

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- DEACON VINCE'S MESSAGE
- SISTER ANNE GERMAINE GOES TO AFRICA
- PASS IT ON
- TEC DATES
- SPRUCING UP TEC CENTER
- PRAY FOR TEC 173

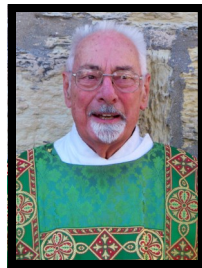
# The Shining Son

FEBRUARY 2011

## Listen to the God's Whispers

By: Deacon Vince Slomian

Well, the celebration of Jesus's birth has come and gone. We celebrated a new year and now we await the



Lent season and the Paschal Mystery of our Lord, Jesus, the Christ.

The team meetings for TEC 173 are going well and everyone on the team is anxiously awaiting the weekend of February 26-27-28th.

We are fortunate to have a few new team members that have never made

a TEC weekend.

These adults will have a life changing weekend. I talk from experience when I made my first weekend, TEC 4, way back when.

It was a time in my life that I was asking God to SPEAK TO ME.

By chance, I received an article called "Whispers" and I would like to share this with you if you haven't received this before.

You whispered, "God, speak to me." And a meadowlark sang

But you did not hear.

So you yelled, "God speak to me." And thunder rolled across the sky.

But you did not listen.

You looked around and said, "God, let me see you." And a star shined brightly.

But you did not see.

And then you shouted, "God, show me a miracle." And a life was born.

But you did not notice.

So you cried out in despair, "Touch me God, and let me know you are here." Whereupon, God reached down and touched you.

But you brushed the butterfly away - and walked on.

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## Across the Seas to Serve

Nearly 51 years ago when Sister Anne Germaine Picard began her journey as a Sister of Mary of the Presentation, she had no idea where the Lord would lead her.

Currently, living in Princeton with Sister Elaine Lange, she is about to embark on yet another exciting adventure.

Sister Anne Germaine

and Sister Suzanne Stahl, Assistant Provincial Superior for the United States Province of the Sisters, are leaving for Cameroon, Africa on March 31 for three months.

The trip will take a total of 32 hours of travel to reach her destination, which includes layovers and going through Customs.

"The Lord has opened this door to me and He will open the other doors," Sister Anne Germaine



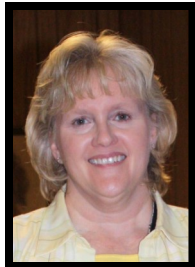
said, regarding what her ministry role will be in Cameroon.

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**“Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.”**

## Pass It On . . . A Note From Brenda

By: Brenda Barnickel, Lay Director



Thank You God for giving us the Kitchen Help! Alleluia Praise

the Lord!!

Many TECites share that one of their favorite things on a TEC weekend is the food.

I have to totally agree, but what I really feel makes the food so special is the WHEAT behind it.

I start with Rose Rose, our Kitchen Chairman, who has been planning menus, buying groceries, overseeing food preparation, organizing volunteers, cooking, baking, serving, and cleaning the kitchen for many, many years.

She keeps the kitchen running smoothly with a welcoming smile and a heart full of WHEAT.

Helping in the TEC kitchen is one of many ways TECites and parents can do WHEAT for the TEC program.

Many hands make light work and volunteers are always needed, whether you can give only a few hours, or whether you can spend the majority of a day.

Each day of the TEC weekend is divided into “shifts” and a specific chairperson is responsible for the overall meal, under the direction of Rose, and the rest of the volunteer help are under the meal chairman’s direction.

It is often thought that the Wheat Team is primarily in the kitchen throughout a TEC weekend and extra help isn’t really necessary, but that is not true.

We encourage all members of the TEC Community to help in the kitchen.

The Wheat Team has many behind the scenes jobs, but does help in the kitchen whenever more hands are needed.

Teen boys and girls, as well as adult men and women, are all welcome to do kitchen WHEAT.

However, when it comes to serving the meals it is policy that teen girls do not serve in the dining area on the boys’ weekends, and teen boys do not serve on the girls’ weekends, until the candlelight dinner on Sunday evening.

This is one of many awesome surprises on the weekend.

Those who serve this

meal are called escorts, where part of their WHEAT is individually escorting the candidates to the dining area.

Girls are asked to dress modestly, wearing either a dress or slacks; boys are asked to wear a shirt and tie with dress pants or nice khakis.

We ask that those teens who made the previous TEC weekend, as a candidate, attend the Hoot Mass, rather than serving at the candlelight dinner.

