



## BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

*Men with hope to bring*

Annual Appeal, 2023

# Senior brothers experience loving care at Dujarié House

BY BROTHER KENNETH HADERS, CSC, PROVINCIAL

**W**hen I came to Holy Cross in 1968, I discovered that we had our own infirmary to take care of our brothers who needed daily medical care. I was impressed, and occasionally went down to the other end of the brothers' property to visit—mostly because the director was such a nice guy and welcomed us so kindly to what was called Dujarié House, in honor of the French priest who first started the brothers as the Brothers of St Joseph.

It was pretty easy to see why the brothers who were there needed this kind of care. All were elderly and showed their age, some had mobility issues and walked with help or moved in a wheelchair, some were interested in meeting us young guys, and I'm not sure whether some always knew what was going on. Seeing the nice facility and the excellent care these brothers were receiving from professionally trained nurses, gave


me a sense of security and established an expectation for care that, I am happy to say, has been lived up to during my 50 plus years as a brother. The brothers have taken care of their own and provided the brothers a way of life similar to their normal routine, with daily mass and communal prayer and meals cooked by a brother cook.



Brother Kenneth Haders, CSC  
Provincial

Over the years there were several updates and remodels, and today Dujarié House is part of our continuum of care community called Holy Cross Village. Today Dujarié is not just for brothers, and is a five-star rated skilled nursing facility open to brothers, to men and women of Holy Cross Village and to the greater community. We had to build a bigger chapel to accommodate a much larger group of residents, and we worked diligently with our lay collaborators, to maintain high standards of care and meet today's governmental standards for professional care.

In a sense, Dujarié House and our care for the brothers has expanded and changed with the times, but it has always been our way of honoring and caring for our senior Brothers of Holy Cross who needed loving care with the highest professional standards. Today, most of the brothers' budget is committed to the care of our elderly brothers. How many brothers need the extra professional care of Dujarié House varies, but there is a tremendous sense of security to know the brothers have this resource available.

Thank you for the financial support that allows us to continue this legacy of excellent and loving care. 



Behind Dujarié House is a Garden and Pathways trail that gives residents the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in a safe way as they enjoy nature. Dujarié House is home to five brothers and 44 lay residents. Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame is an interdependent community energized by Holy Cross spirituality and hospitality, and dedicated to providing a nurturing environment focused on dignity and respect.

# Dujarié House compassionate

Nestled in the northwest corner of Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame—a continuum of care community for senior living—and overlooking the meandering St. Joseph River as it bends to the west, sits one of the most compassionate, faith-filled spaces you could ever visit. Dujarié House is currently home to five brothers and 44 lay residents seeking a safe, caring and spiritual place in their elder years.

Dujarié House was originally built in 1965 as an infirmary, providing quality care for the brothers. As Holy Cross Village expanded, so has Dujarié House to meet the needs of not just the brothers but also of lay residents.

It was the vision of the late Brother William Geenen (provincial 1994-2000) to create Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame for lay people and brothers as a multigenerational community with medical care and retirement opportunities. At the time, he considered it to be a new “mission” of the brothers. This caring environment, built on the charism of Holy Cross, has evolved into a five-star rated skilled nursing facility.

Yet before lay residents found a home at HCV and Dujarié House at the turn of the 21st century, the facility was for brothers and run by brothers. When Dujarié opened its doors in the late '60s the brother superior of the house was also its director. It was staffed by a mixture of brothers and lay persons offering their services as chefs, maintenance and medical staffing to care for the ailing brothers who needed extra care. As time evolved, and Brother William's vision came to fruition, more lay people became involved in the day to day operation of Dujarié House, as well as becoming residents.

The house is named after Jacques-François Dujarié, founder of the Brothers of St. Joseph that eventually became the Congregation of Holy Cross. Besides the brothers, most of the

residents come from the South Bend area, but some come from all over the country.

Dujarié House offers comfortable suites that allow residents privacy with activities and living spaces available right outside their door to give them companionship and stimulation. Its residents are provided with 24-hour nursing programs designed to enhance the quality of life for the individual and promote as much independence as possible.

