



**Spring 2008**

### **In Memoriam**

Eight pall bearers carried the casket on their shoulders. As they moved through the Church, followed by the family, thunderous applause broke through the somber silence that the assembly had kept until then. The priests had already left the Church. And as the casket appeared at the front door of Blessed Sacrament Church in Brooklyn, the priests and people on the streets joined in a loud applause that moved the hearts of all present. The frail body of our friend, John Brogan, was placed in the hearse that, soon afterwards, led a procession of cars toward his final resting place.

The night before, at an evening Eucharist that filled the Church mostly with Hispanic families, Fr. Frank, the pastor, described John's last few days and hours. The effects of cancer became most aggressive on Palm Sunday, but John kept struggling and fighting until the very end. His last few weeks were spent in hospice, yet he asked to be taken to the Office of the Propagation of the Faith each day; he could not drive any more.

On Wednesday, April 9, I received a one line e-mail message from him. I had written earlier that week and was spending a few days in Santo Domingo. There was no mention of his frailty or of his pain.

On Thursday, the 10th, Bishop DiMarzio found him in the office. "What are you doing?" he asked. "I am cleaning my desk," he responded.

At the Chrism liturgy, just a few weeks earlier, the bishop of Brooklyn had referred to John in his homily as one of the heroes of the diocese. He kept getting weaker on Friday and Saturday, very difficult days for the fight.

Early in the evening of Saturday April 5, Fr. Frank found John at his desk in his room praying the First Vespers of the Third Sunday

of Easter. John could hardly talk (the cancer had spread throughout his brain and probably into the lungs). Father urged him to come to bed. He did. In the evening, Patricia, John's long time friend, asked Fr. Frank: "*Have you anointed him?*" We know that John was anointed several times, but this time was important. Fr Frank and a few others present proceeded to celebrate the liturgy of Anointing. He claims that John looked at him with that special look that seemed to echo one of his poignant questions:

"Why are you taking so long?" After the anointing, Patricia came closer to John and said: "John, you

have fought a good fight. It's time to throw the towel down." John slowly tilted his head to the side and expired.

We have lost a great friend, highly respected in his diocese and beloved by his family and friends. His wit, even his cynicism and sarcasm, hid his true personality: compassionate and selfless, always worried for the "least of our brothers and sisters."

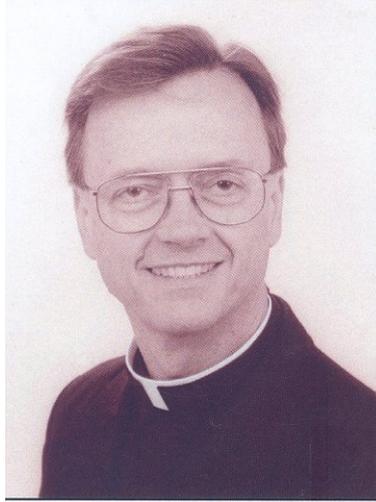
His missionary spirit became even more evident when one of the concelebrant bishops, the Bishop of La Vega in the Dominican Republic, flew up to New York as soon as he heard the news of his passing, so dedicated was he to promote mission work in the Island.

He even encouraged his own nephews and nieces of Irish descent to learn Spanish, which they used at both Masses when they proclaimed the readings.

I was very touched at his Funeral for which Gonzalo Saldana and I flew to represent all of you and all of the members of the INHL. But the sadness gave way to a certain sense of peace and joy throughout everyone's sharing one of the many "John's stories." Through much of this sharing I was able to catch a glimpse at Christ's redemptive power. John's life became more meaningful to all in his death. And his death, as we have come to believe, brought life to the many that came from many places to celebrate at the Eucharist John's selfless living. In his dying, John was able to share with us his most treasured gift, the priesthood. In his painful illness of six years, I believe that John was able to call us to believe more deeply in the healing power of God and to rely with confidence and hope in the loving embrace of our Church. May our Treasurer and good friend, Fr. John Brogan, rest in peace!

Juan J. Sosa, President

Instituto Nacional Hispano de Liturgia, Inc.