If you can’t spend some time in the kitchen, do some behind the scenes WHEAT by baking cookies. Plain and simple cookies are served on Die Day, while fancy and decorative cookies are added on Rise Day.

If we are blessed with many cookies, some can be frozen after the weekend and used for future Follow-ups and TEC gatherings.

Please make sure containers are marked with a name for easy return.

Keeping in mind good health and safety, we ask that you do not consider doing WHEAT if you have a serious cold or the flu.

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# Listening to God

From page 1

This is a great reminder that God is always around us in the little and simple things that we take for granted, even in our electronic age.

So, I would like to add one more: I cried, "God I need your help!" And a invitation to attend a TEC



a r r i v e d .

I finally said "YES" to His call. The TEC weekend changed my life forever.

Why don't you invite a friend, relative to attend a TEC weekend. They will be forever grateful to you and their life will be changed forever. And "Keep Coming Back!"



## Keep Us Updated

Did you know that the TEC Program is charged a fee for non-deliverable newsletters or for the forwarding of some newsletters to new addresses?

Therefore, it is very important to have correct addresses on file to keep costs reduced.

If you plan to move or have had a change of address, please send it to newsletter@peterstowntec.com.

To reduce printing and mailing costs, the Peterstown TEC Community is sending the majority of our publications electronically.

Other TEC notifications are also sent out through Email.

Therefore, it is very important that we have updated email addresses. Please send your updated Email addresses to Brenda Barnickel at laydirector@peterstowntec.com or to Kim Souba, Newsletter and Website Chairman at newsletter@peterstowntec.com.

Saving money on newsletters will allow the TEC Community to use the funds for the "Good of the Program."

### Clip and Save

## Important TEC Dates

Please make sure to mark your calendar so that you don't miss out on all the fun we have at the TEC Hilton, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The following are the important dates:

+ **Feb. 26-28:** TEC 173

(Boys)

+ **Feb. 27:** Hoot Mass at 5:30p.m.

+ **March 2:** First team meeting TEC 174 (Girls)

+ **March 6:** Follow-up at 5:30p.m.

+ **March 8:** Spiritual Core Team Meeting at 6p.m.

+ **March 13:** TEC Reboost 6-8p.m.

+ **March 23:** TEC Council Meeting at 6p.m.

+ **Apr. 2-4:** TEC 174 (Girls)

+ **Apr. 3:** Hoot Mass at 5:30p.m.

**PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!**

**“Behold, I  
am the  
handmaid of  
the Lord.”**

**Luke 1:38**



## Sister to Serve for Three Months in Cameroon

*From page 1*

“I may be helping our Sisters in the hospital, going to the clinics for the lepers, gardening, or traveling to the forest to work with the Pygmies, a name for some the native people.

All I know is that I will be ministering with our Sisters.”

In 1956, the Bishop of Cameroon requested that the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation come to Diocese of Batouri, in Cameroon from Broons, France, where their Motherhouse is.

According to Sister Anne Germaine, “the Sisters spent time in prayer and discernment” in order to have “the courage to do God’s will.”

The Congregation accepted the invitation and sent three Sisters to help with the education of girls, teach proper hygiene to the women, and work in the clinics, and evangelization.

Sister Anne Germaine, one of 13 children, is originally from Dunseith, North Dakota, and has been served as an X-ray technician, in campus ministry, as vocation and formation director, hospital chaplain, and is now serving in vocation ministry again.

In North Dakota, she also was involved with the Diocese of Fargo’s Cursillo program, worked with the youth in a program called Search, which is similar to TEC, and served on two TEC weekends on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation. Since moving to Princeton in 2009, she has made several TECs.

Explaining that her vocation began with attending a Catholic grade and high school, run by the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation, she said that when she was 16 and participating in a retreat day, she realized that “my life wasn’t really mine, but that it belonged to God.”

Meanwhile, she had wanted to marry and have a family, “but God had other plans,” she said. “When I said that ‘yes,’ I had a deep peace and strength to leave home, my other plans and ideas, and embrace religious life.

I have had 51 years of grace and ministry.”

There has been no other American Sister to go to Africa for ministry since 1977.

“As an international Congregation, we from

the United States want to give our support,” explained Sister Anne Germaine.

“We can’t send a Sister full-time, but we can go for a few months,” she said, adding that she “felt honored to be asked by our leadership.”

Preparing for her departure, Sister Anne Germaine has been reading the history of the Sisters’ mission as well as the



Congregational History.

