

# Brothers

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross  
Fourth Quarter, 2001



## Building Blocks Holy Trinity High School Provides Solid Foundation

Once described as “the little postage stamp on Division Street,” Holy Trinity High School continues to thrive. Located on a busy thoroughfare on Chicago’s near northwest side, the Brothers of Holy Cross founded Holy Trinity in 1910. When other institutions left the area, the Brothers of Holy Cross made the conscious decision to remain true to their mission of educating the hearts and minds of neighborhood children who wanted to come to Holy Trinity. Today, 55 percent of these students are of Mexican or Puerto Rican background, another 35 percent are African Americans and the remainder is an eclectic mix that gives the school its rich diversity.

The boys and girls come each morning, some by elevated train, some by bus, some from the menacing high rise housing projects, many walking in routes designed to avoid hostile gang turf to achieve what many of their parents do not have – a high school diploma and a dream of college. These are the persons Holy Trinity has served since its founding: children of immigrants; children of poverty; children who have little access to the American dream.

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Holy Trinity students rank almost twice as high on standardized tests as their public school counterparts and about 70 percent of Holy Trinity’s student body graduates after four years. A remarkable 50 percent of the graduates continue their education. These results come from a student body so isolated in poor minority neighborhoods that many seniors have never set foot in the towering

corporate Chicago skyscrapers, less than three miles from the school.

Holy Trinity is debt-free and annually just breaks even on its bare-bones budget. Roughly \$1,000,000 of the annual budget comes

from fund-raising. For this academic year, tuition assistance exceeds \$850,000 for the school’s 415 students whose average family income is \$22,000. The tuition of \$4,900 is about two-thirds of what it costs Holy Trinity to educate a student.

With few resources the school does a lot to offer a solid basic education – heavy on English, math, rigorous sciences, social sciences and religion. The faculty is amazingly dedicated. Fourteen faculty members are religious – seven are Brothers of Holy Cross, four sisters representing three religious congregations

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# Provincial Message



Br. Donald Gibbs, C.S.C.  
Provincial Superior

The Brothers of Holy Cross have been present in Ghana, West Africa, since 1957. Sankofa, the Akan expression among the people of Ghana, speaks clearly about our rootedness in the tradition of the vowed apostolic religious life. The articles in this issue illustrate how as apostolic religious, the Brothers of Holy Cross draw upon our rich past as we build for the future. A vital link in the chain between our past and our future is a vocation to the religious life. To build a vibrant future for the Church and for Holy Cross we seek and encourage young men from our schools and ministries to join us in our mission to extend the reign of Christ in the minds and hearts of all people.

As partners, you, our readers, are also a link in this chain. You play an important role by your efforts to identify and encourage vocations to the apostolic religious life. I urge each of you to continue to pray every day for vocations and to do everything you can to encourage young men and women to hear God's call in their lives.

May God bless you abundantly for your efforts and support. During this Advent season let us pray with every beat of our heart, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

## Sankofa

Sankofa is a deeply spiritual Akan concept from Ghana. The concept stresses the importance of looking at one's past to find what is best in one's culture and bring it to the present. It helps people remain true to what is best in their traditions and to walk into the future with some certainty and clarity.

From July 23 to August 22 Brother Philip Armstrong was in Ghana assisting our young Ghanaian religious to examine Holy Cross traditions, to bring this wisdom to the present and to explore how it can enrich their lives now and enable them to build the future of



Brother Philip Armstrong  
with Ghanaian Holy  
Cross Brothers and Sisters

Holy Cross in West Africa. Brother Philip was a teacher and administrator in Ghana for thirteen years. He subsequently served as provincial superior for the Midwest Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross and was later elected a member of the general council of the congregation.

Brother Philip conducted two sessions. One was for the candidates, pre-novices and novices; the other was for the temporary professed. He led them in discussions on Holy Cross history, heritage and spirituality.

Underlying the discussion was a single important reality: how, today, do we live the religious life authentically as Holy Cross

*To succeed in this task the importance of Sankofa becomes clear.*

Ghanaians? What are we building for the future? To succeed in this task the importance of Sankofa becomes clear. We look to the past both Ghanaian and Holy Cross, we integrate the best of both and build the future – a Ghanaian Holy Cross Community.

*Brother Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C., Mission Promoter*

# Brothers Expand Ministry

Construction began in September on a 14-unit addition to Dujarie House, the comprehensive care facility operated by and for the Brothers of Holy Cross. Dujarie House will continue to serve the Midwest, Eastern and Southwest provinces of brothers, but the addition will allow the ministry to be expanded to serve persons closely associated with the ministries of the congregation and family members of the religious as well.

At a ground blessing ceremony in early September, Br. Donald Gibbs, provincial, spoke of the wonderful opportunity that this expansion of ministry signals for the brothers' community and Holy Cross Village residents. "We are very enthusiastic about expanding our ministry beyond members of the brothers' provinces. We are grateful to an anonymous donor who makes this possible," said Brother Donald. The \$1.4 million addition will be completed by July of 2002.

After the completion of the addition, there will be 38 units in Dujarie House available for comprehensive care. The attached Schubert Villa has 16 units for assisted living.

The addition to Dujarie House is only a part of a comprehensive plan for improving our total health care facilities. An estimated \$1 million will be needed to make renovations to the original small rooms in Dujarie House, along with providing more accessible chapel space, and additional dining, social and exercise space for residents.

