

# BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

*Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross*

Spring, 2021

## Legacy of brothers remains at Holy Cross College

**I**t is no secret that the Brothers of Holy Cross have worked tirelessly in their life's work. If you were a student of the '50s or '60s and attended one of the Holy Cross schools established at the time, you would remember the many jobs the brothers would perform. They were administrators teaching four or five classes. They were gardeners, cooks, bus drivers and musicians.

Take a day in the life of Brother James Leik in 1966 at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, Ind. He helped with administrative duties, taught accounting classes and might end his day cleaning the restrooms if needed. Dedicated. Determined. Devotional.

In 1841 the Congregation of Holy Cross sent six brothers and one priest to the Diocese of Vincennes, Ind., to develop

educational programs for French-speaking immigrants of the United States. A year later a tract of land was secured north of South Bend and Notre Dame Du Lac was born.

The General Chapter of the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1945 agreed to transfer a 140-acre parcel of land to the Brothers of Holy Cross to develop. The provincial administration established offices and residency for the brothers on that property in 1963.

Rome wasn't built in a day, but Holy Cross College was literally built in a mere year. In mid-1964 the Midwest Province Chapter of the Brothers of Holy Cross wanted an educational training facility to educate younger brothers during the first two years of educational training.

The planned center facilities included: St. Joseph Chapel, Basil Hall for Brothers of Holy Cross candidates, James Hall

*—Continues on page 3—*



# Transformation came with the discipline of Holy Cross

BY BROTHER KEN HADERS, CSC, PROVINCIAL

When I entered the brothers in 1968, I had just graduated from one of the brothers' high schools, St. Edward in Lakewood, Ohio. Even though the tradition was only two years old, the expectation was that all the young men in initial formation would begin their college classes at what is now called Holy Cross College. For me it was an excellent way to get started in higher education.

Though my test scores told me I was fairly bright, I was never a disciplined student in high school. My grades were just a bit above average, and more than one of my high school teachers had noted my inconsistent accomplishments. I did better in classes I liked and with teachers with whom I could relate. In my other classes, I did enough to get by. But that changed at Holy Cross College.

At Holy Cross I was blessed to be with peers who modeled much better discipline and study habits and with older student brothers who were exceptionally generous role models and tutors – especially in math, since I was the only one in my group who was taking calculus. I was also blessed with absolutely exceptional teachers, mostly brothers, who were so bright and so interesting that I wanted to do well. It also helped that doing well in all areas was the norm among those who, like me, had signed up to learn how to be a brother.

I am forever grateful for the brothers I encountered in my first years in Holy Cross – both my fellow students and my teachers and mentors. I had a chance to grow up among some wonderful men who supported me and challenged me in so many ways. I am also grateful that my first years were at Holy Cross. In that setting I transformed from a

rather lazy and undisciplined student to one who was far more ready to take advantage of the opportunities before me.

Now I am on the board at Holy Cross College and I can confirm that it is still a place that can transform students to make them ready for the next stage of their life journey. What I took for granted as a student is now an intentional

commitment from administrators and faculty who carry on the legacy of the brothers.

In the Congregation of Holy Cross, we talk about a three-part formula for education: information, formation and transformation. A great school needs to present all the information – the knowledge – needed for success, but it cannot stop there. A great school also needs to form students. At Holy Cross College we talk about forming scholars, citizens, leaders and disciples. And it is that combination of information and formation that allows for a transformation into the kind of people who can create a better future – in the home, at work, in our community, at church and in a country. It is hard, but it is worth it.

Ave Crux, Spes Unica!!



Brother Ken Haders, CSC  
Provincial, Midwest Province

## Remembering our deceased brothers

Brother Robert Eugene Berthiaume, CSC, 86 • February 18, 2021 • 65 years of vowed religious life

Brother Edward Raymond Foken, CSC, 79 • January 12, 2021 • 59 years of vowed religious life

Brother Robert Arndt Kelly, CSC, 96 • January 21, 2021 • 67 years of vowed religious life

Brother John Ignatius Schuszler, CSC, 82 • January 7, 2021 • 62 years of vowed religious life

for student brothers, André Hall for housing staff brothers, a refectory for the residents, a maintenance shop, a gym and field house, a college building consisting of four classrooms, a library and an auditorium and Dujarie House for an infirmary.

Ground breaking for this ambitious complex was July 18, 1965. The facilities were operational for classes on Sept. 19, 1966 for 49 Holy Cross student brothers under the direction and guidance of Brothers John Driscoll and James Leik.

Brother John was named president and dean of the junior college, a position he held for two decades. An ex-Navy shipman who served in the Atlantic Fleet, he was a soft-spoken man with an unflappable personality who earned a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. He enjoyed encouraging students and teaching psychology along with handling his administrative duties.

