

ALOYSIUS ALIVE

Vol. 33 No. 5

March - April 2018

Artist Francois Emilio (Milo) Piuz, whose paintings and mosaics hang in St. Aloysius church, died in August 2017.



Artist Milo Piuz

His extraordinary works grace St. Aloysius church

Artist Francois Emilio (Milo) Piuz, in the 1950s, created the beautiful paintings and mosaics that now hang in the St. Aloysius church nave and transepts.

To provide greater insight into Milo Piuz and his work, Baton Rouge artist Sam Corso compiled the narrative below from excerpts and notes of two close friends of the artist, Corrine Voorhies Smith and Boyd Edward Helm (M.D., F.A.C.C., F.S.C.A.I., H.F.I.):



Piuz

Francois Emilio (Milo) Piuz, born in 1924, died at his home in Geneva, Switzerland, in August 2017 at the age of 93. Not much is known of his early life, but while still in Europe, at the age of 26 in 1950, he met Dom Gregory de Wit, the famed religious artist and Dutch Benedictine Monk. Milo was strongly influenced by Dom Gregory, who would later become his mentor, dear friend and fellow collaborator in many artistic endeavors.

Dom Gregory had been commissioned to paint murals for the Benedictine St. Joseph Abbey Church & Refectory in Covington, but had returned to Europe to study the art of the churches of Ravenna and Sicily before beginning this work. Dom Gregory invited Milo to join him in Louisiana in 1951 and become his understudy and apprentice to work on 51 murals for the Abbey Church and Refectory. Both artists

Continued on page 3



St. Aloysius Church
2025 Stuart Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Baton Rouge, LA
Permit #754

Inside Alive

Mass schedule.....	2
Welcoming new parishioners	2
St. Aloysius Auction	4-5
Mission trip information	6
Child care center news	8



St. Aloysius welcomes our new parishioners

A welcoming brunch was held on Sunday, March 11, to greet and get to know St. Aloysius' newest parishioners.

Father Randy Cuevas, members of the parish staff, Welcoming Committee members and the Knights of Columbus were on hand to provide a hearty welcome. That included a delicious breakfast prepared by the KCs.

Please help welcome into St. Aloysius Parish these families:

- Ross, M.V., & Luke Middleton
- Kenneth & Ellen Higginbotham
- Kent & Debby Mayeux
- Stephen & Brandi Hernandez
- Stephen & Casey Miller
- Clint, Lacey, & John Paul Schonacher
- Renzi Terrebonne
- Keith & Karen Colvin
- Ellis & Juanita Coutee
- Crystal Barzare
- Collin & Kendall Sutton
- Ross & Gretchen Donnes
- Stuart & Angela Poulton

- Jonathan & Samantha Ricau
- Haley Porter
- Alfred & Camille Cook
- Kristina LeJeune



Catechumens undergo Rites of Sending, Election

Each year at the beginning of Lent, the parish recognizes those catechumens preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil with a Rite of Sending and Election.

At the 9 a.m. Mass on Feb. 18, the First Sunday of Lent, catechumens Kevin Brewer, Reuben Cheng, Kaleib Taylor, Mitchell Williams and Charles Williamson were presented to the congregation. Their sponsors affirmed the progress they have made in their spiritual formation and their readiness for the Sacraments of Initiation. The Rite of Sending concluded with their names being inscribed in the Book of the Elect and the

assurance of the congregation's prayers and blessings as their journey of faith continues.

That afternoon, they participated in the diocesan-wide Rite of Election at St. Joseph Cathedral. The catechumens were welcomed by Bishop Robert Muench, who accepted the testimony of their sponsors and admitted them as the "Elect," or those formally chosen by God through the Church to take part in the Sacraments of Initiation.

At that gathering, the bishop also recognized those candidates who are preparing to be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church through Profession of Faith,

Confirmation, and the Eucharist. St. Aloysius' candidates Dedrick Houk, Richard Kucharchuk, Daniel Levert, Sara Martin and Todd Martin were affirmed by their sponsors and called to continuing conversion in the Faith.

