
Province of Saint Elias  
P.O. Box 3079

# Vox Eliae

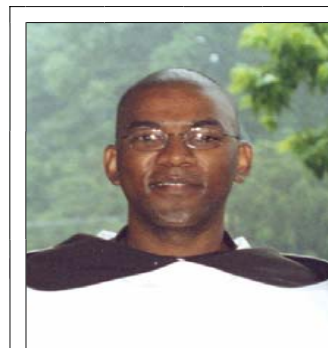
Winter, 2004



## Carmelite History Is Made as Two Friars Ordained to Priesthood in Trinidad

Another bit of Provincial history was made on Saturday, December 6, 2003 when our first and second vocations from Trinidad were ordained to the priesthood.

Carmelite Friars, **Gerard Tang Choon** and **Garth Eversley** were among five young men ordained to the Priesthood by His Grace, Edward Gilbert, the Archbishop of Port of Spain in Trinidad.



Rev. Garth Eversley, O. Carm.

noted in his opening remarks, "Advent is a time of hope. This celebration is a sign of hope." This is a duty of obvious joy for the church, the families, the religious communities and for all priests." In his homily, the Bishop urged the five young priests "to exercise patience and perseverance, be willing to sacrifice and dialogue, and seek out their brother priests for support. He further urged the men to

the truth will set you free. If you believe that, you will be patient with yourself and with your ministry.

Joining the Carmelite community in Maracas Valley in Trinidad for the Ordination were Fathers **Michael Driscoll** and **Francis Amodio** who represented the Provincial (who was on visitation in Vietnam) and the members of the Province.

Father **John Horan**, Formation and Vocation Director in Trinidad, noted: "The ordination was a wonderful celebration. The Cathedral was packed. When the Archbishop presented the five newly ordained priests, the congregation broke into applause and continued for quite some time. It was a wonderful moment. Please pray for our two newly ordained

brothers and for more vocations. "Both Father Gerard and Father Garth celebrated their First Masses at their home Parishes. A large number of their families, seminarians from the Regional Seminary, friends, the Corpus Christi Carmelite Sisters and parishioners were on hand for the Masses and celebrations that followed.



Rev. Gerard Tang Choon, O. Carm.

Father Gerard entered the Carmelite Formation Program in the Province of St. Elias in 1995. He earned his B.A. at St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, NY in 1997 with High Honors. He continued studying Theology at Seton Hall in South Orange, NJ and at the Regional Seminary of St. John Vianney in Trinidad & Tobago.

Father Garth entered the Carmelite Formation Program in the Province of St. Elias in 1997 having already earned a B.A. in Theology at the Regional Seminary of St. John Vianney in Trinidad & Tobago. While in the United States he completed his M.A. at Seton Hall and a Certification in Spiritual Direction at Fordham University in New York. Both newly-ordained priests are currently assigned to ministry at St Michael's Church and her missions in Maracas Valley-St. Joseph, Trinidad.

Father **Michael Kissane**, Prior Provincial of the Saint Elias Province notes, "We offer our deepest congratulations to both Gerard and Garth on this historical occasion. I ask your continued prayers for our foundation in Trinidad. Please continue to pray for our Formation Program and all our Trinidadian students as they continue their journey in Carmel."

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## He's Not "The Wanderer" Anymore

by Very Rev. Michael Driscoll, O. Carm.



Around St. Jude Church in Boca Raton, Florida, Dion DiMucci is pretty much like every other parishioner. He attends Church on Sundays with his wife, Susan. Their three daughters are grown up, out on their own, and all work in the teaching field.

The DiMucci's, residents of Boca Raton for the past 15 years, have two grandchildren and another on the way. Life is much more stable these days for DiMucci, best known for his first name, Dion—who first rocked the music world in 1957 when he fronted the breakout doo-wop group, Dion and the Belmonts. Family, com-

munity and Catholicism mean a lot to the 64-year old Bronx Native who still takes his songs on the road.

"Being Catholic runs deep," states Dion during his interview in the conference room at St. Jude's Church. Dion has put his religious feelings into song. Among the 60 albums he has recorded in his life are five gospel tune collections.

At age 13, he heard the "call of the streets." While still a teen he landed a recording contract. With the help of a friend he formed the group, Dion and the Belmonts. In 1958, the group had its first hit with "I Wonder Why" followed by "No One Knows" and then with "A Teenager in Love."

