

BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross

Summer 2021

Jubilarians exemplify “Our One, Most Awesome Hope”

BY BROTHER KENNETH HADERS, CSC, PROVINCIAL

I think I have been living through something that will be included in future history books. For me it has been an unprecedented experience. Everyone has had to change the way things are done in areas we never anticipated, in many cases with the goal of protecting ourselves and others from the virus.

I know many have been seriously inconvenienced by the requirements imposed to prevent avoidable contagion, yet most have been quite creative in their adjustment to this new reality. I have been blessed to have experienced thoughtful reflections and creative prayers that have been shared as part of communal prayer in our local communities and schools. Where the normal spiritual routine of daily Mass was gone, it was creatively replaced by new ways to express and enrich our relationships with our God.

So where does that leave us today, as we focus on seven brothers who are celebrating the jubilee of their profession as Brothers of Holy Cross? I would like to answer that by quoting the motto of the Congregation of Holy Cross: “Ave Crux, Spes Unica” – “Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope.” However, I want to borrow some thoughts from John C. Cavadini, a professor of theology at Notre Dame. In his foreword to the book *Basil Moreau Essential Writings* he offers a different insight into this motto. He writes that to say “only hope” often signifies “a nearly hopeless situation – a hope that is slim, desperate and unlikely.” Then he goes on to offer some alternatives to the classical translation,

where the word is not simply “only” but “matchless.” Of the options he presents, I like this one the best: “Hail the Cross, Our One, Most Awesome Hope!” As Cavadini says, “the phrase is intended as an act of praise, not an act of desperation,” and that is what I have seen in so many people during this pandemic, praise without desperation, hope found in and through the Cross.



Brother Kenneth Haders, CSC

This is what I see as I reflect on our jubilarians.

As our constitutions say, I see “men with hope to bring.” I see a lifetime of faithfulness that is awesome, not desperate. I see men who have praised their God in new ways and who have served others, informed others, healed others and formed others. Their lives have not been perfect, but ours is a loving and merciful God who has endless compassion for all, including the sinner.

I am thankful for the example of these brothers who have lived our motto, even in these extraordinary times. Men who have shown me, and others, that One, Most Awesome Hope. Please join me in a prayer of thanksgiving for our seven jubilarians, who together represent 440 years of bringing hope.

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70-YEAR JUBILARIANS

Brother Thomas J. Dillman, CSC

At the age of 22, Tom had completed three years of university studies in engineering, and had a reasonably rewarding social life. He happened to read Thomas Merton's *Seven Story Mountain*. Suffice it to say, this served as a significant turning point in his life, and in January 1950 he entered the postulate at Watertown, Wis.



In August 1950, Tom advanced to the novitiate at Rolling Prairie, Ind. It is only in retrospect that he realized how austere his novitiate program was compared to today's standards.

Br. Tom studied at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and continued there in general engineering studies toward that degree. After a year and a half, with his diploma in hand, he was assigned to teach at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis in January 1952.

Following final vows in August 1954, he moved to Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio. For the next 13 years he taught the industrial science classes: woodworking and mechanical drawing, along with math. He was also director of maintenance and bus driver for athletic events.

From June to August 1968, Br. Tom was director of novices in a new program at the Holy Cross Brothers Center at Notre Dame in Ind. In less than three months, there was a new provincial, and this was followed by some changes. The novices were moved to the novitiate in Valatie, New York. Brother Thomas said he was happy to be released from an extremely challenging role involving experimentation and a new modus operandi in the formation program. From September to December 1968 he was assistant director of aspirants

After enrichment studies in theology at Notre Dame, he accepted Brother Charles Krupp's request to go to Monrovia, Liberia in January, 1969, to teach math and science at St. Patrick's High School. For the next 52 years he would be a Holy Cross missionary. There is no way to

describe the myriad of unfolding events and experiences in his 28 years of ministry in Liberia.

In April 1989, an open conflict erupted among four different rebel factions in Liberia. This resulted in an inter-city civil war in Monrovia and the closing down of all schools. The archbishop decided not to reopen St. Patrick's, opting for a new polytechnic school. With the closing of St. Patrick's, Brother Thomas was assigned to live with the Holy Cross community in Ghana. There he wrote math textbooks for the senior high school program in Catholic schools in Liberia. Br. Tom tried to return to Liberia over the following years, but the continued conflict caused him to leave for good in 1996.

He later taught math at St. Augustine's College in Cape Coast, Ghana, before assuming the role of editor of the District of West Africa's quarterly newsletter: *Holy Cross Today-Ghana*. He became house director of the Holy Cross community at St. Augustine's College, Cape Coast. He moved to live at the Centre in 2018, when he was no longer able to walk by himself. He has since lived in this community, enjoying the care of the brothers around him.

