

HOPE



Salvatorian Newsletter Summer 2025

STARTING POINT

With joy and gratitude, I share that we remain firmly rooted in the vision of our Founder, Blessed Francis Jordan, whose dream of universality continues to inspire us to bring the message of salvation to all people, in every way possible.

In a world often marked by division and uncertainty, we hold fast to hope and faith—anchored in Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit. Throughout this issue of the summer Hope Newsletter, we share new ministry assignments and news from

afar as signs of that hope and tangible expressions of our commitment to serve with open hearts and global vision.

Together, let us look to the future with courage and joy, trusting that God, who began this good work in us, will bring it to fulfillment.

In the Divine Savior,

Fr. Silas Heweran, SDS



FIRST VOWS - PHILIPPINES

Living and learning at the International Salvatorian Seminary in the Philippines, Bro. Joe Pense, SDS, along with 13 classmates, celebrated his first profession of vows on July 21 in Talon, Philippines, at the Salvatorian Philosophy House. This celebration marked the completion of his novitiate year abroad, during which he was fully immersed in the culture and the Salvatorian way of life. Joe learned about scripture; Church history; canon law; catechises; our Founder, Blessed Francis Jordan; and, of course, the evangelical council – specifically, the religious vows.

“This has been the best and most difficult year of my life. I have



*Vestiture Ceremony and First Vows
of Bro. Joe Pense, SDS*

continued “Vows”

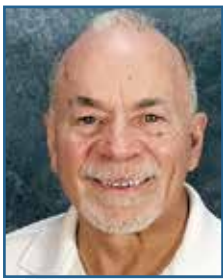
MINISTRY UPDATES

The Society is happy to announce the following new assignments for our members.

Fr. Michael Burns, SDS, was appointed by Bishop Gerald Kicanas, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Tucson, as the parish administrator of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Tucson, Arizona, effective May 20.

Fr. Silas Henderson, SDS, was appointed by Archbishop Jeffrey Grob of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to serve as half-time associate pastor of the “Family of Five” Parishes (which include the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Old St. Mary, Three Holy Women, Saints Peter & Paul, and Our Lady of Divine Providence) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, effective June 17.

Fr. Patrick Nelson, SDS, was named chaplain for the Carmelite Monastery of



Salvatorian Frs. Mike Burns, Patrick Nelson, and Mike Neeland

Our Lady of Guadalupe in Ada, Michigan, effective June 30.

Fr. Mike Neeland, SDS, has been appointed

associate pastor of Most Holy Trinity parish in Tucson, Arizona. He began his ministry this past July.

Bro. Joe Pense, SDS, began his ministry back in the USA following his First Profession of Vows in the Philippines. He will be ministering as a pastoral associate starting August 20, for the Five Northwest Parishes of Milwaukee, which include Blessed Savior, Our Lady of Good Hope, Saint Bernadette, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and St. Margaret Mary, which will serve as his home office.

Please keep them and their new ministries in prayer.



Fr. Silas Henderson, SDS



Bro. Joe Pense, SDS

SACRED SHORES PROJECT

In support of our Founder, Blessed Francis Jordan, and his vision to remain global in our mission to make the Savior known to all, the USA province has committed to supporting a mission where faith is nurtured, lives are transformed, and hope is reignited. The heart of the mission is along the

coast of Tanzania, on Mafia Island, where a multi-purpose center is under construction. Upon completion, the project will be a place where hearts can heal, and souls can encounter God.

The Salvatorians are currently the only Catholic religious Order serving

continue... Sacred Shores

BUILDING PROJECT

USA Province Headquarters

The Provincial headquarters is located in a 110-year-old house in the Washington Highlands neighborhood in Milwaukee, WI. This Edwardian-style property, formerly the Trecker Family Mansion, was gifted to the Society and has served as its provincial headquarters since 1958. It has been a hub for our community as well as the offices of the province. As you can imagine, old buildings require upkeep to ensure preservation. Things need to be taken care of, and we are no exception.

Currently, we have a variety of building projects underway to maintain the structure and functionality of the building, including exterior painting and rot repair, some landscaping fixes to alleviate leakage in the basement, and masonry work to repair significant cracks causing leaks on the third floor. We are also looking at internal construction to repair cracks and crumbling.

Additionally, interior painting is being completed on the third floor to prepare for a busier house as more members prepare to move in and plans for extended stays from Salvatorians around the world are underway. If you'd like to support these building efforts, please consider a gift designated to the Housing Fund for repairs to the Province Headquarters. You can contact our office or make a gift at salvatorians.com/give-today.



... Sacred Shores



(l) Mafia Island construction. (r) Pilgrims from Dar es Salaam

the people in this area. Through this project, we plan to help over 1,000 children annually who are on pilgrimages from Dar es Salaam, local families gathering for prayer and community, and mission groups and volunteers entering the area for both long- and short-term projects and ministries. For more information and to support the project, go to salvatorians.com/sacredshoresproject-mafiaisland-tanzania/

... Vows

experienced desolation in my prayer life at times while also experiencing incredible consolation," he said. "Some amazing things have taken place while in prayer, confirming that this is truly my vocation in life – that I am called to religious life. I'm so happy to have reached this milestone as a part of the Salvatorian Family."

Joe returned to the USA on July 23 and is settling into his new community prior to beginning his ministry as a pastoral associate. Joe shared, "I'm excited to return to parish work and get to know the parishioners."



Bro. Joe with his classmates in the Philippines

SOFIA - IN EUROPE

SOFIA is the international agency for the aid and development work of the Salvatorians to promote the common good of people through activities that overcome poverty, injustice and oppression without distinction of race, color, or creed. In Europe, we support international ministry in Albania and Italy.

Albania has developed significantly from once being the poorest nation in Europe. Despite a growing economy, poverty in Albania has remained significantly high. The Salvatorian project here is a Hostel that serves as an excellent study environment for Salvatorian students in Koplik in the North-West of the country. The project has an immediate impact on human development in Albania. In fact, our presence in developing countries reflects our aim to improve human development in a sustainable way. We join the poor in challenging obstacles that compromise



Albania Hostel

dignified life, particularly social injustice, poverty, and violence in all their forms. A solid training helps us to carry out this task and to be an example to the people on account of our pastoral and educational efforts.

In Italy, we have a great focus on seminarian support with more than 500 young men in various stages of formation for religious and priestly life in different parts of the world.

JUBILARIANS

Congratulations to Salvatorians (top l-r) Fr. Doug Bailey, Fr. David Bergner, Fr. Neil Durham, (bottom l-r) Bro. Marvin Kluesner, Fr. Roman Mueller, and Fr. Paul Portland, who celebrated 60 years of profession this June.



Please remember the Society of the Divine Savior in your will

A bequest is a wonderful way to support the mission and ministry of our Salvatorian Priests and Brothers, and is a testimony of your care and concern for them. Our legal name is "Society of the Divine Savior, Inc." and our taxpayer number (EIN) is 39-0806210.

OUR MISSION

In the spirit of our founder, Blessed Francis Jordan, the Society of the Divine Savior was founded more than 140 years ago and is a Catholic religious community working to share the love and mercy of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through all possible means.

SALVATORIANS

Society of the Divine Savior
P.O. BOX 758611
TOPEKA, KS 66675-8611
1-800-254-4902
fathersilas@salvatoriancenter.com
More at www.salvatoriancenter.org



SALVATORIANS
Apostles for our times.