



# NEWSLETTER



VOL. VII

SUMMER/FALL 2022

ISSUE NO. I



*Photo: Seminarians of both the Dioceses Bridgeport and Archdioceses of Hartford*

## From the Rector's Desk...



The Peace of Christ be with you all.

First of all, I would like to thank all of you who participated or otherwise contributed to our Fifth Annual Gala Dinner on June 19th: it was a beautiful celebration, and we had the privilege to honor Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America. We were also accompanied by their Excellencies, Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford, Most Rev. Juan M. Betancourt, Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford, Most Rev. James Massa, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn and Rector of St. Joseph's seminary in Yonkers, together with other priests and friends from the tri-state area.

This past semester marked a historic moment for our seminary; on May 21st, we had the ordination of our first transitional deacon, Ricardo Batista Comim, from Brazil: God willing, Ricardo will be ordained a priest on May 20th, 2023.

In May, we were also honored to receive the first official visit of His Excellency Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford who was accompanied by the Auxiliary bishop of Hartford, Most Rev. Juan Miguel Betancourt.

In the meantime, the seminarians are proceeding in their formation: in March – shortly after celebrating the feast of St. Joseph, patron of seminaries – Christian Siciliani received candidacy, while later in June, David Klein and Matheus De Araujo Seixas were installed acolytes and Sebastián Sanmiguel López received the lectorate.

Shortly after, we had to say farewell to Fr. Giandomenico Flora, our spiritual director for the past 7 years, who has been called back to the Archdiocese of Newark: we wish him all the best. God bless you on our new assignment, Fr. Giandomenico!

The summer continued with pilgrimage and vocational meeting in the Holy Land in July, where, together with other 8,000 youth from all of the USA, we had a chance to walk in the footsteps of the Lord and to be renewed in our faith: 200 young men, 300 young women, and 250 families answered the call to follow Christ in the priesthood, religious life and the mission to evangelize!

Finally, you will see that we are continuing with the works of renovation of our new home, and on October 2nd, we will have an Open House Barbecue to invite everyone to see them.

Again, I thank you very much for your support, and I hope you will be able to visit us in the next future.

Please, rest assured all of you of our prayers.

Pray for us,

*Very Rev. Marco Pacciana*

Very Rev. Marco Pacciana  
Rector of Redemptoris Mater Seminary





## Serra Club Visits the Seminary

On Thursday, April 27th, the brothers and sisters of the Serra Club came and visited the seminary. The Serra Club is an organization that promotes and fosters vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life. These men and women are lay Catholics from all walks of life and are dedicated to promoting vocations for the Diocese of Bridgeport. The brothers and sisters joined us in prayer with Vespers, and we concluded the evening with a delicious meal. We are very grateful for everything that the Serra Club does! May God Bless them!



*Photo: The seminarians with the brothers and sisters of the Serra Club on April 27, 2022.*



Redemptoris Mater of Bridgeport was honored to receive the first official visit of His Excellency Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford, to our new see on Wednesday, May 18th.

In the image are the seminarians, the Itinerant Catechist team of Hartford, and our esteemed guests.

## Archbishop Blaire Visits The New See of RMS

On Wednesday, May 18th, we were honored to receive the first official visit of His Excellency Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford, to our new see. His Excellency was also accompanied by the Auxiliary bishop of Hartford, Most Rev. Juan Miguel Betancourt. The Catechist Itinerant Team of Hartford, Connecticut, also joined us for this historic moment in our seminary.

Being the first time that His Excellency Most. Rev. Leonard P. Blaire visited the seminary, Fr. Marco, and the seminarians greeted him with songs at the door. We were able to give them a tour of the new see and prayed Vespers with the seminarians. In the context of vespers, His Excellency was able to bless the new ciborium of our House. We concluded the evening with a beautiful meal with all that were present.

## Ricardo Batista Comin Ordained as a Transitional Deacon

A historic moment for our seminary was made on the morning of May 21st. We had the privilege to witness the ordination of our first transitional deacon, Ricardo Batista Comin, from Brazil: God willing, Ricardo will be ordained a priest on May 20th, 2023. It was a morning of joy and rejoicing upon seeing Ricardo ordained. We participated in the Mass and were able to greet our brother with songs and dancing at the end of the celebration. The brothers of Ricardo's community were all present and hosted the feast after the ordination. Ricardo has now been assigned as a transitional deacon to help with the parish of St. Charles Borromeo in Bridgeport.



Ricardo Batista Comin alongside the five other newly ordained and His Excellency Bishop Frank Caggiano, Auxiliary Bishop Massa and Very Rev. Fr. Marco Pacciana





## Gala Dinner 2022

At our Fifth Annual Gala Dinner, we honored Archbishop Christophe Pierre, The Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. More than 400 brothers attended the fifth annual gala dinner; We were also accompanied by their Excellencies, Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford, Most Rev. Juan M. Betancourt, Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford, Most Rev. James Massa, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn and Rector of St. Joseph's seminary in Yonkers, together with other priests and friends from the tri-state area.



The seminarians and their formators alongside His Excellency, the apostolic nuncio to the United States of America, Christophe Pierre, and His Excellency Bishop Frank Caggiano.



Christian Sicilliani after the Candidacy Mass.