Brother Donald J. Allen, CSC

Donald was one of Alfred and Cecilia Allen's seven children. Born on March 22, 1926, in Chicago, he attended Catholic elementary schools in Chicago and Winnetka, Ill., graduating from St. Joseph Grammar School in Wilmette, Ill.



At New Trier High School in Winnetka, he was more interested in sports than academics and decided to join the Navy before his graduation in March of 1944. He served in the South Pacific as an aviation machinist mate.

Following his service he took advantage of the GI Bill to attend Loyola University in Chicago. He graduated from Michigan State University in East Lansing, with a B.S. and M.S. in Zoology with a minor in statistics.

Brother Donald joined the brothers in 1950. After taking vows in 1951 he began a career covering over 25

assignments including those in East Pakistan, Ghana, Liberia and Israel.

After taking final vows in 1954, he taught at St. Gregory High School in Dhaka, East Pakistan, (Bangladesh). After three years in Dhaka he was transferred to St. John's School in Sekondi, Ghana, for four years with a group of Brothers who were starting a mission in West Africa. In 1961 he studied biology at the University of Notre Dame. In 1962 he was assigned to St. Patrick School in Monrovia, Liberia, where he was principal and religious superior for two years. In 1964 he returned to St. John's in Ghana for four more years.

In 1968 Brother Donald studied at the University

of Notre Dame, then taught on two separate occasions at Holy Trinity High School, Chicago, St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio; and St. Patrick's High School Liberia. In 1976 he earned an M.A. in religion from Boston College. His teaching career continued at Holy Cross High School, River Grove, Ill., where he taught several years, then lived at Columba Hall on two occasions, Holy Family High School, Ashland, Ky., and Mater Ecclesiae Center, Tiberius, Israel.

Brother Donald retired at Columba Hall in 2007 and more recently moved to Dujarié House.

Brother Donald said he is grateful to God for his religious vocation.



60-YEAR JUBILARIANS

Brother James E. Kozak, CSC

James Edward Kozak was born on May 19, 1942, in Grand Rapids, Mich., to Edward and Mary Kozak. He grew up on a farm outside Grand Rapids, and it was there that his love of animals and nature was first nourished.

James attended St. Thomas the Apostle School and Catholic Central High School in Grand Rapids. "I'm forever grateful to the Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids for the sound Catholic education I received from them," he said.

Brother Jim (as he's commonly known) joined the Brothers of Holy Cross after graduating from high school in 1960. After the novitiate year in Rolling Prairie, Ind., he moved to Dujarié Hall on the campus of the University of Notre Dame and earned a bachelor's of arts degree in English. "I consider my three and a half years at Dujarié among the best years of my religious life," Brother Jim said.

Eventually he would earn a master's of Pastoral Studies from Loyola University in Chicago, as well as pursue graduate courses in missiology and guidance and counseling at the University of Dayton and DePaul University in Chicago, respectively.



After one semester at Sacred Heart Military Academy in Watertown, Wis., Brother Jim spent the next 23 years in the District of West Africa (Liberia and Ghana) involved in education, religious formation, youth ministry and health care administration. He served at different times in two parishes on Chicago's South Side as youth minister and as a pastoral associate. He spent 10 years with Holy Cross Children's Services, primarily on the Boysville campus, in Clinton, Mich. Then he taught for seven years at Archbishop Hoban High School, Akron, Ohio. Upon "retiring" in 2012, he has lived in Columba Hall at Notre Dame.

Since 2012, Brother Jim has been in volunteer ministry at Holy Cross College as chaplain of the men's and women's soccer teams, tutor in the writing center and a senior capstone evaluator.

He also spent several years as a teacher and member of the board of directors of the Forever Learning Institute in South Bend, Ind.

"I thank God for St. Joseph who has traveled my life journey with me as my father, protector and guide. I'm also grateful for the young men and women I've worked with—past and present—who are my inspiration and my greatest teachers."

Brother Joseph P. LeBon, CSC

It was while he was attending high school in Indianapolis that Joe LeBon heard the call to religious life. He admired the



selfless dedication and professional competence of the brothers at Cathedral High School and could picture himself in front of the classroom. He says it was the wit and wisdom of the late Brother Pedro Haering that lit the spark of interest. Joe's brother Arthur preceded him

in joining the Congregation of Holy Cross, although he has since left.