The rite concluded with Bishop Muench offering prayers for the newly-Elect and the candidates, asking God's blessing on all his adopted children and especially on those now being added to the harvest of the New Covenant.

Please remember in your prayers all of those preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist at Easter!



Mass Schedule

SATURDAY

Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

HOLY DAYS

Schedule will be announced

DAILY MASSES

Monday & Wednesday, 6 a.m.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS: Monday and Wednesday after 6:00 a.m. Mass; Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30-8:00 a.m.; Saturday 3:30-4:00 p.m. (when the adjacent Mass is celebrated).

FUNERALS: Please contact the Parish Office prior to scheduling with the funeral home. If after hours, follow directions on voicemail.

PARISH SCHOOL: For information, phone 383-3871, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

NURSERY/CHILDCARE CENTER:

For information, phone 343-1338, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptismal preparation is required.

SPONSORS: Baptism & Confirmation sponsors must be confirmed practicing Catholics in good standing in the Catholic Church, and if not St. Aloysius Parishioners, must provide a letter of good standing from the parish where they are registered.

MARRIAGE: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement at least six months prior to the projected date of the marriage.

CARE OF THE SICK: The Eucharist is brought to the sick weekly and hospital visits made weekly. Families of the sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office.

aloysius alive

Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Father Randy Cuevas

Managing Editor

Ken Duhe

Assistant Editor

Laura Duhe

Copy Editors

Lisa Tramontana, Katie LeBlanc
Mindy Piontek, Sigrid Kelsey

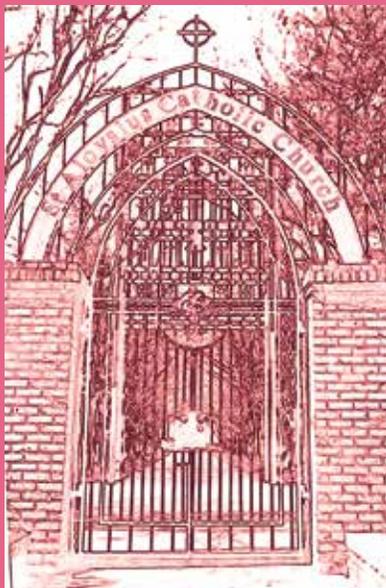
Writers

Michael J. Acaldo
Michael DiResto

Photographers

Craig Gannuch
Diane O'Connor
Mag Wall

Claire Grandy
Angela Falgoust



Aline Landry
Connie Planche
Susan Hymel

Published by St Aloysius Parish.
Postage paid
at Baton Rouge, LA.
Postmaster:

Send address changes to
Aloysius Alive,
2025 Stuart Avenue,
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Piuz, From Page 1

had their hands in the works of art, although Dom Gregory solely created some, while Milo solely created others. Addressing the challenges of working in adverse conditions, the men devised paint that would withstand the Louisiana humidity.

According to Dr. Helm's account, Milo created all of the side-altar paintings of the saints, the ceiling paintings of the 12 apostles, two angels and the "Christ Pantocrator," "The Sacrifice of Abel" and the mosaic Stations of the Cross, made from the fired clay gathered from the nearby Bogue Falaya river basin. Two other murals, "St. Michael" and "St. Raphael with Tobias," were destroyed when the side of the church was renovated. By April of 1955, Milo finished his work at the Abbey.

At that time Monsignor Daniel Becnel was pastor of Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Vacherie. Corrine Smith, a Baton Rouge artist, introduced the monsignor to Milo and the two began a long and lasting working relationship. Monsignor Becnel first commissioned Milo to create the mural "St. John the Baptist Baptizing Christ in the River Jordan" for Queen of Peace. But by June of that same year, Monsignor Becnel became the first pastor of St. Aloysius Parish.