Jack Mueller, Executive Director for Holy Cross Village, brings a lifetime of experience to operating all aspects of HCV. As a nursing home administrator for 40 years and over 20 of those years in continuing care retirement communities, Mueller exemplifies the caring environment that is needed and offered to individuals at this special time of their lives.

“Ideally it is better for residents to enter Holy Cross Village as independent residents and move through the continuum of care,” Mueller said.

This includes the brothers who have living options at Holy Cross Village and St. Joseph Place for independent living, Columba Hall for independent and assisted living and Dujarié House for long-term nursing and memory care.

Numerous improvements have been made over the years to Columba Hall, the main residence for retired brothers, to enable brothers to remain “at home” and independent for as long as possible. This provides a cost-saving measure for the brothers to avoid the full 24-hour care facility that is Dujarié House.

“Dujarié House has experienced many changes since it opened its doors to the brothers in 1966 as an infirmary,” said Mueller. “Several additions have taken place with the most recent being in 2022 when we completely refurbished all of Dujarié.”

Additions have included the Quinn Memory Care Unit, a number of added suites, a new chapel, the Garden and Pathways walking trail behind the facility and the Brother Thomas Shaughnessy Skilled Nursing and Rehab wing enhancing the skilled care provided to the residents.

A highlight of the week for the brothers in residence is the brother's gathering at midday on Thursdays. A number of brothers living at Columba Hall, Riverside Place and St. Joseph



Brothers Thomas Cunningham (resident), Raymond Papenfus and James Spooner, are part of the weekly midday social at Dujarié House enjoyed by a number of brothers living in the area. The staff provides appetizers and beverages for the brothers.



# provides care for many

BY MARY ANNE DeCENZO, EDITOR



Brother Roy Smith practices walking down steps following knee surgery in August with the help of Fran Tulgau, a trained physical therapist at the Br. Thomas Shaughnessy Skilled Nursing and Therapy Rehab wing at Dujarié House.

Place come to Dujarié House to visit with their fellow brothers before Mass at Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel.

Jody Meyer, the Life Enrichment Coordinator for the Skilled Nursing, Memory Care and Assisted Living areas, helps facilitate these gatherings.

“We provide an appetizer and some beverages for them,” Meyer said. “It’s a nice time for them to share stories and then attend Mass together. All of our activities are open to people from outside the facility to attend, so for the brothers we have several family and friends attend entertainment and special events. Often brothers living in the area come over and visit with the brothers.”

It has become the mission of the brothers living in the area to care for each other. Some come to visit, eat a meal with a brother or lay resident or take a brother to a doctors appointment. The brothers’ presence on the Holy Cross Village campus allows its residents to age with grace in a spiritual community.

An important part of HCV is helping its residents return to

a more independent lifestyle following surgery, illness or injury.

Lori Shepler is the therapy service manager in the skilled nursing and rehab department of Dujarié House at HCV. She oversees the day to day operations of the therapy department, working closely with the entire management team at HCV to serve its residents and clients. As a certified occupational therapist, she is a treating clinician for the residents.


“We provide services to the entire HCV campus and the community,” Shepler said. “We not only provide skilled services at HCV, we offer outpatient therapy services to anyone who would like to receive our services with a physician’s order. We offer occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy”

A typical day for the staff is seeing 20 to 25 patients for occupational and physical therapy. Speech therapy usually sees about three to five residents 3 to 5 times a week. Services are provided in the clinic, the HCV campus and Columba Hall.

Brother Roy Smith, director of development for the Midwest Province needed a knee replacement in late August. With the skilled rehab services he received following his surgery, Brother Roy was able to return to work by October, driving to meetings.

Amy Lee-Fisher is director of Social Services at HCV. As a social worker she helps with discharge planning for the residents. As a resident advocate she assists with mood, behavioral, cognitive and psychosocial needs for all the residents making sure they receive the individualized care that they need. She also interacts closely with the families of the residents.

