## VTMS ATTENDS UNA VOCE INTERNATIONAL XV STATUTORY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ROME 13 OCT./01



Mr. Michael Davies FIUV Pres.



Count Neri Capponi



Fr. Devillers FSSP



**Alfons Cardinal Stickler** 



ICKS Priest flanked by Knights of Malta Lord Brian Gill & Count Neri Capponi



Mr. David Reid (VTMS) & Card. Stickler

# VTMS Sends Representative to Una Voce International XV Statutory General Assembly Rome 13 OCT./01

or the first time in the 12 year history of the VTMS we were able to send a representative, Mr. David Reid the Communications Director, to attend the International Conference. Mr. Reid was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Lynn Reid the VTMS Treasurer who also attended the conference.

Delegates from 19 national associations from all parts of the world gathered in Rome on the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> October 2001 to take part in the 15<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (GA) of the International Una Voce Federation; drawn there by their love of the traditional Catholic liturgy and their desire to ensure that their children and grandchildren will never be deprived of their rightful heritage.

## **Trip Report:**

The meeting was held at the Domus Pacis in Rome. We met Dr. de Saventhem, Count Neri Capponi, Mr. Bill Basile, Mr. Leo Darroch, Cardinal Stickler and many others, some of whom have played an important role in the history of the VTMS. We were also able to renew acquaintances with many old friends among whom were Michael Davis and Fr. Devillers.

The meetings began at 2 O'clock and opened with a prayer and the singing of the Veni Creator. The de Profundis was also recited for deceased members of our respective organizations.

Accepted as new members were Una Voce Finland, the Latin Mass Society of Ireland and Ecclesia Dei Delft.

## Letter from His Eminence Cardinal Castrillon Hoyos.

Dear Mr. Davies,

I thank you profoundly for your kind letter of 20 August 2001, with which you invited me to the General Assembly of the International Una Voce Federation which takes place in Rome on 13 - 14 October.

Throughout the entire month of October this year there will be taking place in Rome, as you are no doubt aware, a Synod of Bishops in which I have to take part in my capacity as Prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy. For this reason it will not be possible for me to take part in the General Assembly of Una Voce.

Please let me assure you, that, despite the impossibility of my being present in person, I am very interested in this assembly, which I hope will be able to work in a tranquil atmosphere for the good of all the faithful who are attached to the Latin liturgy.

Please be sure of my prayers and heartfelt blessing for the entire assembly.

## **Dario Castrillon Hoyos.**

## The Past Council was re-elected by acclamation:

**President:** Mr Michael Davies [England]. **Vice President:** Count Neri Capponi [Italy].

Vice President: Herr Ralf Siebenbürger [Austria].

Vice President: Monsieur C. L. van den Driessche [Belgium].

**Secretary:** Mr. Leo Darroch [England]. **Treasurer**: Mr. Fred. Haehnel [USA]. Fra' Fredrik Crichton-Stuart [Scotland]. Monsieur Jacques Dhaussy [France].

Mr. Jan Filip Libicki [Poland].

Mr. Jack Oostveen [The Netherlands].

## There are also three co-opted members.

The Lord Brian Gill [Scotland].
Dr. Helmut Rückriegel [Germany].
Dott. Mario Seno [Italy].
The Lord Brian Gill (newly elected)

Mr. Michael Davies was re-elected for a future 2-year term as President. He has indicated that this will be his last term in office.

We were brought up to date by Michael Davies on the present state of Traditional organizations and the spread of the Tridentine Latin Mass world wide and developments which had occurred since the last General Assembly. Progress between countries varies but this can be seen from the individual reports submitted by the delegates. He contrasted the situation in Estonia [where there is not one Mass allowed by the bishops and the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX) serves the needs of the faithful], with Vancouver, Canada, where the archbishop has created a personal parish. The situation in Australia is looking bright where Bill Bell is working tirelessly and the FSSP has now been invited in. He read the very encouraging report from Australia where Rome has installed some very orthodox bishops and the situation is improving radically.

In the USA the Fraternity of St. Peter had <u>80</u> applicants for its seminary but sadly, it only has room for 16. It is thinking of building a second wing to provide more accommodation. It is a tragedy that 64 applicants had to be turned away simply because there is no accommodation to house them. We should all redouble our efforts

to support the FSSP in its hour of need. We, the laity, are the beneficiaries of these seminaries.