While the church and school were under construction, Masses were conducted at Southdowns Elementary School on Hood Ave. Monsignor Becnel loved art and architecture, and soon Milo was asked to create the beautiful sacred art for the church. On July 4, 1956, the church and school were completed and dedicated. The colorful paintings depicting all the saints mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) of the Mass, and the paintings of the "Madonna and Child," "Baptism of Jesus," and the painting of the Crucifix depicting St. Aloysius of Gonzaga at the foot of the cross, were his first religious art at St. Aloysius, and were originally located on the front walls of the first church (all of which are now found in the "new" church).

Next came the mosaic Stations of the Cross, which were completed in 1958, with the help of Corrine Smith (all of which were are also now found in the "new" church). In 1963, Milo created his last mural for St. Aloysius entitled the "Word Made Flesh" for the Daughters of Jesus Convent. This large mural, painted on plaster, depicts Christ, our Blessed Mother, and the symbols of the four evangelists.

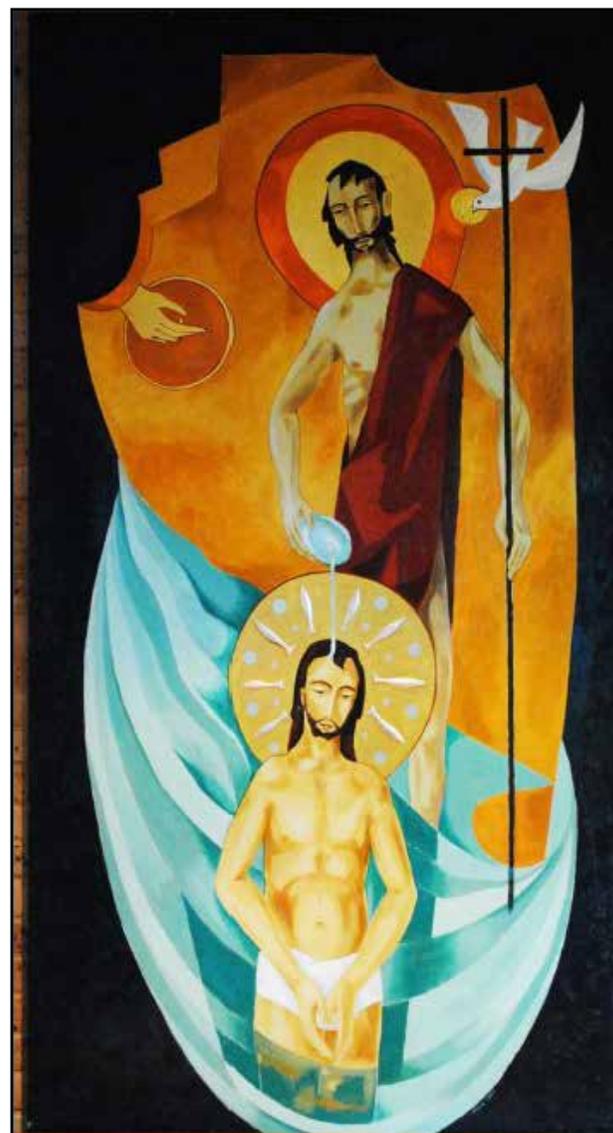
Milo Piuz was a prolific multi-discipline artist. He created sacred works of art for many chapels, churches, seminaries and monasteries throughout the region before he left the United States in 1970 to return to Switzerland. Among these within

the Diocese of Baton Rouge are a large tapestry for St. Joseph Cathedral, the cross and mosaic Stations of the Cross, assisted by Corrine Smith, for the Franciscan nuns in the chapel at Ollie Steele Burden Center and "St. John the Baptist" at St. Thomas More.

Other sacred works in the area may be seen at the Carmelite Monastery in Lafayette, St. Gertrude Benedictine convent in Covington, St. John the Baptist Church in New Orleans and St. Lawrence the Martyr Church in Kraemer. He also designed two stained glass windows for the

Marist seminary in Bettendorf, Iowa, which have since been moved to the Holy Family Chapel at the Marist school in Atlanta, GA. In addition to his time spent in Baton Rouge, he lived in New Orleans and Biloxi, Miss., where he, undoubtedly, created many other works of sacred art.