“I’m also reviewing my French because it’s totally French-speaking.”

She adds that when people ask her how the preparation is going, she answers, “I’m just a little shot” and then giggles as she refers to the many shots she has had to receive to prevent different diseases.

The Sisters of Mary of the Presentation currently have 14 Native Sisters who have taken their perpetual vows, which include 9 Cameroonians and 5 Congolese.

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## Sister Eloise Marie Comes to Princeton

From page 4

There are also six Congolese Sisters in temporary profession, along with six novices and two postulants, those studying to be Sisters.

Uniting herself with the Native Sisters in simplicity, she will dress very simply, wearing a white blouse and a tan skirt. "The Native Sisters are dressed in a white habit."

Sister Anne Germaine looks forward to "the inspiration of my Sisters in serving the poorest of the poor, their dedication, their love, and their self-sacrifice. We are there totally for the people."

When asked about what she hopes to gain from the experience, Sister said, "I am praying for the conversion that God is asking me to go with."

Because Cameroon is located on the west coast of Africa, running north to south from the Sahara Desert to the Atlantic Ocean, sending snail mail to Sister Anne Germaine would take nearly three months for her to receive. She will have limited access to Email.

Sister Anne Germaine is asking the TEC and Cursillo Communities to "pray for the mission and to pray that I am open to what God wants to do in and through me while I

am there with our Sisters serving the poor. Pray that I cooperate with God's grace."

While Sister Anne Germaine is gone, Sister Eloise Marie Pulskamp will be living with Sister Elaine. Sister Eloise Marie retired to Maryvale, the Provincial Home of the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation in Valley City, North Dakota, in 2005 after more than 20 years in Princeton.



Christ is counting on you...



## Sprucing Up the TEC Center

On Saturday, Feb 5, we got off to a fantastic start with 16 volunteers doing WHEAT!

The group consisted of TEC, Cursillo, and friends of the community.

Many hands made light work in moving out furniture, tearing out carpet, and doing initial steps to prepare the walls for painting.

The rooms are now empty and will be completely prepared for painting through out the week of Feb 6.

Painting is planned for the week of Feb 13, with a small

group of volunteers.

The carpet will be installed, and a wrap up date will be set to move the furniture from the gym back into the lounge, etc.

If interested in helping with the ongoing project, please contact Lori McConville at 815-910-2222 or by Email at [lori\\_mcconville@yahoo.com](mailto:lori_mcconville@yahoo.com) or Brenda Barnickel at 815-973-6606 or by Email at [laydirec-tor@peterstowntec.com](mailto:laydirec-tor@peterstowntec.com), to see if we need more hands.

Donations are still being

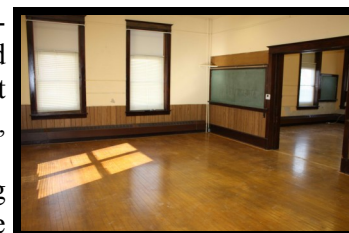
accepted for the project.

Checks can be made out to Peterstown TEC and mailed to Brenda Barnickel at 306-19th St. Mendota, IL 61342.

Our goal of having it all completed before Feb 23, the night of the last team meeting, just before the boys' TEC weekend.

Please keep all those doing WHEAT in your prayers!

I'm anticipating the finished project, how about you?



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## Kitchen Wheat!

Volunteers are asked to use good hand care and tie hair back.

The kitchen is always a great place for WHEAT to be done, a great place for community, and you may even learn a tool or two in meal preparation.

Everyone is welcome to drop into the kitchen.

You don't have to be signed up ahead of time, although a certain number of committed helpers are needed in order to prepare for the weekend.

Please contact Rose Rose at 815-638-2165 or by Email at [gary.rose58@gmail.com](mailto:gary.rose58@gmail.com) to sign up to help, or if you have any questions.



## Pray for TEC 173

Please pray for the team and candidates of TEC 173, under the direction of Brian Corrigan, Steve Harmon, and Don McLachlan. Other team members include: Deacon Vince, Dennis Gillan, Anita Kobilsek, Kathy Hoscheid, Karen Mecagni, Father Gary Blake, Kevin Toovey, Herb Buchanan, Mike Webster, Alex Miller, Matt Cessna, Derek and Nicole Green, Andrew Loebach, Dominic Passini, Konner Stremlau, Kevin Alleman, Matt Eilers, and Nolan Toovey. The theme for the weekend is: "Who is Jesus for Me on TEC 173?"