“The care at Dujarié for our mother has been wonderful. From the aides, nurses, and chefs to the administration they are accommodating to our mother’s needs,” said Theresa Fry. “Whenever there is a concern that our family has, the staff is responsive and attentive to our requests. The staff becomes a lifeline to the residents and we appreciate the kindness they show to our mother by treating her with dignity and respect.”

“When my mother-in-law suffered a stroke last May, she was transferred from the hospital to the rehabilitation wing of Dujarié House. This is where she began receiving her physical and occupational therapy,” said Roxy Artusi. “The director of admissions made Mom’s transition so much smoother than we anticipated. After a couple weeks of therapy and some additional health setbacks, it became evident that she would need to extend her stay. We continue to be impressed with the compassion and patience each staff member has shown while they answered our many questions. We appreciate being able to attend Sunday Mass with Mom in the Chapel. I don’t think anyone is ever ready to move their parents into a nursing home, but my family has been blessed with the quality of care and the facilities at Holy Cross.” 

# Brothers are *Men with hope to bring*

BY BROTHER ROY SMITH, CSC, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

As I reflect on 2023 and the stories we have shared with you, I see the motto for the Brothers of Holy Cross—*Men with hope to bring*—really resonating in my heart.

In our spring issue of *BROTHERS*, we celebrated the inauguration of the Province of West Africa. I had the privilege of attending this week-long gathering and experienced first hand the joy that our Ghanaian brothers exhibited in this historical event as they willingly accepted the responsibilities of carrying on Holy Cross in West Africa.

The virtue of zeal begun by the pioneer brothers from the Midwest Province 65-years ago continues today in the hearts of these Ghanaian brothers in making God known, loved and served through their witness as members of the Congregation of Holy Cross.


Education has always been the heart and soul of the brothers of Holy Cross and that was our focus in our fall issue of *BROTHERS* as we shared with you just how important the unique school culture we call Holy Cross is with the graduates of our six Midwest Province schools.

We took a sampling of the over 1,100 young men and women graduates and asked them which Holy Cross value they were going to take with them on their next journey. Their answers were insightful. Even though our schools, for the most part, are no longer staffed by Holy Cross brothers, the culture is created and purposefully imparted by a group of committed lay teachers and staff members that we call Holy Cross educators. The caring, positive, affirming and challenging atmosphere the brothers of many years ago created naturally is now the responsibility of dedicated Holy Cross educators. They are true partners in preserving our Holy Cross identity everyday.

Presently some of these same brothers who dedicated their lives to the mission in Ghana and other places around the globe and in the classroom have semi-retired to the Notre Dame area. I say semi-retired because as brothers we are still committed to our vocation and will never be fully retired. These brothers were invested in the growth of the West African Province and whether they were physically or spiritually involved, Holy Cross grew Ghana because of the zeal of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

As educators in the faith, the retired brothers who served in schools continue to carry on the charism of Holy Cross and live their vocation in very special ways. I see it in the brothers faces as I attend Mass with them. I see it in letters they write to former graduates. I see it in the interaction with our Ghanaian brothers when they visit.

And you have been a part of this journey. Without your support, both financially and spiritually, none of this could have been possible.

We humbly thank you for allowing us to continue to be *Men with hope to bring*. 



Brother Roy Smith, CSC  
Director of Development

## Showing our Appreciation

As a small token of our gratitude for your generosity to the Annual Appeal, we will inscribe your name in the St. André Registry, a book in which the Brothers honor those who support our mission. The registry is prominently placed at the entrance of Columba Hall.

In addition to inscribing your name in the registry, the Brothers of Holy Cross are honored to remember you in our daily prayers.

You will also be recognized in our 2023 Annual Stewardship Report according to the level of support. We do not specifically indicate the amount of your gift. Our annual giving levels are:

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### Brother Columba O'Neill Club Members

Gifts of \$5,000 and above

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### Columba Hall Society Members

Gifts from \$200 to \$4,999

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### Cross & Anchors Members

Gifts up to \$199



*Please use the enclosed envelope to make your thoughtful gift or contact:*

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