

Getting It Together



The making of
A.M.D.G.—A World Is Not Enough
at Loyola Productions

by Paul Brian Campbell, SJ

It was 7:35 on a muggy August night in Culver City, California, when Loyola Productions completed the last of the dramatic scenes for *A.M.D.G.—A World Is Not Enough*. I was close to panic because the enormous soundstage we'd leased still had three sets with all their furniture and props in place, and I knew that we would go into very expensive overages if everything wasn't broken down and the whole space cleaned thoroughly by eight o'clock.

It seemed like an impossible task, as we were exhausted after two long days of filming, but everyone pitched in with enthusiasm and, before my disbelieving eyes, everything was disassembled and tidied away just in time. The professional crew and our volunteers went to extraordinary lengths for us; I am convinced it was because they believe so strongly in the value of this project.

A.M.D.G. is both a drama and a documentary. The dramatic scenes featuring Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, and Peter Faber lead into contemporary footage that shows how their charisms manifest themselves in the works of the

Music commissioned for *A.M.D.G.* was recorded at Angel Studios in London.



Sound mixer Nathanael Lew checks the microphone of Larry Sullivan, playing Peter Faber.

Society today across the globe. The script came from a concept by an Italian Jesuit, Giuseppe Zito. Together with Tom Rochford, SJ, the Jesuits' secretary for communication in Rome, Giuseppe wrote the documentary portions while Michael Breault, SJ, (known for his George Foster Peabody award for his work on the *Nothing Sacred* TV show) created the dramatic scenes.

Documentary footage, which was provided by scores of Jesuit sources around the world, shows the Society in all its wonderful diversity. While the dramatic scenes were in English, the documentary narration can be heard in Spanish, French, and English and is subtitled in other languages, including Italian, Mandarin, and Czech.

Loyola Productions' offices became like an offshoot of the United Nations for the

duration of the project. Jesuits from Zambia, Wales, Tanzania, Portugal, Mexico, Italy, Ireland, India, Germany, Chile, Canada, and Australia came at various junctures to help us. Eddie Siebert, SJ, president of Loyola Productions, ended up with five clocks on his office wall so that he could figure out when it was okay to call various parts of the world to talk about the film.

Thanks to Gene Geinzer, SJ, and the Maryland Province, three hymns—one for each of the jubilarians—were commissioned and have been incorporated into the project. Carl Riley composed the hymn for Peter Faber; the one for Francis Xavier was written and sung in English and Spanish by Cristóbal Fones, SJ. Matt Ferraro, who composed the hymn for Ignatius, also wrote the score for the film, and Eddie Siebert and I accompanied him to Angel Studios in London this October to record the soundtrack and the hymns. (You can listen to the hymns by clicking on the *A.M.D.G.—A World Is Not Enough* icon at www.loyolaproductions.com)

We did our best to avoid triumphalism of any kind, yet the film is, I believe, moving and encouraging. I pray that it will be warmly received by Jesuits and our partners in mission, including our alumni and students and their families. **G**



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