Dr. Helm recounts that "he said to me that he was so happy that his praise to God through his art would last long after he was gone." How fortunate we are to be the custodians of some of the extraordinary works of this spiritual and humble man.



Thanks to Auction sponsors, participants

St. Aloysius Auction co-chairwomen Tiffany Fontana and Jeanne McClelland thank volunteers and participants for making the auction a tremendous success of great food, friends and fellowship.

"The class projects were a hit, as always. We would also like to thank our fellow parishioners and businesses within and around our parish for your generous donations. Without events like this, the vision for our parish would not be possible."

A big thank you to all of our sponsors:

- Sherman-Balhoff Orthodontics
- Doyle Electric
- Level Construction
- School Time
- Wharton-Smith, Inc.
- Annuity Marketing Services
- CJ Brown
- Hopkins Waechter Group
- Schramm Financial Group
- Team Automotive Group
- Cooper T Smith
- Smilebooth
- Baton Rouge Printing.

Also, thank you for the tasty donations from:

- City Pork
- Galatoire's Bistro
- Kalurah St Grill
- L'Auberge
- Lava Cantina, Le Creole
- Mike Anderson Seafood
- Mockler Beverage
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Parrain's
- Phil's Oyster Bar
- Ruffino's
- Sullivan's Steakhouse
- Tio Javi's
- Tsunami
- Zippy's.



Baby Bottle Campaign a major success

Thank you, parishioners of St. Aloysius, for making this the most successful Baby Bottle Campaign yet. As a parish we have now contributed over \$10,000 to the Pregnancy Problem Center, our local crisis pregnancy center.

This money will allow the PPC to continue its life-saving efforts for mothers and their unborn children.

Some examples of their efforts: The PPC has invested in a new ultrasound machine en-

abling mothers to actually see their babies in the womb. The center is expanding its educational services to aid women in crisis pregnancies. The Mom and Me Shop helps clothe and feed both moms and babies. And an "Earn to Learn" program helps them become better moms.

Thank you so much for your generosity and know your donation will help save lives. Thanks also go to the Dignity of Life Committee members of

St. Aloysius and the Knights of Columbus for their help in purchasing, distributing and collecting the bottles. Through this campaign, the St. Aloysius community supports both the mother and the baby, truly living out our commitment to be a pro-life community.

For those who still have a bottle at home, it's not too late. You are welcome to bring it to the Parish Office at any time. God bless you all.

Senior Ministry hosts Morning of Reflection

Guests of all ages, gathered recently for the Senior Ministry Lenten Morning of Reflection, shared in the presentation "Thoughts on carrying our Crosses of Surrender, Sacrifice, and Suffering" by Lisette Borné.

In the retreat, Borné led the participants through the steps of St. Ignatius of Loyola's Examination of Consciousness, which