Brother James, an ex-Air Force airman, earned a master's degree from Notre Dame and also from the University of Illinois. The handful of brothers who were assigned to Holy Cross Junior College in its early days consisted of a majority of ex-servicemen accustomed to hard work and discipline. Brother James handled academic, fiscal and property responsibilities. He and Brother John were the only two brother administrators at the college.

The college accepted local students, including a coed the following year. The goal of the faculty was a strong commitment in helping transform good students into excellent students, capable of admission into the nation's finest universities.

The college continued to grow in numbers through the '70s as more students desired the intimate feel of a small school and the opportunity to transfer to Notre Dame if they met the strict requirements. Modular units were brought in for more classroom and office space in 1984. Brother John died in 1987.

In 1990 the school was renamed Holy Cross College.



Brother James Leik, one of the founding administrators of HCC, taught accounting for decades among many other responsibilities. As he nears 90 he continues to work as the archivist at Holy Cross College.



Brother Lawrence Unfried has been a long-time teacher of biology and life sciences at Holy Cross College.

Brother Richard Gilman was named president in 1992. Over the next several years HCC experienced plant expansion with Vincent Hall and South Hall, as the student residency program expanded. The baccalaureate program was initiated in 2003 and the school joined the NAIA Athletic Association in 2006. The Pfeil Recreation Center was completed in 2008.

Enrollment continued to grow and has been between 400 and 600 over the last 30 years.

The college reached worldwide fame in 1993 with the release of the movie *Rudy*, the true story of a young man who attends Holy Cross College and, through diligence, discipline and hard work, overcomes great odds to achieve his dream of attending the University of Notre Dame and playing football for the Fighting Irish.

It has been brothers "as educators in the faith," who have diligently worked to build, expand and give life to Holy Cross College. Their commitment has been to transform the "Rudys" into excellent students and finding the best in each student.

Perhaps their dedication is summed up by Brother Lawrence Unfried, who continues to teach at HCC.

"For 45 years I have been blessed to work and teach at Holy Cross College. During that time many changes have occurred, most notably going from a two-year college to a four-year college. We now have a formal science program with a major in biology.

"One of the true blessings is the many faculty and students who I now consider lifelong friends as we've stayed in touch over these many years." 🙏

*This article was written with the generous help of Brother James Leik, the Holy Cross College archivist, and his impeccable records of the history of this vital institution of higher learning.*

The saying goes—good things come in small packages. Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, Ind., is one of the top small Midwest liberal arts colleges with big-time opportunities.

It's a place where everyone knows your name, champions your aspirations, relishes your successes.

HCC offers options tailored to fit the passions of each individual student. And because of the approach to this educational model, students succeed.

Holy Cross students embrace the core curriculum goals of a Holy Cross student—serious *scholars*, courageous *citizens*, innovative *leaders* and passionate *disciples*.

Add a little grit and determination



Father David Tyson, CSC, president, presides at Mass in St. Joseph Chapel at Holy Cross College.

and you have the foundation of what Holy Cross College was built upon by the Brothers of Holy Cross.

Father David Tyson, CSC, president of Holy Cross since 2017, admires the “grit” that he saw in the graduating seniors last year when he

told them commencement had to be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet would they be willing to return for a Labor Day homecoming ceremony?

“They just smiled at me and said of course they would be there,” Tyson said. “We are talking about many first generation college graduates and it meant as much to their parents as it did to them. They came and were so serious knowing they were joining the ranks of thousands of alumni.”

He also knows the history of HCC and the “grit” of the brothers who started the school in 1966.

Tyson came to Holy Cross at a difficult time. The finances of the institution weren't in the best shape and its future was uncertain.

So in his inaugural speech Tyson asked the Holy Cross family to “return to our roots.”

Holy Cross College began as a two-year college program for brothers before they enrolled at one of the traditional Holy Cross four-year universities: St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, or the University of Notre Dame. It expanded its enrollment beyond just the brothers in 1967, and young men and women from the area drove to campus each day to take classes, at that time, with the young brothers.

Brother John Driscoll, CSC, served as president and dean for the first two decades of the college's history from 1966 until 1987.

“Brother John was a pioneer for what he did for Holy Cross,” Tyson said. “Father Hesburgh (president of

# Transforming into excellent s



Service is essential to the development of a Holy Cross College student, with 100 percent participation.

Notre Dame at the time and Tyson's boss) referred to Brother John as ‘one of the most brilliant men in education.’

“Driscoll changed the lives of young people. All it took was a phone call from Brother John to Notre Dame and if he said a student was ready for the rigors of Notre Dame without exception that student was admitted,” Tyson said. “His word was all Notre Dame needed.”

Holy Cross was then, as it is now, a school that offers an individually focused liberal arts curriculum that challenges students to be their best.