In Poland, Una Voce Polonia, which only started six years ago, now has six seminarians in the FSSP. There is now a Mass every day in Poznan celebrated by a priest from the Fraternity. The Polish delegation produced a video of a Solemn High Mass celebrated by Fr. Dawidowski, FSSP, and asked the delegates to buy copies. The proceeds of which will be used to support Fr. Dawidowski in his further studies. Copies can be obtained by contacting Una Voce Polonia, ul. Szkolna 5, 61-832 Poznan, Poland. Tel/Fax: 00 48 61 852 95 79.

### **Future Action.**

hroughout the year there had been a great deal of public discussion in the news media and on the internet about the possible attempts to amend the Missal of 1962. These changes would be of the kind introduced in 1965 and 1967, and would certainly have resulted in the drastic alteration of the prayers and rubrics of the Missal of 1962. The mood of the delegates was very much against any amendments of this Missal, especially those changes that would drastically change the integrity of the Missal, such as the reception of Communion in the hand and the use of female altar servers. The general feeling was that the Una Voce movement was there to uphold the traditional liturgy and the reality of this is found in the Missal of 1962. On Sunday we attended a High Mass at Chiesa Gesu e Maria on the Via del Corso. The Solemn High Mass, celebrated by Don Vittorio M. Mazzucchelli, of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, was accompanied by the Una Voce Choir of Rome. They did a splendid job to the greater honour and glory of God and Christ Our Sovereign King. The church was full to capacity with many people having to stand. Two Una Voce Council members, Fra' Fredrik Crichton-Stuart, Chancellor, Grand Priory of England, and Count Neri Capponi, were present on the sanctuary in their robes of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The Mass was celebrated for the deceased members of all the Una Voce affiliations.

## Open Forum.

he chair for the Open Forum in the afternoon was taken by Ralf Siebenbürger who announced the general business of the day. There were three main guests during the afternoon session; Alfons Cardinal Stickler, Father Arnaud Devillers, Superior General of the FSSP, and Don Vittorio Mazzucchelli of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest.

## Guest Speaker Father Devillers, FSSP.

he following is a summary of Father Devillers' address. Since the last General Assembly he had been appointed as the Superior General of the Fraternity of St. Peter and he gave the delegates a little of his own history before telling everyone the latest news of the Fraternity.

He said that he was French but had never been assigned to France. He had taught for two years in the seminary of Wigratzbad before Father Bisig had sent him to the USA in 1992. In New York Bishop Brennan allowed him to work in the parish of Christ the King. He asked his supporters to do a novena for the success of the Fraternity in North America. Initially, two bishops were very supportive, Bishop Timlin of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and Bishop Chaput, who at that time was in Rapid City, South Dakota. One parish said the Rosary for a year to get a full-time traditional priest and at the end of the year the bishop invited the FSSP into his diocese but he had to wait two years before a priest was available. Bishop Sullivan of Richmond, who is very advanced in many ways, loves the old Mass and he now has two traditional communities and he wants them taken care of before he retires. In the English-speaking world the FSSP does not have enough priests to satisfy demands.

Father Devillers explained that the Episcopal situation in Australia has changed out of all recognition in five years and is now very orthodox. Two leading figures are Archbishop Pell in Sydney and Bishop Hart in Melbourne. Two young traditional priests have just been ordained in Sydney and the FSSP has been promised a parish in Melbourne but it may take a little time. Now many bishops are willing to invite the FSSP into their dioceses but there are simply not enough priests at present.

He said he is trying to work in England and Scotland and has just visited there. The situation may be improving. Father Emerson is in Edinburgh and there is a Mass in Glasgow. He feels there are good prospects in Scotland and England. There are two priests in London but one is going to Oxford hoping to establish there. He has not been to Ireland but hopes to go in April 2002.

In the USA it usually took between three and five years from meeting a bishop to getting a Mass and a priest established. Father Devillers' German is not good but he is trying to learn that language. In France, some bishops are now inviting the FSSP priests to serve in some of their parishes. In Dijon the bishop has allowed a priest to work in a parish there and the Bishop of Toulon was very welcoming and asked for a particular priest (who was German) to come into a particular parish. Other things are moving in certain areas but he could not speak of them yet.

