

## Major Superiors Meeting Rome, October 18-27, 2010

### REPORT 3 IL Weekend



Piet Adam and John van den Hegel at pranzo

October 25, 2010

Not everyone was aware of its significance, but this was an important weekend in the history of our generalate. It marked the end of an era when **Piet Adam** celebrated, for the last time, the Sunday morning liturgy as a member of the SCJ community in Rome. This Wednesday he will drive off with **Harry Peels**, the Dutch Provincial, to head home to Holland and take up a new life at Asten. I think it's an apt comparison -- in some ways Piet is Rome's **Bruder Al** (Br. Aloysius Beuers, an icon in the U.S. Province who died in 1975).

Anyone who has visited Rome knows *loquacious* Piet! He has served the congregation well, especially in translation work. **Bernie Rosinski** will attest to the hard work and help Piet gave him during the time of transition to a new computer system, and the role Piet played in conserving valuable congregational materials. As someone remarked the other day: *Piet may be ready for Holland but is Holland ready for Piet!*

As for *il weekend*, it was a quiet one. On Saturday evening **David Nagel** and I joined our Dutch brothers for dinner at Sardos. The Jovanie, the owner, asked about **Adrian Borst** and **Bernie Rosinski**, two SCJs he came to know well during their time in Rome. I could report that Bernie is doing quite well. I was sorry to learn that Adrian has suffered two minor strokes, and is currently awaiting surgery to repair a problem with his throat.

We went to Sardos on Saturday because David was able to change his plans and leave for home this morning (Monday). The **General Finance Commission** finished its work on Friday. I didn't envy his departure plans as he left the house around 04:00 this morning for a 06:30 flight to Amsterdam and then on to the States.

David and **Aquilino Mielgo Domínguez**, who drove him to the airport, may have run into the storm we had early this morning. I'm not sure when it began, but it was a typical Roman storm; a hard rain for a time with one or two claps of thunder.

A number of superiors took the opportunity to leave Rome, or at least absent themselves from the city and what it has to offer over the weekend. I was able to take two long walks retracing paths I took during my 12 years of Roman life. Yesterday I took my favorite route: our house to the Vatican, on to Piazza Navona, on to the Pantheon, on to Trevi Fountain, and ending at the Spanish Steps. That takes about an hour depending, in part, on the number of tourists that I run into. Once I get to the Spanish Steps I turn around and retrace my path.

Now we begin our last two days of meetings. This morning the former general secretary, **Marek Stoklosa**, currently a professor of canon law in Poland, will speak to us about important canonical questions, as well as the changes in our own law based on the decisions of our last general chapter.

Speaking of the general secretary, **Anisio Schwirkowski** (Brazil) is being replaced by **Florentinus Heru Ismadi** from our Indonesian Province. We were also introduced to **Roberto Garcia Murciego** (Spain) who will join the Curia Secretariat sometime in the near future, I'm just not sure when.

That's about it for now. I'll send one more report on Wednesday as our gathering wraps up. I'll close by saying I find myself in a good mood this morning having awakened to the news that the **Packers** finally beat their nemesis *Old #4*!

Ciao from Roma,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Very Rev. Thomas Cassidy, SCJ  
Provincial Superior