A tragic accident in 1959 caused

the teenager to pause. He was on a mid-west tour with Buddy Holly, the Big Bopper and Richie Valens. The bus broke down in Deluth, Minnesota. Holly chartered a plane to the next stop. Dion chose not to fly. Hours later the plane crashed killing his three friends.

"From that moment on I knew God had a plan for me," he said. Dion's faith has carried him through life.. He communicates through his music.

Dion DiMucci reflects, "And for a kid from the Bronx, my music opened up my whole world." Dion continues to perform and last fall and winter held sell-out concerts in Florida.

### Rule of Carmelite Third Order Now Available

The long awaited new Rule for the Third Order is now available! A beautiful expression of the spirituality of and canonical requirements for those called to this way of life. The new Rule is approximately 94 pages and contains the official translation of the Rule for the Third Order of Carmel which was promulgated on July 16, 2003 as well as the Rule of St. Albert and several pages of explanations and indices to assist in the study of the document. The members of the Third Order now have a document which, like the Constitutions of the Order, seeks to make the connection between the Carmelite ideal and the present reality of those who pledge themselves to live by it. This will become one of the fundamental documents essential for each Lay Carmelite.

For more information visit the websites shown to the right or contact the Carmelite Gift Store in Middletown (845) 344-2226 for ordering information.

*For more information  
about the Rule of the  
Carmelite Third  
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#### Vox Eliae

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## CARMELECTA

Do you know of anyone discerning a vocation to the Religious Life? The next **Vocation Discernment Weekend** is scheduled for April 23-25, 2004. Please encourage any prospective candidates to contact Father **Matthew Faulkner**, Vocation Director or **Rose Mary Lancellotti**, Vocation Secretary at (845) 344-2225 or email at: [ocarmvoc@frontiernet.net](mailto:ocarmvoc@frontiernet.net)

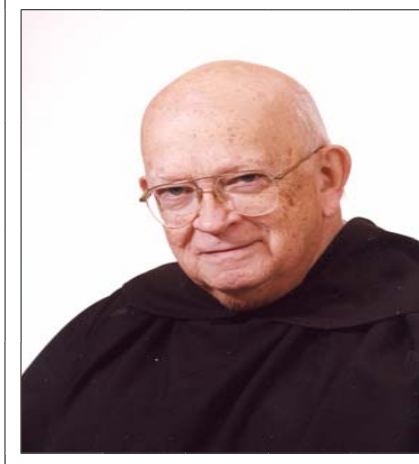
The St. Elias Province's **Annual General Meeting** is planned for Tuesday through Wednesday, April 13-14, 2004 at Mt. St. Alphonsus Retreat Center in Esopus, New York. The gathering will focus on the important topic of the Province's Policy of Ethical and Moral Conduct and planning for the future.

The **Annual Student Gathering** for all

Carmelite students and Formation Directors of both the Saint Elias Province and the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary took place at Whitefriars Hall in Washington, D.C. during Martin Luther King Weekend this past January, 2004. Those attending represented all the levels of formation of Pre-Novitiate, Novitiate, Internship and those students studying theology. The annual gathering was a time of fraternity and community offering the opportunity for those in formation to be further educated and informed on Carmelite topics during the weekend. Formation Directors of the Saint Elias Province who participated in the weekend were Fathers: **John Horan**, **Matthew Faulkner**,

**Raymond Maher** and **Timothy Ennis**. Those in formation attending were: Pre-Novices: **Kevin Ashing**, **Fabio Rojas** and **Francis Xavier Thuong**; Novice Brothers: **Francis Xavier Chinh** and **Joseph Nguyen Do**; Student Brothers: **Hasely King**, **Brent Alexis**, **Emiel Abalahin**, **Joseph Thien Nguyen**, **Stephan Huy Tran**, **Stephan Tuu Le**, and **Joseph Hung Tran**. Keynote speaker was Father **Quinn Conners**, O. Carm., of the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary, who addressed the group on the topic of "Transition." Father Quinn was a former Provincial, Formation Director and is currently a staff member at St. Luke's Institute in Washington, D.C.