In Nigeria, a diocesan priest was sent to the USA to study and fell in love with the traditional Mass and joined the FSSP. His bishop allowed him to return to Nigeria to say this Mass and he has a congregation of 250 on a Sunday. The bishop now wants the traditional Mass in his diocese.

In Poland, a FSSP priest was sent to Poznan. Officially he is studying, but in effect he is saying the traditional Mass for the local people. This is something new for the Polish bishops.

He is not yet able to send a priest to The Netherlands only because he does not have a Dutch/Flemish-speaking priest.

The current situation is that the Fraternity now has 125 priests and 125 seminarians in Wigratzbad, Germany and Lincoln, Nebraska. In Nebraska, he is hoping that the Fraternity can raise enough money to build an extra wing to house more students. He is also hoping to have a decent house in Rome to assist with studies.

#### Alfons Cardinal Stickler.

t this point in the proceedings Cardinal Stickler arrived and Ralf Siebenburger introduced him as a rock, a solid rock of orthodoxy and an inspiration and friend to the Una Voce movement.

The cardinal said, although he was 91 years of age, it was the first time in his life that he had felt really old. He had had shingles for three months and he was feeling weak. Our situation in the liturgy reflects the situation in the Church. Europe brought the faith to all parts of the world but Europe now needs to be converted. The Mother of the Church repeated the message at Fatima that we must pray and suffer and we can then obtain that which for us is impossible. He is convinced that this millennium will be the millennium of the triumph of the Church. When things are really bad God will change the situation. What do we have to do? We have to avoid one thing – to say <u>who</u> is guilty of this situation and emphasise <u>what</u> is the situation. The situation cannot be changed immediately. We can underline and explain the situation in Europe, the USA and others. It is difficult in Europe because the situation is getting worse and we must convince people that the situation has to change. How can we do it? Cardinal Stickler urged us not to publish offensive articles against the authorities. We have some good new publications - he mentioned Alice von Hildeband and the Latin Mass magazine and Michael Davies as examples of how we can write and speak of the present situation.

He mentioned home-schooling in the USA which is very important in avoiding all the dangerous teachings in the public schools. Europe should be publishing magazines such as the Latin Mass magazine. We must avoid polemics. We cannot expect at this moment a great change but we must pray for change and it will come.

He urged the delegates to continue in this sense because it is based on the truth and on the faith. Only by doing this can we expect the help of Our Lord and Our Lady.

Both Michael Davis and Fr. Devillers in their talks praised the VTMS and the Vancouver Traditional Latin Mass Community for their accomplishments, their patience, their methods of approach and dealing with our Archbishop and the speedy erection and transition to the Divine Mercy Quasi Parish.

## Guest Speaker Don Vittorio Mazzucchelli, ICKSP.

ext to speak was Don Vittorio Mazzucchelli of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest. He spoke in French and Ralf Siebenburger provided a summary. The assembly was informed about the latest news from the Mother House in Gricigliano and that the Institute now has 60 seminarians. It has its patrons, St. Benedict, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Thomas de Sales. The apostolate of the Institute is spreading and has expanded into a number of countries including the USA and West Africa. There was some welcome news that the Institute can increase its contact with Cardinal Medina Estevez, the Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, who has ordained two priests for the Institute. Ralf thanked Don Vittorio and asked him to pass on everyone's good wishes to Mgr Wach who has sustained an injury to his leg and may need an operation to assist his recovery.

#### For the VTMS:

- We were able to detail the situation in Vancouver. We did not forget to give full credit to and encourage the use of the Holy Souls in Purgatory;
- We renewed our contacts with the International Organization and made others;
- We also managed to have dinner on Monday night with Fr. Devillers and update him on our progress and get his perspective on the international scene;
- We also took away a renewed conviction that we have a responsibility to help those not as fortunate in Canada;
- We were also able to pray for the VTMS, the Divine Mercy Parish and parishioners needs in many of the major Basicillas in Rome.

Our Newsletter has also been requested by Michael and we will be probably be sending it to some of the other affiliates.

The Vancouver Traditional Mass Society.

Member of Foederatio Internationalis Una Voce
Report to Una Voce International - October 2001.