After completing his novitiate, Brother Joe studied at the University of Notre Dame, where he earned his degree in classics. Most of his ministry has been teaching at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, where he was assigned in 1965. Except for one year at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Ill., he has worked at Hoban ever since. He has served the province as moderator of several chapters and as chairman of the Social Justice Commission.

Over his teaching career, Brother Joe has taught a variety of subjects, from religion to mathematics, from French to Latin. He has advised the student newspaper and yearbook and is a nationally certified journalism educator. Back in the mid-70's, Brother Joe became interested in computer programming, which he taught for many years. Today he employs those technology skills in maintaining the school website.

"I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the Congregation of Holy Cross," he said. "The community has provided me with my religious formation and college education, as well as the opportunity to serve the Church in the ministry of Catholic education over many years. Working with youth has helped me stay young."

Brother Edward W. Libbers, CSC

Edward was the third of five children born to Herman and Lillian Libbers in Lafayette, Ind. He attended Catholic elementary schools and graduated from Lafayette Central Catholic in 1958. He attended Purdue University for one year, studying chemical engineering. During that year, he was active in the Newman Center. With advice from the chaplain at the Newman Center, he wrote a letter to Brother Eymard Salzman, the vocations director, expressing an interest in

Holy Cross. Within a few days, Brother Eymard invited him to visit the brothers at Dujarié Hall scholasticate. Impressed by the young brothers, he entered the juniorate program at Watertown, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1959. The following January, he entered the novitiate at Rolling Prairie, Ind., professing first vows in 1961. He was assigned to live at Dujarié Hall and study at Notre Dame, majoring in chemistry and math.

In the summer of 1963, Brother Edward graduated from the University of Notre Dame and was assigned to live at Columba Hall and work at St. Joseph High School, teaching algebra and chemistry. Upon finishing his first



year of teaching, he was assigned in September 1964 to Holy Cross High School, River Grove, Ill., where he remained for three years. In 1966, he received an NSF grant to attend Notre Dame to work on a master's degree during the summer months completing the degree in 1970.

In 1967, Brother Edward was assigned to teach at Archbishop Hoban High School, again in the areas of chemistry and math. He continued to teach at Hoban until 1995, when he applied for and was accepted to teach math and chemistry at Holy Cross High School in San Antonio, Texas.

He returned to Hoban in 1999 and continued teaching until retiring in 2016 after 53 years in education. For four years he did volunteer work at Regina Health Care nursing home. It was an extremely rewarding experience. He formed many new friendships with the residents as well as the with other volunteers who gave their time to serve the elderly. This, unfortunately, came to an end when the pandemic shut down the volunteer program at the nursing home. Brother Ed hopes this important ministry can be restarted soon.

Many brothers, some of whom have passed on, have served as an inspiration for Brother Edward.

They have been role models, leading truly holy and faith-filled lives. He has often mentioned how his life has been blessed with their friendship and support. Another blessing has been the privilege of being a teacher for so many years. Interacting and influencing the lives of so many young students has been special. It is his hope to remain in education as long as he is physically able.

Brother Frederick P. Raehsler, CSC

Frederick was born in Elsworth, Wis, to Frederick and Florence Raehsler on Sept. 8, 1934. As a child he and his family moved to St. Paul, Minn., where he attended St. John the Evangelist Grammar School in Little Canada, Minn., and then Cretin High School in St. Paul.

After two years of military service in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in Nurnberg/Erlangen Germany, he returned to St. Paul. He was introduced to the life of a brother in high school where he was taught by the Brothers of St. John Baptist de La Salle (Christian Brothers). His introduction to the Holy Cross Brothers came while visiting Rancho San Antonio in Chatsworth, Calif., with a friend in 1956.

Four years later on June 14, 1960, he entered the Congregation of Holy Cross at Watertown, Wis. Following a couple of months at Watertown it was on to his novitiate year in Rolling Prairie, Ind.

His education and ministry in Holy Cross would be in health care. His nursing training began at the Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago from 1963 to 1966. Upon graduation he was appointed the Director of the Dujarié House infirmary at Notre Dame. After seven years at Dujarié House he moved into an area of health care known as Mid-level Health Practitioners the Physician Assistant at Indiana University and Purdue University (IUPU) in Fort Wayne, Ind., from 1973 to 1975.

He completed his undergraduate work at Indiana University in 1978 earning a Bachelor of Studies (BGS). He did his graduate work at Indiana University, earning an M.S. Ed., in guidance and counseling in 1981. His ministry over the years has been in the health care field, either as a nurse or physician assistant. His PA work began in South Bend with the Family Care Medical Practice for seven years. Upon earning a master's degree he moved on to King's College in Wilke-Barre, Pa., to work in their Physician Assistant program as both a teacher and administrator.