## Rev. Leo Regis Broniszewski, O. Carm. 1931-2004



Reverend Leo Regis Broniszewski, O. Carm., a member of the Order of Carmelites and of the North American Province of St. Elias, died at the Orange Regional Medical Center Horton Campus in Middletown, New York on Friday, February 6, 2004 as a result of natural causes. He was 72 years old. Father Leo was born in Ossining, New York on July 1, 1931 to Leo John and Adele Broniszewski. He is survived by one sister, Marlene Morgan. After completing his studies at St. Albert's Junior Seminary in Middletown, New York, Father Leo received his habit in the Order of Carmelites, in September

of 1950 in Auburn, New York when he entered the Carmelite Novitiate. He professed First Vows on September 8, 1951 in Auburn and three years later professed his Solemn Vows of Obedience, Poverty and Chastity on September 8, 1954, a Marian Year. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1956 in St. Simon Stock Church on Valentine Avenue in the Bronx, New York. Father Leo attended Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and St. Bonaventure University in Olean, NY earning his degree in Philosophy and Theology. Following his ordination to the priesthood Father Leo taught at St. Albert's Junior Seminary in Middletown for the school year of 1957-58. From 1958-60, he served as Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Middletown with ministry on the "B & B" run - Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Bloomingburg and St. Paul's Church in Bullville, NY. In 1960 he was transferred to Nativity High School in Pottsville, PA where he served for the next four years as teacher of Religion, Procurator, Vocation Director, Sacristan and Third Order Director. Father Leo returned to Our Lady of Mount Carmel High School in Auburn, New

York in 1964 where he continued to teach Religion and English until 1967. Transferred to Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown New York he served as first an Associate Pastor and then was one of five Co-Pastors until 1979. Father Leo then served as Pastor of St. Joseph's Church in South Troy, New York from 1979-82 before heading to Washington, D.C. to become the Director of Formation for Carmelite students at White-friars Hall until 1983. From 1983-90 Father Leo served as Chaplain at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Trumbull, CT and then returned to residence at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Priory in Middletown. In 1993 Father Leo retired. He resided at St. Albert's Priory in Middletown prior to his death. The Funeral Mass was held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown, NY. Very Reverend Michael Kissane, O. Carm., Prior Provincial of the Carmelite Province of Saint Elias officiated. Burial took place in the Carmelite Cemetery in Middletown. May he rest in peace.

# Pope John Paul II High School Dedicates New Science/Music Wing



Bishop Gerald Barbarito and Father Guy Fiano, O. Carm. are flanked by Pope John Paul II students in one of the School's new Science Labs.

rolled in Pope John Paul II High School's newly formed Music Program.

A buffet luncheon held in the school's Media Center that included a "surprise" cake to celebrate Father Guy's 50th birthday, was provided to all Guests, Administration, Faculty, Staff and Students.

Pope John Paul II High School opened its doors in 1980 under the administration of the Carmelite Friars of the Saint Elias Province.

Father **Michael Kissane**, O. Carm., Prior Provincial of the St. Elias Province was also in attendance at the Dedication along with the Carmelite Friars of St. Elias Priory and St. Jude's Priory in Boca Raton. Father Michael stated, "I am very impressed with the new Science/Music wing at Pope John Paul II High School. It is one of finest, up-to-date facilities in any secondary school. I offer my congratulations to the Administration of Pope John Paul II High School for a job well done."

Following the dedication ceremony, Father Guy invited everyone on a tour of the new facility that included a performance, under the direction of Mr. Phillip Rodell, by students en-



Pope John Paul II students performed at the Dedication of the Science/Music and Classroom Wing Dedication on January 30th under the direction of Mr. Phillip Rodell (Center)

Administrators, Faculty, Staff and honored guests at Pope John Paul II High School in Boca Raton, Florida dedicated the School's new Science/Music and Classroom Wing on January 30, 2004.

Capping off Catholic Schools Week and, with the Most Reverend **Gerald Barbarito**, Bishop of Palm Beach officiating, the day began with the celebration of Mass followed by the dedication of the new Science/Music Wing and blessing of each new room.

This new 2,700 square foot building designed by Mr. Dale Meaux of API Group, Inc. features four state of the art Science Labs for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Marine Biology, along with a Music wing and five additional classrooms.

Father **Guy Fiano**, O. Carm., President of PJP II, on behalf of the 950 students who will benefit from this state of the art facility, thanked the invited guests who included many alumni, parents, benefactors for their support during this undertaking.

# The Way It Was

By Father Alfred Isacson, O. Carm., Archivist and Father Albert Daly, O. Carm.

This picture probably dates from 1924 . The blooming irises indicate it had to have been taken in late spring. The site is the stone stairway that led towards the third lake from the rear of the only Saint Albert's building of the time, The Thistles, the present novitiate.

