

# Praise The Lord!



## All You Servants of The Lord

by Brother Tom Eades, Lay Missionary

"Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" (Job 2:10)

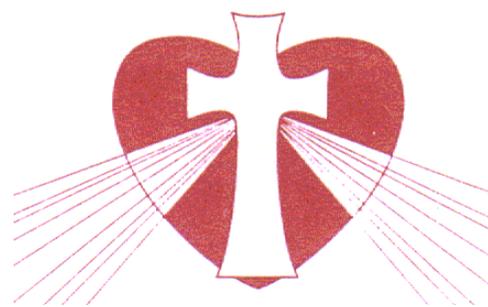
When we are given so much joy we must also accept sorrow, so I write this article with a heavy heart. I regretfully report the loss of a former resident of the St. John Bosco House. This young man was a resident from March through October of 2006. One year after leaving us, at the age of 19, he took his own life, leaving no clues as to why. He was with his family watching TV, spoke to his aunt, and appeared to be in a normal state. He then went downstairs and his life was over in seconds. He was a lovable and caring young man, yet, like a lot of young men who pass through our doors, he was troubled. He was on psychiatric medications and at times exhibited extreme paranoia. He and I kept in touch until June of last year; even with his troubles he never showed any signs of the potential for suicide. His death has left many unanswered questions and pain which will last for years. There were hundreds of teenage friends at the funeral who loved him so much, yet they, too, never saw this coming. He had made great strides at The St John Bosco House, including obtaining his High School Equivalency Diploma, a happy moment we were proud to share. I remember that night when I was trying to help him dress, tying his tie for the event; he was so excited, like a little child at Christmas. He kept moving around and it seemed like it took hours to tie, and I was sure we would be late!

I explained to the young men of the Bosco House that we don't know the state of his soul and we should always continue to pray for him, his family and friends. Yet, I also explained that what he did was not right. I shared that we have to rely on God's Mercy because we never know what is going through a person's mind. I read to them from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "**Grave psychological disturbances, anguish, or grave fear of hardship, suffering, or torture can diminish the responsibility of the one committing suicide**" (#2282). We also must remember what the Catholic Church teaches about the criteria of a mortal sin, "**For a sin to be mortal and cost someone salvation, the objective of the action (in this case, the taking of one's own life) must be grave or serious matter; the person must have an informed intellect (know that this is wrong); and the person must give full consent of the will (intend to commit this action)**. Like most suicides, the emptiness and pain that is left behind will last many years and affect many lives. Please keep him in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

Now for some joyous news! Andrew just returned from Iraq in good health after his tour of duty. On his visit here he told me he will be stationed in California. Ricky came by to tell me he is doing well; he has his own apartment and a steady job, Praise the Lord!!

Let us congratulate some of our present "Boscovite's"! First we have D'Andria, who has achieved so much that this year he was accepted into Burgard High School as a senior. Praise The Lord! To see that great big smile come across his face when I gave him his grades, and to be a small part of his achievement, was an awesome grace. His average grade was 92! His teachers' remarks were also awesome: "Great behavior and attendance", "A role model", "a real pleasure to work with", "A great leader" and "A+ effort". All this from a young man who wanted to quit everything last year. My other great grace is to see him give God all the credit, Praise the Lord!! We also like to congratulate Mickey who made the honor roll for the first time. Mickey also had the highest first quarter English grade in the school. Micky also made the school's Basketball team and had perfect attendance. Tony also had perfect attendance and is making great progress. We also have Tevin who has entered the RCIA program.

I would like to thank God and give my thanks to volunteers Tony Mancuso and Tom Hudson for all their work at the House. If it wasn't for them the house would never run as smoothly. Please pray for all the Boscovite's and volunteers. I wish all of you a Blessed New Year!



## Host your very own Mercy Party!

The New Year has begun, and so, too, have Mercy Parties all over Western New York! What is a Mercy Party? We're glad you asked!

Many have been drawn to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy and want to share what they have found with their families, friends, co-workers and organizations. It's easy when you host a Mercy Party! Invite your guests and St. Luke's will send a representative to share our ministry, our mission, and our motivation. We will tailor our speaker to your event, or you can request someone who has made an impact in your life. Either way, we will do our best to help you to spread the message of God's wonderful Mercy!

**Call the Mission today at 894-4476 for more information or to arrange for your very own party!**



Work continues as we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of St. Luke's Parish. Stop in and see the wonderful work being done! It will culminate with our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with Bishop Kmiec on October 18<sup>th</sup> of this year (mark that date!). Stop in --You'll love what we've done with the place!

**The Restoration Continues!**