To make it happen, HCC offers a variety of enrollment programs. A Holy Cross student can take advantage of the tri-campus environment in which many amazing resources—clubs, classes, sporting events, a student newspaper—are

# good students students

shared among the University of Notre Dame, St. Mary's College and Holy Cross.

The traditional four-year degree offers nine majors and 19 minors. An accelerated program is for the student who knows the career path he or she wants and finishes in three years.

The 4+1 dual degree program enables a HCC student to complete a bachelor's and graduate degree in five years by receiving preferred admission to graduate programs at the University of Notre Dame or Saint Mary's College.

The Gateway program is by invitation only and works with the Notre Dame Office of Undergraduate Admissions who select students from its applicant pool to enroll at Holy Cross College for their first-year, with a guaranteed transfer to Notre Dame as sophomores after fulfilling all



Holy Cross College educates students to become global citizens with the competence to see and the courage to act.

requirements.

The Driscoll Scholars program, named after Brother John, is an innovative and intentionally small program for students interested in STEM majors in which students spend their first two years in the close-knit Holy Cross College community before finishing their undergraduate degree in engineering at Notre Dame.

“Brother John’s legacy was that he was tough as nails,” Tyson said. “But he promised students that with hard work and living in the Holy Cross College community and trusting it, good things would happen. Kids were his life.”

With an enrollment of nearly 500, Holy Cross students are a diverse group representing more than 30 states and 12 countries. Enrollment is 60 percent male, 40 percent female, 34 percent students of color, and 24 percent first-generation students.

The type of student who attends HCC is someone who is comfortable in a small situation. With an average class size at 12, one can’t hide behind a football player in a large classroom auditorium. They need the confidence to take responsibility and to engage in the learning process. With 70 percent identifying with the Catholic faith, students are strong in their spiritual life and immerse themselves in service opportunities.


Holy Cross was among the first colleges in the country to have 100 percent of its students complete a professional internship. Through this opportunity a student is introduced



Holy Cross College is a Catholic, co-ed, residential college offering Bachelor of Arts degrees.

to resources and mentoring to explore career opportunities.

A life-changing program for hundreds of incarcerated inmates at the Westville Correctional Facility in Indiana was begun in 2013. The Moreau College Initiative is an academic collaboration between Holy Cross College and the University of Notre Dame. Select inmates earn credits toward a Holy Cross College Associate of Arts degree with the option of pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree. Faculty from the two institutions go to the prison to teach the classes. Inmates participating in the program live in a separate quarters at the prison.

“The Holy Cross charism is alive and well at Holy Cross College,” Tyson said. “Campus ministry is very active. The symbols of Holy Cross—the cross and anchors—are present across campus. Students and faculty fully understand the motto of the Congregation of Holy Cross—Ave Crux, Spes Unica. Hail to the Cross, our only hope.” 

# Holy Cross College offers life-changing opportunities

Although *Amy Nussbaum* of the greater South Bend area looked at other colleges and universities, she immediately felt at home at Holy Cross. She was in the second graduating class from the 4-year baccalaureate program in 2006.

“The relationships I formed with my cohort (one of whom is now my husband), with my professors, and with the Brothers of Holy Cross are something that have blessed me beyond measure,” Nussbaum said.

“The highlight of my four years at Holy Cross College was the two summers, in 2004 and 2005, when I was able to travel to Ghana with a small group of students.

“During our time in Ghana, we stayed at the Holy Cross Center in Brafuyaw in Cape Coast, with the Brothers of Holy Cross. The brothers became like family to me. I immersed myself in the Ghanaian culture and learned that living out your faith could be something of pure love and joy. Together, we visited the people in the villages, went to church daily, visited schools, and spent time reflecting and praying on the many slave castles that lined the coast,” Nussbaum said.

Nussbaum’s second trip to Ghana included Danny, her now husband, who is also from South Bend.

“We both formed relationships with our Ghanaian brothers,” she said. “It set a solid foundation for our marriage and for our family. Brother Paul Mensah, Brother Ebenezer Prah and Brother David Kpobi were just a few of the brothers who changed our lives for the better. Brother David is an artist and introduced us to his art students, who happened to be deaf. His faith in God and humanity led him to want to help the deaf community and he did so through his art and his instruction,” Nussbaum said.

“These moments from my four years at Holy Cross are what built my confidence into becoming a successful adult.” Nussbaum ran her own Montessori school for 13 years and is currently working on a master’s in teaching while simultaneously teaching



Danny & Amy Nussbaum and family

and raising three sons with her husband.

“Holy Cross prepared us to be the greatest version of ourselves, to be our own best teachers, and to build our own masterpiece,” Nussbaum said.

*Joe Lafferty* learned of Holy Cross when the admissions team visited his high school outside Detroit, Mich. His sister was already enrolled at St Mary’s College, Notre Dame, Ind.