Albert Daly, O. Carm., tells of there being no small hill, as there is today, going from the right of this scene down to the lake. A road came from the stone pillars near the third lake's dam and to the right of this scene. A Rosary Walk with rose bushes representing the fifteen mysteries was along this driveway which led to the still existing, protected front entrance to The Thistles.

Those in the picture were the entire population of Saint Albert's Priory in Middletown, New York plus a few Carmelite visitors. Those not yet in vows have their baptismal names first followed by their later assumed religious names. Those in vows have their religious names first followed by their baptismal names.

There are five rows and each is identified from left to right.

**First row:** \_\_\_\_\_, John Anthony Wholley, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Joseph Bernard Daly, David Stanislaus McCarthy.

**Second row:** \_\_\_\_\_, Walter Albert Daly, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, James Kevin Morrissey.

**Third row:** John Vincent Coffey, Michael Louis Gerhard, Gerard William O'Farrell, Dionysius Lawrence Flanagan, Philip Martin McGouran.

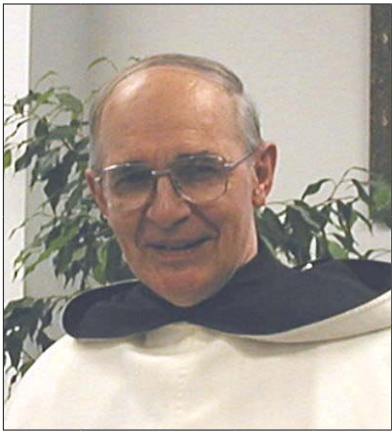
**Fourth row:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, John Richard Galvin, \_\_\_\_\_.

**Fifth row:** Henri Simon Vital, \_\_\_\_\_, Peter Thomas Charles Liebeau, Angelus Stephen Piskurich, \_\_\_\_\_.

Special thanks to Albert Daly, O. Carm., who assisted with this article. If anyone knows the friars missing in this picture, please contact the Editors at the Vox Eliae.



## Rev. Redemptus Valabek, O. Carm. 1934-2003



Reverend Redemptus Maria Valabek, O. Carm., a member of the Order of Carmelites and of the North American Province of St. Elias, died at the Orange Regional Medical Center Horton Campus in Middletown, New York on Tuesday, August 5, 2003 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was 69 years old. Father Redemptus was born in Shelton, Connecticut on July 3, 1934 to Frank and Anna Valcik Valabek. His parents pre-deceased him. He is survived by one sister, Ann and her husband James Waldron, Niece, Theresa and her husband Marcus and son Marcus, Jr. Yancoskie, Nieces Angela Waldron and Renee Waldron all of Shelton, Connecticut. Several cousins in Albany

and in the Czech Republic also survive him. After completing his studies at St. Albert's Junior Seminary in Middletown, New York, Father Redemptus received his habit in the Order of Carmelites, in September, 1953 in Williamstown, Massachusetts when he entered the Carmelite Novitiate. Following his Novitiate year he professed First Vows on September 8, 1954 in Williamstown and three years later professed his Solemn Vows of Obedience, Poverty and Chastity on September 15, 1957. He was ordained to the priesthood on July 25, 1960 in Hamilton, Massachusetts. A 1957 graduate of St. Bonaventure College in Olean, NY, he earned his Bachelors degree in Philosophy and Latin. He then traveled to Rome, Italy and attended the College of San Alberto where he studied Theology and then earned his Doctorate in Theology from the Lateran University in 1965. Father Redemptus spent 40 years of his Carmelite ministry life in Rome, Italy. He served as the Master of Students and headed the theology-spirituality section at the College of Saint Albert; was Apostolic Examiner of the Clergy from 1967-75, lectured on liturgy at several Roman universities and was Postulator General of the Causes of Saints for the Order of Carmelites from 1981-1995. He served as Dean of Regina Mundi College, was a member of the

Institutum Carmelitanum, a Confessor at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, and Editor of the English language magazine, "Carmel in the World." He further served the Order as General Delegate for the Donum Dei Missionary Family from 1998 until his death. He authored 6 books on Carmelite topics. He was an organizer of the Carmelite Order's International Congress on Prayer, the Order's month-long workshop on Leadership and Values, attended the Congress of the Carmelite Rule in 1986, was organizer of the International Marian Congress in 1989 and most recently served as a member of the International Commission of Laity. Father Redemptus was also a multi-linguist who, for a good many years, served the Carmelite Order as an interpreter at various General Chapters and international meetings. Finally, he was a devout fan of the Boston Red Socks. The funeral Mass was held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown. The Most Reverend Joseph Chalmers, O. Carm., Prior General of the Order of Carmelites officiated. During the month following his death, several Memorial Mass Celebrations took place at the Carmelite Curia and San Alberto in Rome as well as another at the Vatican Burial took place in the Carmelite Cemetery in Middletown, NY. May he rest in peace.