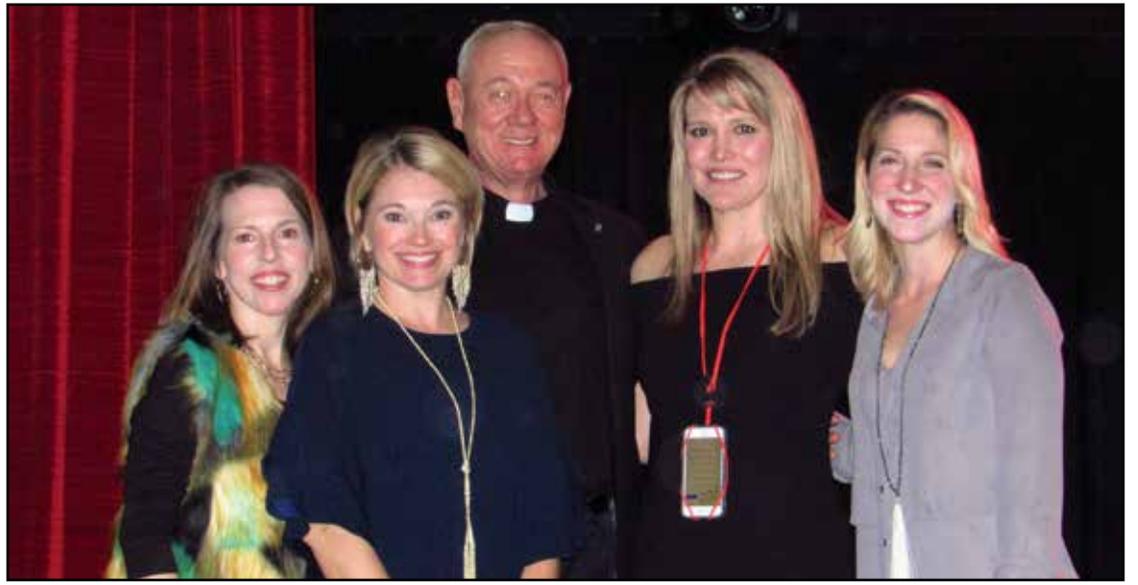
include Transition, Gratitude, Petition, Review, Forgiveness, Renewal and the final Awareness of God's presence. They learned how to use these steps each day to place themselves and their new day in God's hands.

Thank you to Lisette Borné for taking time to share with the St. Aloysius Senior Ministry.



Great food, friends, fellowship

Scenes from Auction



'24 hours for the Lord'



ST. ALOYSIUS NICARAGUA MISSION

When: June 4-11, 2018
 Where: Managua, Nicaragua
 Total Cost: Approximately \$600

The St. Aloysius Nicaragua adult mission ministry has a few more spots to fill for our June trip. Our trips are very safe and well organized. This is an opportunity to share your love and be in solidarity with people from local communities and youth centers in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua.

The trip is focused on building cross-cultural relationships, and spiritual as well as personal growth.

Call or text Alvin Raetzsch (979) 732-4744
 Amy Pizzolato (225) 907-8876
 or email raetzsch@gmail.com



'Repurposed'



Parish embraces 'Repurposed' mission, '24 hours' event

Thanks to Father Michael Alello who not only presided at all the weekend Masses, but packed the church for a prayerful and thought-provoking and even entertaining three-day mission, "Repurposed," Feb. 26-28.

On Monday evening, Father Alello reminded participants to orient their lives toward Christ in all that they do. On Tuesday evening, he encouraged them

to be courageous and know that God is with them. He stressed that fear keeps people from acting, therefore we should trust God who is always with us. And finally, on Wednesday evening participants were moved by the



Alello

challenging stories of people standing up for change. With music and video, they were reminded that they too are called to "Rise, take up your mat and walk," to trust God's love for each of them and step out in that love to act for God, themselves, and others.

That led participants into St. Aloysius' "24 Hours for the Lord," beginning Friday morning at 8 a.m. with Mass.

Thanks to the many priests present in the confessional for every minute of the following 24 hours. And thanks to the parishioners who participated. People were constantly in the church praying before the Blessed Sacrament, going to confession, singing, reciting the rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet, and doing love and mercy projects.



Krewe of Tots, fish fry fundraiser among fun events at child care center

After wrapping up 2017 in style, the St. Aloysius Child Care Center dove right into a variety of fun events in the first few months of 2018.

In November, families were invited to attend the annual Thanksgiving dinner to celebrate and give thanks with all the families of SACCC. December brought many fun Christmas activities, including a visit from Santa on a fire truck and class Christmas parties.

In February, the center let the good times roll with the Krewe of Tots parade. The children always look forward to this event when the SACCC gets to interact with the students at the “big school” for this annual tradition.

The center also held its annual fish fry fundraiser on March 9. The parents always have a great time preparing and volunteering for this big day. And everyone enjoys a day of fun with our SAS community, while appreciating the support for the child care center.

