



The Roman Renewal Program is primarily for Resurrectionists who are involved in formation ministry. I have served on our Ontario-Kentucky formation committee for many years and I served as rector of students for Raphael Ma over the last 4 years. This is an ideal opportunity for me to prepare further for my role in Tanzania. It is an incredible gift to have Fr. Andrzej Duda from Tanzania in Rome for the renewal program. We have already had many conversations about Tanzania and what I might expect. Fr. Andrzej has a great deal of experience both in





formation and in Tanzania. He can speak Polish, Italian, English, and Swahili—and maybe other languages as well! I am really looking forward to collaborating with him in Tanzania. Among his gifts is a good sense of humor. One day we walked to St. Peter’s Basilica and decided to make a short visit inside for about 15 minutes. We agreed to meet later at the exit. Fr. Andrzej was taking a few photos and showed me one when we got back home. Can you spot any familiar person in this photo? Notice the guy walking with a purpose! ☺



You just never know who will show up in a photo that you take in Rome!

We have had some very good and well qualified speakers during the program. Our first sessions were led by Jo n Braz Cardinal De Aviz, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, who spoke on “Witnesses of the Presence of the Risen Lord as Consecrated Persons in Today’s Church and World.” The next day, our own Fr. Andrzej Gieniusz, C.R. spoke about “Vocation Formation in the Light of the New Testament.” Fr. Eamonn McLaughlin from the Congregation of the Clergy spoke to us about “The Gift of the Priestly Vocation: Ratio *Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*” on the third day.



*Br. Nucinaldo de Arruda (S. American Region), Frs. Evandro Rosa (Vicar General, South American Region), Jim Gibson (U.S.A. Province), Jim Donohue (O-K Province), Krystof Mietka (Italy, Polish Province), Paul Voisin (Superior General, O-K Province), Andrzej Gieniusz (Postulator General, Polish Province), Andrzej Duda (Tanzania, Polish Province), Wojcich Mleczo (Polish Province), Dan Lobsinger (O-K Province), and Jacek Praski (Secretary General, U.S.A. Province)*



On the fourth day, Fr. Zbigniew Sushecki, O.F.M. Conv. spoke to us about “Initial Formation: Some Legal Aspects.” That afternoon, we made a trip to Tivoli under the guidance of Fr. Krystof Mietka, who is the pastor of a parish in Tivoli. While we were there, we visited the Tivoli water gardens. There were hundreds of fountains and they were incredible!





One of the participants in the program is Fr. Dan Lobsinger, C.R., who I knew as a server in St. Aloysius Parish in Kitchener, Ontario when I was first ordained. Fr. Dan is currently our vocation director and ministers at St. Mary's Church in Kitchener. We are living in rooms close to each other and have gone for several walks at night in search of Italian gelato. We have been successful everytime! Every time we go for ice cream, we think of one of the Resurrectionists that Dan lives with: Fr. Joseph deViveiros. We usually ask ourselves what the best flavor of ice cream is...and the answer is: the one that Joseph would choose! ☺ ☺



I think the highlight of the renewal so far has been the retreat that Fr. Paul Voisin, our Superior General, led on Saturday and Sunday (days 5 and 6). The retreat focused on the resurrection of Jesus and it covered three aspects: searching for the Risen Lord, encountering the Risen Lord, and being sent out by the Risen Lord. Fr. Paul provided some input from different passages of the resurrection appearance stories and then he invited sharing from members of the group. It was

really amazing how many fresh and interesting insights emerged from this format. I encouraged Fr. Paul to use this as a retreat for our province in the near future.



*Fr. Paul Voisin just before the celebration of Eucharist.*

One thing we could say about our time in Rome is that it has been VERY HOT! It was 106 F (42 C) on Wednesday. I usually find shelter in a beautiful



garden that we have at the back of the house. It is cool, with a breeze, and very quiet as well.





On June 25, we visited and prayed the rosary at the Cemetery of St. Lawrence in Campo Verano, where many Resurrectionists are buried.



*Fr. Antonio Rencricca, a native Italian Resurrectionist who studied at St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario—same place that I studied—explained how the tomb was “renovated” and the remains of our Founders were moved to the chapel in our Motherhouse in the early 1950's.*



We ended the first week with a celebration of Canada Day 🇨🇦 on July 1. To celebrate, we had a roof-top barbeque “with all the fixings!” It was a beautiful evening and we enjoyed each other’s company with good food and drink.



*Fr. Dan Lobsinger (O-K Province) and Br. Nucinaldo de Arruda (S. American Region).*







*Fr. Andrzej Duda (Tanzania, Polish Province) and Fr. Paul Voisin enjoy Canada Day as the sun sets in Rome.*



Visit *CR's in Action* <https://resurrectionists.ca/>