At present, the Development Office has been conducting fundraising efforts among individuals and foundations to provide for the planned renovations and updating to the older part of Dujarie House. In addition to individual donations, a private foundation has provided \$200,000 for this project and renovations for the needed improvements can begin as soon as sufficient funds have been raised.



Ground Breaking for new addition to Dujarie House.

**Left to Right:** Jeff Anglemyer, Troyer Group, architects; Brother Donald Gibbs, C.S.C., provincial; Steve Brindle, Kaser-Spraker, general contractors; Steve Kastner, administrator, Dujarie House.



Brother Rex Hennel

On November 2nd, Brother Rex Hennel was honored by past students of Notre Dame High School, Biloxi, Mississippi. Brother Rex was principal of Notre Dame High School from 1948 to 1954. Mr. Joseph Canizaro, one of Brother Rex's students, organized the

## Brother Rex Hennel Honored

celebration to honor the man who had a big impact on his life and on the lives of many students of the school.

At a luncheon at Mary Mahoney's Restaurant, the mayor, Mr. A.J. Holloway, declared the day as Brother Rex Hennel Day for the city of Biloxi. At a special Mass at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Cathedral, Bishop Thomas Rodi spoke about the value of a Catholic education and the wonderful influence that the Brothers of Holy Cross and especially Brother Rex had on so many young men.

There was a social followed by a dinner at the Bayview Hotel in the evening. Over 200 graduates and their wives attended the banquet. Six of the

graduates of Notre Dame High School gave short remembrances of their experiences at the school and what Brother Rex meant to them. Mr. Joseph Canizaro established six scholarships for the school in Brother Rex's name.

This was an emotionally packed day during which many graduates of Notre Dame High School took the opportunity to express their gratitude to Brother Rex and the Brothers of Holy Cross for their love and dedication. They see their present successes as flowing directly from the presence of the Brothers and their experience at Notre Dame High School.

Brother Rex currently lives at Schubert Villa, Notre Dame, Indiana.



# Evansville Fundraising Dinner A Success

The Brothers of Holy Cross have had a major presence in Evansville, Indiana, since 1919 and at Reitz Memorial High School since its founding in 1925. Since then, 138 brothers have devoted over 600 years of collective service to the education of young Evansville men and women. While the number of brothers serving the school has diminished over the years, their influence and founding principles remain. Brother John Stout and Brother Eugene Phillipp remain on the faculty and, together, have over 90 years of service at the school.

On October 3rd, ten brothers who have served on the faculty at Reitz Memorial returned to attend a fundraising dinner attended by approximately 80 former students and their spouses. James Muehlbauer, a 1958 Reitz Memorial graduate and prominent local industrialist, chaired the event. Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger, bishop of the Evansville diocese, gave the invocation thanking the brothers for their many years of service to Catholic secondary education.

Pledges and gifts received from the fundraising dinner will be used for the brothers' health care needs and for vocation promotion. Two recent Memorial graduates are now part of the Holy Cross collegiate vocation discernment program at Notre Dame and there are other students from Reitz Memorial High School who have expressed a genuine interest in pursuing the religious life in the Congregation of Holy Cross.



Evansville Fundraising Dinner:

**Left to Right:** Brother Donald Gibbs, C.S.C., provincial; Brother Robert Fillmore, assistant provincial; Mary Kay Muehlbauer, James Muehlbauer, '58 and Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger, bishop of the Evansville diocese.



Wilfred Bussing, III, '74 (left) and Gregory Kempf, '43

## Holy Trinity High School

*continued from cover.*

and three priests. Five faculty members are alumni of the school. A former lawyer and four former principals from the public and Catholic school systems complete the roster of teachers.

Holy Trinity is a community built on faith, emphasizing personal responsibility and generosity. The school stresses its religious affiliation at every turn. Basic Christian teachings on how to treat others imprint an attitude of acceptance among members of the diverse student body. The school works toward community building by exploring with students commonalities among persons of good will, regardless of background.

Graduates of “the little postage stamp on Division Street” leave with an educated heart as well as a solid education. They have dreams about themselves and the world in which they live. The school works because there are so many people working hard every day to invest in the dreams of the students and their families. Whether they are faculty, board members, benefactors, each has a huge stake in the success of each student’s life.



Holy Trinity High School



Brother Philip Smith, president, with students at Trinity Walkathon Fundraiser.



Brother Philip Smith, president



Holy Trinity Faculty of 1949-1950

- 3rd Row:** Br. Leonard Leary, Br. Eduardo Michalik, Br. Eudes Hartnett, Br. Jerome Feldman, Br. Xavier Donoghue, Br. Sigismund Danielski, Br. Mel Keil  
**2nd Row:** Br. Cajetan Holland, Br. Kerran Dugan, Br. Just Paczesny, Br. Roman Witowski, Br. Paschal Tomaszewski, Br. Romanus Ringwelski  
**1st Row:** Br. Leon Gnewuch, Br. Maximus Czyzewski, Br. Reginald Juszcak, Fr. Carl Hager, Br. Victor Czerwinski, Br. Neil Gildea

In Christ all will come to Life again. (1 Cor. 15:22)

**Brother Ronald LaLonde, C.S.C.,**

died September 6, 2001, 45 years a vowed religious

**Brother Maynard Rabidoux, C.S.C.,**

died September 18, 2001, 62 years a vowed religious

**Brother Leonard Siwierka, C.S.C.,**

died September 25, 2001, 49 years a vowed religious

**Brother Thomas Balthazor, C.S.C.,**

died November 7, 2001, 42 years a vowed religious



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

P. O. Box 460  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0460

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*Living the mission of Jesus*



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