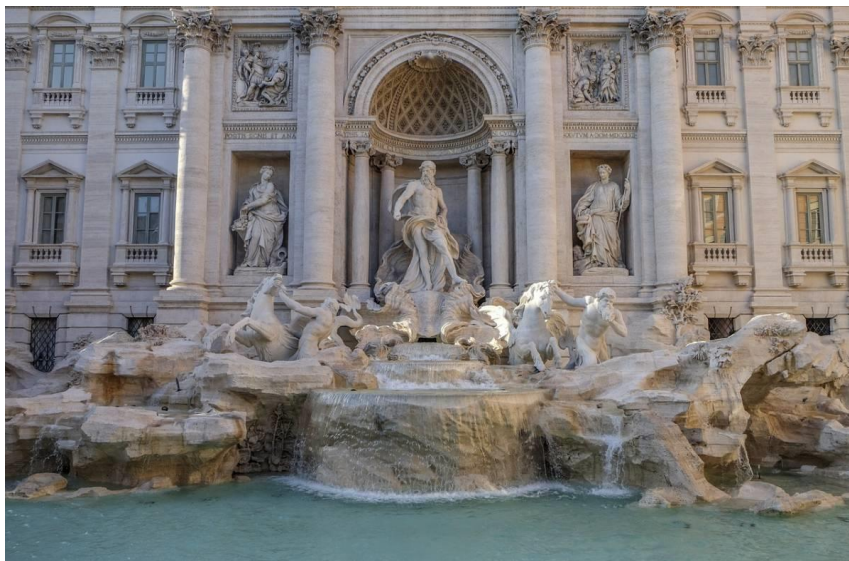




The renewal program offered many opportunities for us to pray together. We usually alternated English and Italian throughout Morning and Evening Prayer, but would use English, Italian and Polish during the Eucharist.



One day we were able to visit some of the important historical sites of our community. Some of these included the Trevi Fountain where one of our Founders, Fr. Jerome Kajsiewicz collapsed and died. A doctor who was in a nearby pharmacy came to help, but there was nothing that he could do. We also visited the Church of



St. Claude, the first church in which they served in Rome. It was French property under the management of the French Embassy to the Holy See, and they lent the church to the Resurrectionists in 1842. Further inspiration for early Resurrectionists came when they visited the Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola, where they read the words above the main altar—“I will be gracious to you in



The Church of St. Claude and the Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Rome, Italy.

Rome. They believed in their hearts that these words were meant for them and they continued in their service in Rome. On our tour, we stopped at the Church of St. Luigi to view Michelangelo da Caravaggio’s masterpiece, “The Call of Matthew.” In this painting, Jesus and Peter are dressed in clothing from the New Testament

times, but Matthew and his friends are dressed in clothing of the beginning of the 17th century. It is not perfectly clear who Matthew is. Some suggest the man with the beard who is pointing at himself, asking, “Me?” Others suggest that the man with the beard is pointing to young man who is lifting his head, asking, “Him?” In



either case, it is interesting to see how Jesus is pointing with his hand. Here Jesus is reaching out, just as Adam reaches out to God in Michelangelo's (Caravaggio's namesake) painting on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.



Our final stop was at the Church of Santa Maria in Campitella, where the body of our Founder, Bogdan Jański was transferred so that his funeral rites could be celebrated (July 3, 1840). Originally, his internment was at the Cemetery of St.

Lawrence, but his remains were later transferred to our Motherhouse in the early 1950's. We celebrated the anniversary of Bogdan Jański's death together on July 2.



Talks and discussions this week were led by Mons. Robert Oliver, Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, and Fr. Artur Kardaś, C.R., who spoke on “Bogdan Jański: Formator of the First Resurrectionists” and “Fr. Smolikowski’s Principles of Formation as a Reflection of Bogdan Jański’s Theory and Practice.” We also welcomed Philip Towner, Dean of the Nida Institute for Biblical Scholarship at the American Bible Society, who spoke on “Christian Formation in 1 Peter,” and Fr. Zdzislaw Kijas, OFM Conv., who spoke on “Religious Vows Today.”

Fr. Paul Szymanowski is a member of the Ontario-Kentucky Province who is living in Rome studying moral theology, but also acting as our archivist. He gave us a tour of the archives and the newly renovated museum. We all put on white gloves so that we could handle some of the archival material, including the original letters and journals of our founder, Bogdan Jański. We even heard an

audio tape of part of the General Chapter of 1969. It was an odd feeling to hear the voice of Fr. Cornelius Siegfried—a Resurrectionist who I knew when I was a young man—as he provided a ruling at the Chapter concerning the offer of resignation of the newly elected Superior General.



Fr. Paul Szymanowski leading us on a tour of the museum.



There are some “odd” items in the archives...not sure why anyone thought that these teeth would be worth saving! You can tell by the look on my face that I needed more convincing!!!!



We made another excursion to the Vatican Gardens. Usually, there are about 15,000 visitors to the Vatican each day, but only 150 people are allowed into the

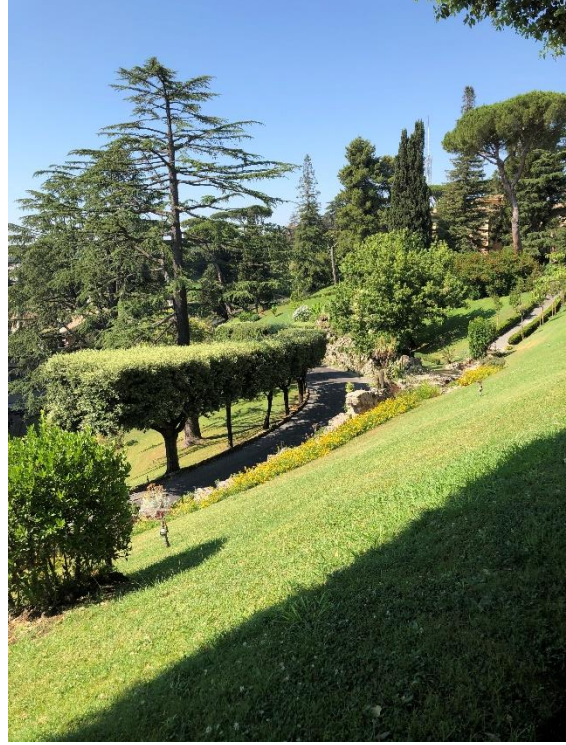


Tour of Vatican Gardens.



Home of Pope Benedict XVI.

Vatican Gardens, where, as you know, Pope Benedict XVI resides in retirement. Our guide told us that this summer the number of people visiting the Vatican has been incredibly high, with a total of 41,000 people visiting the previous Saturday!



We also toured a new exhibit near the Vatican Gardens...transportation for popes. You have your choice of a horse-drawn carriage.



Or perhaps you would like a classic automobile...



. . . or maybe you would just prefer the modern Pope-Mobile! The one below is vehicle that Saint John Paul II was traveling in when he was shot and wounded by Mehmet Ali Ağca while he was entering St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981.



There was a time when popes were carried into an audience. St. John XXIII was known as being “traditionally built” so he had extra handles on his chair.



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