*In Prayerful Remembrance of*

**Reverend John F. Brogan**

**Born November 15, 1945**

**Ordained March 15, 1975**

**Died April 5, 2008**

*Grieve not...nor speak of me with tears...*

*but laugh and talk of me as though I were beside you...*

*I loved you so... 'twas Heaven here with you*

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## **NEWS-NOTICIAS-NEWS-NOTICIAS**

### ***Committee Changes Name from "Liturgy" to "Divine Worship"***

***With the close of the November 2007 USCCB plenary meeting, the Committee on the Liturgy has officially changed its name to the Committee on Divine Worship. This change was developed by the Plans and Priorities Committee of the USCCB and was approved by the Bishops at their plenary session in November 2007. In accordance with this change the Secretariat is now referred to as the Secretariat of Divine Worship.***

***In addition to its former name, the Committee also bade farewell to Erie Bishop Donald Trautman (Chairman), Cincinnati Archbishop***

***Daniel Pilarczyk, Bishops Edward Braxton of Belleville, Blase Cupich of Rapid City, and Ricardo Ramirez, CSB, of Las Cruces, and former Auxiliary Bishop of Rockville Centre, Emil Wcela.***

***Also departing were three Consultants: the Archbishop of Chicago, Francis Cardinal George, OM I, and Auxiliary Bishops Thomas Curry of Los Angeles and Edward Grosz of Buffalo. Finally, Father Thomas Krosnicki, SVD, completed his service as an Advisor to the Committee.***

### ***Bishop Arthur Serratelli Assumes Committee Chairmanship***

***The new Chairman of the Committee on Divine Worship is Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson. In his first act of business, Bishop Serratelli appointed seven members to the Committee. Four Archbishops were named: Daniel Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis, Charles Chaput, OFM Cap., of Denver, Wilton Gregory of Atlanta, and George Niederauer of San Francisco. Bishops Kevin Farrell of Dallas and Ronald Herzog of Alexandria, Louisiana join the Committee, as does the Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn Octavio Cisneros. Remaining on the Committee is Justin Cardinal Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.***

***‘With his election as USCCB President, Francis Cardinal George, OM I, Archbishop of Chicago, was replaced as a Consultant to the Committee by Archbishop John G. Vlazny of Portland, Oregon. The Committee’s other Consultant is Roger Cardinal Mahony of Los Angeles.***

***In addition, Bishop Serratelli appointed Sister Julia A. Upton, RSM, Provost of St. John’s University in Queens, New York, as an Advisor to the Committee. She joins fellow Advisors Sister Janet Baxendale, SC, Monsignors John Burton and Kevin Irwin, Father Juan Sosa, and Mrs. Lisa Tarker.***

### ***The use of "ustedes" in Spanish Masses***

***Recently, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments approved the use of "ustedes" in place of "vosotros" in the Ordinary of the Mass in Spanish for the Dioceses of Mexico. This decision includes the words of consecration, and is effective Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008. The Committee approved an action item to submit to the body of Bishops a request to allow the same use for the Dioceses of the United States of America. For such permission to be obtained, approval by two-thirds of the country’s Latin Rite Bishops would be required with subsequent *recognitio* by the Congregation.***

## June 2008 Plenary Assembly Agenda

The day after the meeting, on March 11, the USCCB's Administrative Committee approved the agenda for the plenary meeting which will occur on June 11-14 in Orlando, Florida. The Committee on Divine Worship will present two action items: the Gray Book of the Proper of Seasons, approved at the Committee's meeting in January, and the use of the form "ustedes" in place of "vosotros" in Masses celebrated in Spanish. Both action items require adoption by two-thirds of the country's Latin Rite Bishops, followed by the recognition of the Holy See, in order to become particular law for the United States. The Gray Book will form part of the English translation of the third edition of the *Missale Romanum*.

### What about The Instituto?

We request your prayers for the future of the organization. In the present, while our Offices are still in Washington, D.C. lack of funding has limited our services from our National Office, though not our desire to serve. Check our website for information and for any requests made for our Programs of Liturgical Formation. Our Board members will be happy to answer your questions:

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