



Glimpses from the General Chapter



November 6-24, 2023
Thú Duc, Vietnam

1

Glimpse 2 – Father John Thomas Arrives in Vietnam Safe and Sound – Friday, November 3, 2023

During my first hours here in Thu Duc, a suburb of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, I became acquainted with our Blessed Sacrament Martyrs in Vietnam Province headquarters (HQ). I appreciated your prayers for a safe excursion – which arrived 45 minutes early. Two of our SSS religious picked me up and drove me “home.” *(Because of the travels, I lost a day, November 1. I left Hawai’i on December 31 at 5 A.M. and arrived on November 2 at 12:15 A.M. due to my flight through Tokyo. Thankfully, I slept on the two flights for 3 hours each.)* The warmth of the community and, of course, the heat and humidity of Vietnam *(it was 92, but it felt like 99)* made me feel right at home.

Here are some pictures of the 2020-built HQ complex, which show some of the cleverness of the property – having a soccer field in the front yard of the HQ and a



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com

wonderful chapel next to the building. There is also a badminton court across from my third-floor bedroom. Laundry is done on the 4th floor and roof.

Across the street, our SSS community administers a beautiful newly remodeled church and parish. I took a walk around the block and had the opportunity to visit the nearby cemetery where many of the founding Vietnamese SSS are buried. On this day of the Commemoration of the Faithfully Departed, I fondly remembered Father Dominic Thuan. We served at Corpus Christi Church, Houston, Texas, where he was Parochial Vicar and chaplain to the Hispanic Community. The walk was relatively short due to the heat and humidity, but my SSS tour guide had us enjoy some fresh coconut milk for the walk home from the cemetery.

This glimpse gives you a taste of the place and area where I will be! As we move into these events, I'll share more pictures of the chapel and meeting space. Thanks for your prayers, especially for the safety of our SSS travelers, as they are arriving over these next few days to acclimate to the heat, humidity, and time difference. *(Currently, we are 13 hours ahead – and after the time change, we will be 12 hours ahead in the Eastern Time Zone of the USA.)*

2



Front door and gate to the SSS (headquarters) HQ property



SSS HQ chapel is in the middle of the complex



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com



2nd year novices with Father Lane

3

2nd year novices in Vietnam setting up for the General Chapter



SSS Chapel



SSS Parish Church



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com



Welcome Sign for the Members of the General Chapter



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com



Street Market



Refreshment on a hot day

5



Burial Site for our SSS Vietnamese Religious – among whom Father Dominic Thuan SSS



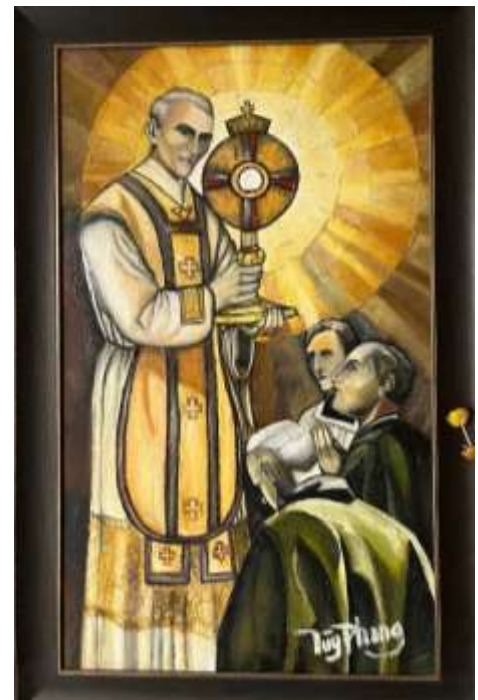
Interior of the parish church across the street



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com



Father Lane with the outdoor shrine to Saint Peter Julian Eymard



Artwork in SSS Complex

6



Artwork in SSS Complex



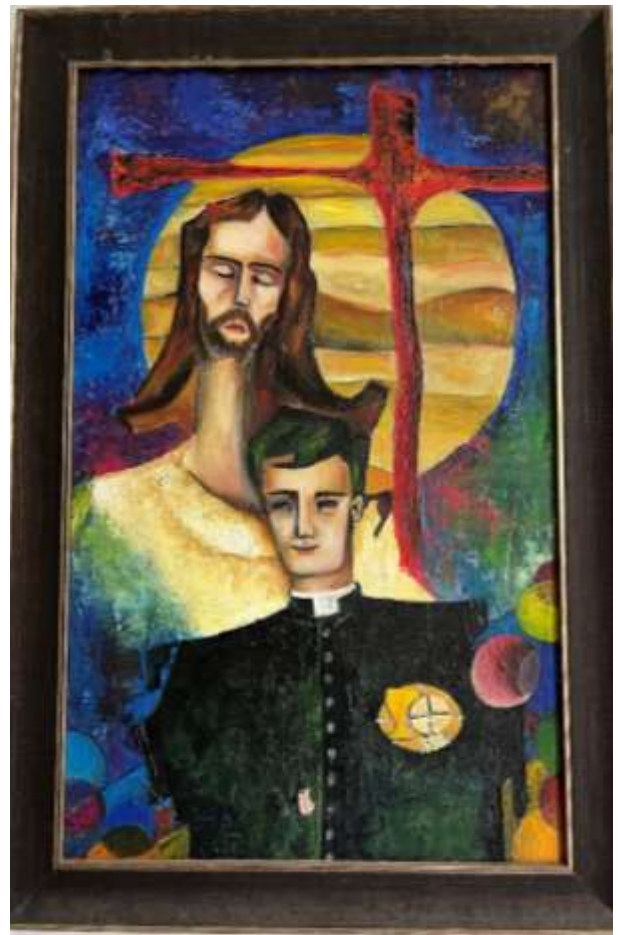
Artwork in SSS Complex



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com



Artwork in SSS Complex



Artwork in SSS Complex



Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland (Highland Heights), Ohio 44143 – USA
Office - (440) 442-6311
ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com