## Donum Dei Missionary Family Elect New Leadership

We send our sincere congratulations and best wishes to the Donum Dei Missionary Family who gathered in Rome, Italy the last two weeks of November, 2003 for their Chapter.

The following new leadership was elected:

Responsabile Generale:  
**Marie Clementine Pare**

Vice Responsabile Generale: **Agnes Brethome.**

First Councillor: **Marie Josephe Perriot-Comte**

Second Councillor, **Albertine Ouedraogo**

Third Councillor: **Thersa Su**



(L-R) Marie Josephe Perriot-Comte, Theresa Su, Marie Clementine Pare, Agnes Brethome, and Albertine Ouedraogo

## Rev. Sean Serapion Reid, O. Carm. 1910-2003



Reverend Sean Serapion Reid, O. Carm., a member of the Order of Carmelites and of the North American Province of St. Elias, died following a short illness at the Horton Campus of Orange Regional Medical Center on Sunday September 14, 2003. He was 93 years old. Father Sean was born on a farm in Kiltorcan, Ballyhale, County Kilkenny in Ireland on February 17, 1910. One of three children born to John and Bridget Dwyer Reid, he is survived by one brother, Patrick of Kiltorcan Ballyhale, County Kilkenny, Ireland, and several nieces and nephews. His parents of County Kilkenny and his sister, Mary Reid Kelly of Waterford, Ireland, predeceased him. Father Sean Reid received his habit in the Order of Carmelites in 1926 when he entered the

Carmelite Novitiate in Dublin, Ireland. At the conclusion of his Novitiate year he professed First Vows of Obedience, Poverty and Chastity on October 4, 1927 for the Irish Province. In 1929 he traveled to Rome in order to continue his education at the College of St. Albert's and subsequently professed his Solemn Vows on March 17, 1931. It was there in Rome where his Uncle, Carmelite Friar of the St. Elias Province, Father Peter Elias O'Dwyer, visited him and convinced him to join what was then the Irish American Commissary, the precursor of the St. Elias Province. He did so and when ordained to the priesthood on April 15, 1933, he was ordained for the St. Elias Province that had just been founded in 1931. Following his Ordination to the Priesthood in Rome Father Sean traveled to the United States and enrolled in the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. where he earned a Master's of Arts (Celtic Studies) Degree in 1935. After his graduation from CUA, he ministered in the Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary as a teacher of Ancient and Modern History at Joliet High School in Joliet, Illinois until June of 1936. He then served as a Parish Assistant at St. Clara's Church in Chicago, IL until 1937. He moved into the New York Province of Saint Elias in 1937 and served as a Parochial Vicar at St. Simon Stock Church in the Bronx, and as a teacher of Civics and History at St. Simon Stock High School

until 1938. He was transferred to Our Lady of the Scapular Church on East 28th Street in 1939 where he assisted and resided while serving as Chaplain at the nearby Bellevue Hospital, a Carmelite apostolate since 1889. In 1943 he was appointed the Pastor of Our Lady of the Scapular Parish, a position he held until 1964. Fr. Sean was transferred in 1964 to Saint Simon Stock Church in the Bronx where he served as a Parochial Vicar until 1970 when he traveled back to his homeland of Ireland to serve for the next three years in Knocktopher doing parochial work. He retired in 1973. Sean was active in community, political and provincial arenas. He served the Province of St. Elias as Provincial Councillor and Assistant Provincial from 1955-1961. Active with the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lions International, and the Celtic Athletic Association, he served as Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick's Parade in New York City in 1964. His later, retired years, Father Sean was most well known for his poetry. Named the Province of St. Elias' Poet Laureate in 1991, he authored 5 books of poetry compiled by his "Friends of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel." A Funeral Mass was held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown, New York Very Rev. Michael Kissane, O. Carm., Prior Provincial of the St. Elias Province officiated. Burial took place at The Carmelite Cemetery in Middletown, New York. May he rest in peace.

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