The big attraction to Holy Cross for Lafferty was the intimate feeling on campus, being able to have access to Notre Dame events and having all three campuses in close proximity.

When Lafferty started his college career in 2002, Holy Cross offered a two year associate’s degree. Beginning in his sophomore year, students were able to reapply and graduate with a four year liberal arts degree.




Joe & Lauren Lafferty and family

“We were asked to do an internship,” Lafferty said. “I was interested in advertising because my family worked at a few firms in metro Detroit.

“My favorite class was general history with Brother Bob Livernois. My family connected with him right away because he helped me choose my classes and was familiar with the college prep high school I went to in Michigan,” Lafferty said. “Brother Bob knew he could make an example of me with discipline, and it wouldn’t bother me. One time he thought he was too hard on me in class and he came to our dorm room to apologize. He quickly connected with the guys on our floor. He would come over on Sundays and watch football with us. Having a brother or teacher spend time with us after class and really care is what made my time at Holy Cross so special.

“I learned quickly how much I needed to prepare for classes, because I knew I could be called on. With class sizes so small, there was no hiding,” Lafferty said. “It helped me prepare for my future career as a medical device sales rep. When I meet with a surgeon to help them with his or her surgery, I can’t wing it. I have to do my homework.

“I think of Brother Bob often because no matter how much you think you know, there is always something new to learn. My wife Lauren and I would love to have our twin girls attend Holy Cross College and be taught the values and discipline that the Brothers of Holy Cross had in mind when they started the college.” 

# Brothers offered a college option for many students

BY BROTHER ROY SMITH, CSC, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT


In the late 1980s and early 1990s I was out and about in Mishawaka, Elkhart, South Bend and beyond as a school social worker for the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.

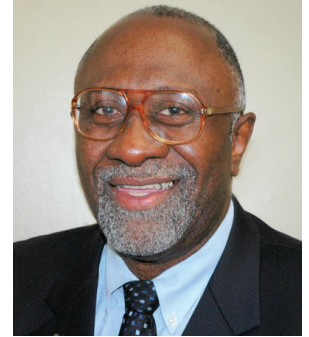
On a number of occasions parents would stop me and say, “Brother, we are so pleased that your order has Holy Cross (at that time) Junior College. We have told our son, or daughter they can finish their last two years any place if they do well at Holy Cross their first two years.” The parents would go on to say they felt their sons and daughters received a good foundation academically and proved they could handle the college scene socially, academically and personally.

When Holy Cross College and “the brothers’ center” were being built, the students at St. Joseph High School called it “Instant City.” Compared to some of our other institutions it is a young educational facility.

Nevertheless a number of brothers have worked and taught there to get it on the sound foundation and recognized footing it is on now.

In some ways we recognize all those, brothers, lay teachers, administrators, sisters and priests who have done much to bring Holy Cross College to the place and contribution it is for the tri-campus and greater South Bend-Mishawaka and beyond.

We thank you who have given over the years so the brothers who have been involved in many ways over many years, have a safe, secure environment to spend their retiring years. 

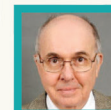


Brother Roy Smith, CSC  
Director of Development

LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD

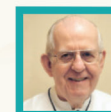
Saturday, April 24 2021 – Teleconference  
**Celebrating the 200th Anniversary  
 of the Brothers of St. Joseph**  
 who later became the Brothers of Holy Cross.



Brother George  
Klawitter, CSC

**The Legacy of the Early  
 Brothers of St. Joseph**

*What can the early Brothers teach those who want to carry on their dedication to Holy Cross today? What can we learn from their lifestyle? How are those who carry on the Holy Cross tradition similar to missionaries today?*



Brother Raymond  
Papenfuss, CSC

**Looking Forward:  
 The Universal Christ**

*Like the early Brothers of St. Joseph, what will it be like to be church in uncertain times? How do we prepare ourselves to become other Christs to meet and live in an unknown world?*

**Conference Schedule  
 (Eastern Standard Time)**

- 10:00 am Opening Prayer
- 10:15 am *The Legacy of the early Brothers of St. Joseph*  
Brother George Klawitter, CSC
- 11:15 am Reading Essays and viewing videos from Finalists / Presentation of Awards
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm *Looking Forward: The Universal Christ*  
Brother Raymond Papenfuss
- 2:00 pm Panel Discussion
- 2:30 pm Closing Prayer

LOVE YOU  
 RESPONSIBILITY  
 HOPE FAMILY  
 FAITH



FRIENDS STRENGTH  
 PERSEVERANCE STORY  
 ZEAL BEAUTIFUL



**Holy Cross Associates**  
 with zeal and hope to bring

Please register at our website:  
<https://holycrossassociates.org/chapters/national-and-regional-conferences/>

# BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

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at Notre Dame, Indiana