To satisfy the desire to work in rural health, he accepted a physician assistant position in Skagway, Alaska, for seven years. From July 1994 until 2000 he served the rural community of Blanchard, Michigan.

In 2000 he retired from work as a physician assistant



in Blanchard and returned to Notre Dame. He moved into Riverside Place (the Holy Cross Brothers house) in Holy Cross Village. In 2001 he was asked to develop a student health program at Holy Cross College, which he did, and he worked in the Student Health Center for eight years as the nurse.

Brother Frederick volunteered at Sister Maura Brannick, CSC Health Clinic in South Bend. He was a nurse for 17 years as a volunteer until he fully retired due to health problems and now lives in Columba Hall at Notre Dame.

Brother Thomas H. Sisung, CSC

Thomas was born in Monroe, Mich., on Dec. 6, 1941, to Thomas and Gertrude Sisung. He was the oldest of five children. He attended St. John's Elementary School, taught by the IHM Sisters, and Monroe Catholic Central High School taught by the Brothers of Holy Cross. While a student at Monroe, he received guidance from Brother Bede Stadler who was the school's vocations director.

After high school graduation, Thomas entered the brothers at Watertown, Wis., on June 14, 1960. He received his habit on August 15, 1960, at Rolling Prairie, Ind., where he later made his first profession on August 16, 1961.

Through the years, Brother Thomas has taught religious education, developmental reading and Latin. His assignments included Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, for one year; Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Ill., for four years; Le Mans Academy (as a cook) for three years then 13 years at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio.

Brother Thomas moved back to Notre Dame to continue his new interest in the culinary arts and cooked at the Holy Cross Brothers Center from 1985 to 1998. Continuing in culinary arts, Brother Thomas worked at Schubert Villa/ Dujarié House and André Place. Brother Thomas has worked a total of 29 years in culinary arts.

"After my retirement I am enjoying praying, reading, listening to music, working on my coin collections, and going to productions at South Bend Civic Theatre.

"In my life there have been many high mountains and low ravines. I now know that God is doing for me what I could not do for myself, and for that I'm eternally grateful." ✠



Life lessons taught by brothers appreciated by giving back

BY ROBERT T. FRIEDMANN, ST. EDWARD HIGH SCHOOL '66

By the time that I entered sixth grade at St. Clement Elementary School, I had already decided that St. Edward High in Lakewood, Ohio, would be my choice for high school.

While my father was able to provide for five kids, there were no discretionary funds available for a private high school. Delivering newspapers, shoveling snow, cutting grass and working at a grocery store clerk position, solved my tuition problem (\$180 a year for freshmen and sophomores, and \$210 a year for juniors and seniors).

In the 1960s, we were fortunate to have over 40 dedicated Holy Cross Brothers engaged in teaching, custodial and supervisory functions at St. Ed's under the leadership of Brother Charles Krupp. Brother Charles won the 1963 Cleveland Principal of the Year contest sponsored by radio station WHK.

Such truly gifted teachers as Brothers William Kleyenberg, John Ryan, Kenan Judge, Bennet Nettleton and the Rev. John Whelly, to name a few, taught us more than English, algebra, history and religion. They served as positive role models for St. Ed's students. We never knew at

that time just how fortunate we were.

While my after-school jobs prevented me from representing St. Ed's on the football field or basketball

court, I hope that now I can honorably represent the Christian values and ideals learned from those extraordinary men of Holy Cross who devoted their lives to instill a firm sense of honor and integrity in their young charges.

I will continue to support the brothers at Dujarié House annually, and hope that they know how much we appreciate their devotion to instructing those of us fortunate enough to attend St. Ed's during that tumultuous decade of the 1960s.



Brothers gather in a common room in Dujarié House during an open house when they first started using the Brother Thomas Shaughnessy Center.



BY JOSEPH L. SMITH, SR., ESQ. CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL '59

My choice to support the Brothers of Holy Cross is based upon the values I was taught over 60 years ago.

When they populated the halls of Cathedral High, the commitment to give us a quality education was never in question. The focus was on developing each student to be a productive citizen for our city, state and nation. The total



Joseph Smith Sr. received an honorary doctorate degree from Marian University in May, his alma mater and where he has served on the board for many years.

focus was on us, the students. There was an atmosphere of boys being boys, and no one doubted the mission to educate and prepare.

I grew up understanding what it would take to be a contributor to our society. After leaving Cathedral I continued

my education which went so far as to earn a Juris Doctorate. It took me a few years longer than I thought, but I did get the job done. I can look back and know that the education I received at CHS was the foundation for all my educational achievements.