Past History:

he VTMS was established as a non-profit society in July 1989 with a Board of Directors, all of whom shared a love for the Mass as they had known it from childhood. The society was consecrated to the Precious Blood and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Following a prayerful siege to heaven and meetings with the Diocese, Archbishop Carney (RIP) granted permission in 1989 for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, according to the 1962 Missal, to be celebrated once a week on Sunday at Holy Spirit Church in Queensborough.

The VTMS, supported by its members and the interests of the Traditional Mass community, continued through the '90s to fulfill the mandate entrusted to them. Correspondence with His Grace Archbishop Exner was established and maintained throughout this ten year period. The lack of daily Mass, the Sacraments, devotions and most importantly, a traditional priest, familiar with the spiritual temperament and needs of the community, necessitated the VTMS to pursue prudently the Archbishop with the following request:

- the community be provided full access to the liturgy of Holy Mother Church as set out in the pre-Vatican II liturgical books;
- the community be given access to the full parish life with the establishment or the intention of establishing a "quasi" parish for the Latin Mass community; and
- a priest from the Fraternity of St. Peter be permitted to minister to our needs.

Archbishop Exner responded with his love and pastoral care and invited the VTMS Executive for a private audience in November 1999. The above requests were granted and the Archbishop proceeded to make the necessary arrangements. This was indeed a great moment of Grace for the Bishop, the Church and for us! The VTMS is justifiably proud, in particular, the part it played in obtaining permission for the establishment of Divine Mercy Quasi Parish and the presence of the Fraternity of St.Peter (FSSP) in Vancouver.

Thus it happened that the Vancouver Traditional Mass community welcomed Father Charles Ryan, FSSP, in September, 2000. On January 6, 2001, Divine Mercy Quasi

Parish was canonically erected by His Grace Archbishop Adam Exner in Vancouver, with Fr. Ryan as Pastor, and all the Liturgical forms of the Latin tradition were restored (Deo Gratias!).

#### The Present:

ivine Mercy Quasi Parish does not currently have a church but relies on the hospitality of two other parishes in which the control of two others are the control of two hospitality of two other parishes in which to offer the Sacred Mysteries. Daily Mass is at 8:00am at St. Michael's Church in Burnaby; High Mass is celebrated on Sunday at 12:30pm at Holy Spirit Church in Queensborough. Last month, September 2001, Divine Mercy Quasi Parish offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in thanksgiving, celebrating Fr. Ryan's first Anniversary in the Diocese. Fr. Ryan, in delivering his "state of the parish" presentation, mentioned several accomplishments:

- The remarkable achievement of obtaining Canonical recognition as a Quasi Parish in such a short space of time;
- The lessening of opposition and change of attitude within the Diocese towards the Fraternity and the Traditional Community. (Father attributed this softening of hearts to be due in part to the good will of the Archbishop and the members of Divine Mercy Parish. This Diocese is also blessed with the unique situation of having clergy who support what the Fraternity does. These "traditional-minded Priests" love the Mass and would say it exclusively if they had the chance. This has resulted in Father being invited occasionally to offer the Traditional Mass in their parishes.)
- The assignment of Father Ryan as Chaplain at the Royal Columbian Hospital is a great source of grace for Father and has brought new members to the community, and
- Father is teaching a class at the Traditional Learning Academy, an independent school operating in the Catholic tradition, with the approval of the Archbishop. We are also proud of the fact that our small community is the source of several seminarians. We currently have two seminarians with FSSP, and another was newly ordained this year.

## **National involvement:**

he VTMS is a long-standing member of Una Voce International. We greatly appreciate the support we have received from this great organization and desire the same for all other traditional groups in Canada. The situation for the indult in Canada should be viewed in terms of quality, rather than quantity. In 1988, the FSSP had no apostolates in Canada. Now, the FSSP has a Personal Parish in Ottawa, a personal Quasi Parish in Vancouver, an apostolate in Calgary, and an

apostolate in St. Catherines. The Indult Mass is allowed in the Archdiocese of Toronto and the Diocese of London, Hamilton and St. Catherines. It is also allowed in Ontario in the Archdiocese of Ottawa and the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. The Indult in Quebec is confined to the Archdioceses of Montreal and Sherbrooke. Regretfully, there are Bishops in Canada who remain hostile to the Traditional Mass.

Respectfully submitted, Moira Garneau, President Presented by David Reid, Director











