

Immediate

December 30, 2005

Midwest Province District of Ghana holds Chapter and elects new District Superior

The Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross District of West Africa held their District Chapter and election of a new District Superior the week before Christmas. The district formed in 1967 by the Congregation of Holy Cross hopes to gain full-province status by the year 2010. Attending the District Chapter from Indiana were Brothers Robert Fillmore, Provincial Superior; Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C., Assistant Provincial and Vicar; and Kenneth Haders, President of Hoban High School, Akron, Ohio was moderator for the chapter.

The Chapter elected Brother Paul Kofi Mensah, C.S.C as the new District of West Africa Superior. Br. Paul said of the appointment, "My task is to ensure that we build the structures and the system that work to support such a move to become a province in 2010. At the same time I want to build on what others have done, to enhance on the presence of Holy Cross in West Africa with all the three branches of priests, brothers and sisters firmly taking root here. This means Vocation and formation remains our top priority."

Br. Paul Kofi Mensah, C.S.C., a native of Ghana was born on December 4, 1959 at Asankrangwa in the Western Region of Ghana. He entered Holy Cross in September of 1981. He attended Takoradi Polytechnic for business studies, graduating with Diploma in Business Studies in 1987. From there he continued at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, from 1988 to 1992, graduating with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration with distinction Magnum Cum Laude, double majored in Accounting and Finance. During a sabbatical he attended the Institute for Religious Formation at Catholic Theological Union at Chicago from 2002-2003 with graduate certificate in Formation Ministry, culminating in Master of Arts in Theology with specialization in Spirituality in May, 2005.

Br. Paul has been a member of the leadership team and as treasurer of the Congregation of Holy Cross, District of West Africa; he has worked in the formation ministry; he has worked for a Diocesan printing press, Catholic Mission Press, Cape Coast, first as financial administrator, later as a manager. He has worked for the Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Men in Ghana as Executive Secretary; for the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference in the Finance Committee; consulted for various Catholic dioceses in Ghana on financial matters; served on the Board of Quality Insurance Company, Ghana, a company for the Catholic Bishops Conference. He now serves on the Holy Cross Congregational Finance Commission and is the Director of the Candidacy program at the time of his election as District Superior.