My family demanded that all of us get a Catholic education, knowing that it takes the support of many sources—alumni, friends of Catholic education and more. I have the pleasure of not only earning my first degree from a Catholic institution but serving on that board for many years. I served on my parish council and the school board as well. I understand the need for time, talent and treasures to maintain Catholic institutions of education, charities and parish work. I totally understand the need for supporting the persons behind the lifeline to make it happen.

I encourage all who care for quality education from a faith-based institution, to fully support their belief in congregations such as the Brothers of Holy Cross. I am so pleased to maintain the lifeline which helped me to be who I am today.

Here are a few specific ways of giving to the brothers

There are numerous ways to express your gratitude and care for the Brothers of Holy Cross, including an outright immediate gift or a planned gift through your estate.

Outright gifts that support the mission, ministries and priorities of the Brothers include:

- Gifts of cash or checks
- Appreciated securities (Contact the development office for details)
- Grants through your donor-advised fund using our federal identification number and our mailing address, P.O. Box 460, Notre Dame, Ind., 46556. Contact Brother Roy Smith for more information.
- Distributions from your IRA
- Recurring, monthly gifts

Giving through your will:

- Through a will, life insurance and retirement plans
- A will is a simple legal document that sets forth the distribution of your property according to your wishes while providing protection for your loved ones.

You can give through your will by:

- Designating a percentage of your estate as a charitable gift to the brothers.
- Designating a specific amount of money or property (real estate or stocks).
- Gifting part or all of the estate that remains (residue or remainder) after other specific bequests have been satisfied.
- Combining a percentage or specific amount from the estate with the residue.

Making a gift through a will to the brothers can be most efficiently completed using our legal name and location: Brothers of Holy Cross, Inc., Notre Dame, Ind. Please contact Brother Roy Smith for more information.

Giving through retirement plans

- Many retirement plans are funded with pre-tax dollars and substantial income and estate taxes can be levied when these funds are left to family members or others. Often a simple change in the name of the beneficiary is all that is required to make a gift through a retirement plan.

Giving through life insurance

- If you own a life insurance policy that no longer meets your needs, you could name the Brothers of Holy Cross, Inc., Notre Dame, Ind., as a beneficiary, or
- Purchase a new life insurance policy naming Brothers of Holy Cross, Inc., Notre Dame, Ind., as beneficiary, or
- Allow the Brothers of Holy Cross to own a policy on your life. You can make an annual contribution to underwrite the insurance premium.

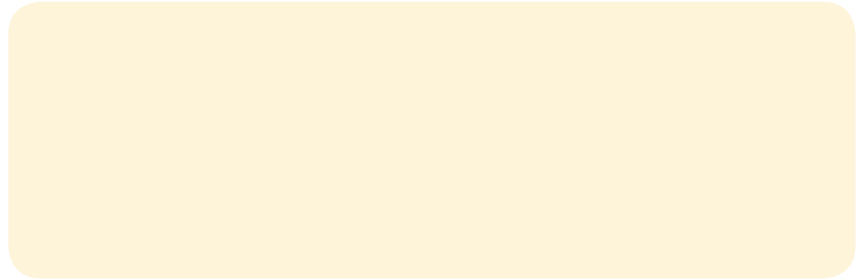
When you take advantage of one of these ways to make a gift of gratitude, let me know which brother you are honoring and why. Your story is important to us. I give thanks to you for your partnership and your care and concern for the Brothers of Holy Cross. Call Brother Roy Smith, CSC, at 574.302.5702 or 574.631.2928.

Pandemic alters jubilarian celebration to October

Fifteen Brothers of Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilee anniversaries on Friday, October 15, 2021. Mass will be at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 2 p.m. followed by a dinner reception at the Morris Inn for invited guests.

Eight of those celebrating includes brothers who did not get an opportunity to celebrate last year because of Covid19.

Brother Ken Haders, CSC, Provincial of the Midwest Province of the Brothers, will accept the brothers' renewal of vows. The Rev. William Lies, CSC, Provincial of the U.S. Province of Priest and Brothers, will be the celebrant. The music for the event will be composed and arranged by Brother Daniel Kane, CSC, and Brother Joseph Fox, CSC, will serve as master of ceremonies and coordinate the event.



“Before the Lord we learn what is His will to be done, we ask that no one lack daily bread, we dare to match forgiveness for forgiveness and we plead to survive the test. We desire that His name be praised, that His kingdom come and that we be His faithful servants in the planting of it.”

~Constitutions 3:24