



September/October
2004

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Apostleship of the Cross

“Christ Eternal and High Priest”
Center
Houston, Texas



AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS PRIEST AND VICTIM

The “Christ Eternal and High Priest” Center welcomed Fr. Fernando Torre Medina, M.Sp.S. Vicar of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, on August 17th and 18th. Fr. Fernando celebrated Mass on the 17th, at St. Thomas More and then proceeded to give us a beautiful talk. The theme was “An encounter with Jesus, Priest and Victim”. Everyone present was inspired by his enthusiasm. He said, among many other things, where and how we could find this encounter with Jesus. According to John Paul II, there are three indispensable places for this encounter. In His Word, God reveals Himself in the Sacred Scriptures, which as Fr. Felix said, “is a letter of love that God gives to us and where I find my delights”. We will find Him in the Sacraments and in the Liturgy, and in a very special way in the Eucharist. We find Him in our brothers and sisters, especially in the poor and in those who are suffering. We will always find Him in the Cross where, out of love, He gave His life for us. He is always present in our sufferings, difficulties and illnesses.

On the following day, at the home of Esmeralda and Fernando Gonzalez, Fr. Fernando continued with the same theme but seeing it through the Spirituality of the Cross.

He told us that there are four signs that guide the behavior of a person who has had such an encounter:

1. **Conversion.** The certainty of God’s love for us transforms our life. A sense of happiness, joy and service to others comes over us and the wish to dedicate our lives completely to God leads us to a desire for holiness.
2. **Community.** Where the love of Jesus is present and moves us to share it with others.
3. **Solidarity.** This is manifested by helping and loving others, by identifying their needs, and by being compassionate and doing something to help them.

4 - Mission. After having this encounter with Jesus, one can no longer remain inactive but should go into the world and teach others as He told his disciples before ascending to the Father, go and teach all nations proclaiming the Good News.



May God bless you Father Fernando!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept 8** - Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sept 14** - Exaltation of the Cross
 - Anniversary of our Center “Christ Eternal and High Priest” in Houston (1983)
- Sept 15** - Our Lady of Sorrows
- Sept 17** - Anniversary of death of Francisco Armida, Conchita’s husband (1901)
- Sept 24** - Anniversary Priestly Ordination of Fr. Felix (1887)
- Sept 24-26** - SPANISH RETREAT: “The Eucharist and the Cross” with F. Jose Luis Ortega, M.Sp.S.
- Sept 29** - Canonical Opening of Conchita’s Process of Beatification in Rome (1959)
- Oct 7** - Our Lady of the Rosary
- Oct 10-17** - XLVIII International Eucharistic Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico

NEWS FROM OUR THREE SECTIONS

SEPTEMBER

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| St. Theresa’s Section: | 9 - First Meeting |
| St. Thomas’s Section: | 9 - First Meeting |
| | 30 - Orientation |
| Notre Dame’s Section: | 14 - First Meeting |
| | 15 - Orientation / New Members |
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V LOCAL ASSEMBLY

On June 5TH we celebrated the V Local Assembly of our center “Christ Eternal and High Priest”, for which we counted with the presence of Fr. Roberto Saldívar, M.Sp.S., Director of Region 1.

Dr. Frank García came out elected as the new coordinator of our Center; we ask God to guide him in his new duties. On this day Mr. Ino Santisteban, and the marriage coupled formed by Mr. Lupe Rodriguez and Mrs. María Rodriguez, received the cross of the Apostleship of the Cross. Congratulations!

WORKSHOP

“Unity through the Holy Spirit” is the goal that Frank Garcia, the new coordinator of our center “Christ Eternal and High Priest”, has for us this year. With this purpose in mind, members of the three sections (St. Thomas, St. Theresa and Notre Dame) got together on August 28th at St. Thomas More, to pray, meditate and grow in our love for the Holy Spirit.

Dottie Hayes was in charge of the workshop and through the reading of “The Royal Road of Love”, she helped us to understand and go beyond the mere words “to listen” to what the Holy Spirit was trying to say to each and everyone present.

What a beautiful way to start the new year in the Apostleship of the Cross!

WE SAID... PRESENT!!!

Five members of our St. Theresa’s Section were present in the Priestly Ordination of our brother in Christ, Fr. Lucio Villalobos, M.Sp.S., and in his first Eucharistic Celebration. The Priestly Ordination took place on July 3rd at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, in Oxnard, California, and was preceded by Bishop Gustavo García-Siller, M.Sp.S. Our best wishes to you Father Lucio! May Our Lord overflow you with endless blessings!

Dn. Hugo Maese, M.Sp.S. visited us

On September 17 and 18 we had the great joy of having among us, our brother Deacon Hugo Maese, M.Sp.S., who is now living in Oxnard, California, and whose visit coincided with that of Fr. Fernando Torre Medina, M.Sp.S. So many gifts from God! So many ways of experiencing His love for us!

Prayer

Fr. Felix prayed this way...

"O Mary, my dear and good Mother:
 may my soul be a copy of yours;
 that your Heavenly soul be my heaven on earth;
 that my soul be always wrapped in yours.
 Receive my soul, guard it and inflame it in all its works,
 and keep it always in God's thought;
 and at my last breath, may your soul receive mine
 and present it before Jesus. Amen."

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We are on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.stmhouston.org/+/apcsp.htm>

***Jesus, Savior of all people,
 Save them!***