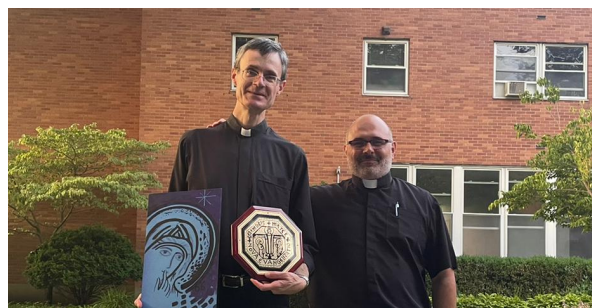
Matheus DeAraujo Seixas & Sebastian Sanmiguel Lopez & David Klein after receiving their ministries by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano

## Seminarians receive Ministries

On Saturday, March 19th, on the Feast of St. Joseph, Christian Sicilliani had his candidacy mass. We later came back to celebrate the feast and also Christian's new ministry. On Thursday, June 30th, our seminarians David Klein and Matheus DeAraujo Seixas received the Acolyte, and Sebastian Sanmiguel Lopez received the ministry of Lectorate. The brothers concluded the celebrations with a beautiful meal in the parish of the Holy Spirit. Please pray for our seminarians as they continue their formation.

## Goodbye and Thank You Fr. Giandomenico Flora!

On Friday, July 1st, the seminary said farewells to our first spiritual director Fr. Giandomenico Flora. In appreciation for the service he has provided to all of us, we had a beautiful cookout and presented him with the gifts shown in the image to the right; one an icon of the virgin of silence, and the other, a plaque of the sigil of the seminary. We wish you luck on your new parish assignment, and may god bless you one-hundredfold for all your work!



Auxiliary Bishop Timothy Freyer of Orange (second from left) and other bishops bless young men who felt the call to discern the priesthood at the July 19, 2022 vocational meeting of the Neocatechumenal Way in the U.S. at the Domus Galilaeae in Israel. At right, wearing a stole, is Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, who presided the event. (AEROJO Drone Productions)

## USA Youth Encounter in The Holy Lands, Israel

On July 19th, 2022, on the anniversary of Carmen Hernandez's Death, thousands of youth from all over the USA gathered in the Domus Galilaeae at the conclusion of a pilgrimage through various US locations. The meeting took place outdoors on the grounds of the Domus Galilaeae, located on the Mount of Beatitudes, overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Our Seminarians participated with their communities and were able to visit many of the Holy Lands' holy sites and to visit the empty tomb. The event was presided by the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem, his Excellency Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa. During the vocational call that concluded the event, many young men and women stood up to give their availability and offer their lives to the Lord as nuns or seminarians. Also, many families offered themselves to go on mission to any part of the world.



# NEWSLETTER



VOL. VII

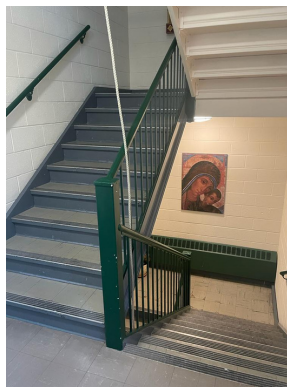
SUMMER/FALL 2022

ISSUE NO. I

## Remodeling the new See:

Thanks to the help of many brothers and sisters, we have begun to remodel our new house! In a relatively short period of time, we have been able to complete painting the 1st and 3rd floor, and we have remodeled the 1st floor with a new dining room, hallway, and conference room. We were also able to extend and beautify our backyard by planting beautiful giant green trees! We thank all of you for the support you have provided! Many more changes are coming soon! If you would like to help us economically with a donation, please visit our website for further information!

**BEFORE**



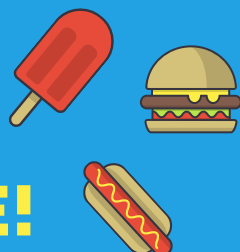
**AFTER**



PLEASE HELP US BUILD THE NEW WING OF THE SEMINARY:  
THE SANCTUARY OF THE WORD AND THE NEW LIBRARY!

We want to get to know you!  
Join us for our:

**FREE OPEN  
HOUSE  
BARBECUE!**



When:

**Sunday, October 02, 2022  
12:00PM-6:00PM**

Where:

**894 Newfield Avenue  
Stamford, CT 06902**

**RSVP by: September 26, 2022**

**For more information: 203-588-1785**

**events@rmbridgeport.org  
www.rmbridgeport.com**

*Want to help us?*

THIS MISSIONARY SEMINARY LIVES PRIMARY ON THE PRAYERS, DONATIONS AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM MANY BENEFACTORS. EVERY CONTRIBUTION HELPS AND GOD WILL BLESS ALL THOSE WHO OFFER SUPPORT TO THE FORMATION OF PRIESTS.

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY  
894 NEWFIELD AVENUE,  
STAMFORD, CT 06905



**BY WIRE TRANSFER:**

REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY  
KEYBANK, 2386 SUMMER ST.  
STAMFORD, CT 06905  
ACCOUNT: #777 801 000 236  
ROUTING # (TRANSFERS WITHIN USA):  
222 370 440  
SWIFT CODE (ABROAD): KEYBUS33

**ON OUR WEBSITE:**

[HTTPS://WWW.RMBRIDGEPORT.ORG/SUPPORT-US](https://www.rmbridgeport.org/support-us)