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Brothers

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross

message from... the Provincial

Embracing a New Ministry in Faith and With Joy

Hardly a day goes by without a newscast, a newspaper article or a report on the "Baby Boomers." Not only is this group getting special coverage, marketing, social programs are being designed to meet their needs.

This being the case, it is not surprising to discover the Brothers of Holy Cross have developed a new ministry to meet the needs of the "Baby Boomers." Over the last ten years the response to these needs has come to life at Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, which is located on the Brothers' property across from the University of Notre Dame and adjacent to St. Mary's College and Holy Cross College. Holy Cross College provides opportunities for life-long learning. The Village is an active retirement community that provides continuing care: independent living, assisted living, and skilled care memory care.

The mission statement for Holy Cross Village affirms the mission of Holy Cross Brothers throughout our history, but is focused on a different age group.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame is an interdependent community energized by Holy Cross spirituality and hospitality, dedicated to providing a nurturing environment focused on dignity and respect.

Little did the Brothers envision that our earlier history, when we were primarily concerned with meeting the needs of youth, would find us establishing a ministry to the elderly. By the simple fact that people would be living longer and have new and different needs proved to be another challenge for us as men committed to serving the needs of the times. Aging successfully is one of those needs. Living in an atmosphere where support and encouragement are present and sensitive to the aging process meets the real needs of older men and women. Since the Brothers were accustomed to creating a successful environment for youth to grow into adults, it was easily translated into the world of the elderly.

With the average age of the Brothers' community at 72, initiating a ministry with the elderly was a natural direction for us to take. In some cases, Brothers who have developed careers in fields like social work and pastoral care are able to use their experience and gifts in the Village community. For the many Brothers who have retired or who are limited by illness, they now have the opportunity to share their faith, interests, life experiences, as well as their stories with those members of the lay community living in the Village. As new friendships are formed it has proven to be an enriching time for all concerned. The Brothers have come to think of this new ministry as one of "presence."



Brother Robert Fillmore, C.S.C.
Provincial Superior

We ask you to support us, in this new and needed ministry, by making a donation to help with the cost of our Spiritual Care Department of the Village. The Brothers are committed to providing the highest quality of spiritual care to all those living and working in our Village.

Brothers Host Blessed Basil Moreau Feast Day

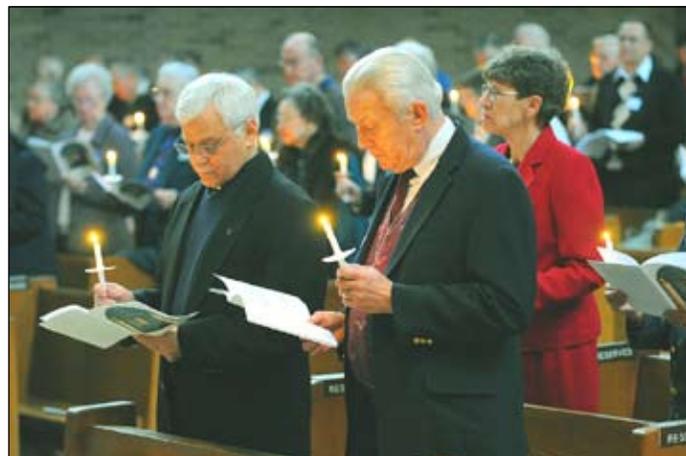
The campuses of Holy Cross College, St. Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame were alive with activity the weekend of January 18-20 to celebrate the first feast day of Blessed Basil Moreau who was beatified in LeMans, France, September 15, 2007. Father Moreau was the founder of the priests, brothers, and sisters of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

On January 18, the brothers at Holy Cross Village hosted the annual Holy Cross congregational celebration of the anniversary of the death in 1873 of Blessed Basil Moreau. January 20th has been reserved by the Church as Blessed Basil Moreau's official feast day.

The celebration consisted of a solemn vespers service in St. Joseph Chapel on the Village grounds. Holy Cross priests, sisters and brothers from the area, along with Holy Cross Associates and Village residents were in attendance. A choir comprised of men and women of Holy Cross provided beautifully rendered liturgical selections to accompany the prayer service. Rev. David Tyson, provincial of the Indiana Province of priests and brothers, presided. Br. Robert Fillmore, provincial of the Midwest Province, welcomed the worshipers, and Sr. Joy O'Grady, superior general of the Sisters of the Holy Cross at Saint Mary's College gave a moving reflection.

Following the evening prayer a buffet supper was served in Andre Place on the Village grounds. The food service department outdid itself in preparing and serving the crowd of 250 that occupied the main dining room, the Great Room and the Club Room.

Responsibility for putting on the Moreau Day celebrations rotates among the three groups of religious. The occasion provides the religious men and women in the Notre Dame area an opportunity to renew acquaintances in the spirit of the unity of minds and hearts promoted by Blessed Basil Moreau from the earliest days of his new foundation.



From left are Rev. Kenneth Molinaro, C.S.C., Br. Robert Fillmore, C.S.C., and Sr. Joy O'Grady, C.S.C., at the prayer vigil.



The dinner honoring Blessed Basil Moreau was held at Andre Place in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.



Prayer vigil held in St. Joseph Chapel, Holy Cross Village, January 18 in honor of Blessed Basil Moreau.



Rev. David Tyson, C.S.C. presided during the prayer vigil flanked by Brothers Joseph Fox, C.S.C. (left) and Donald Fleischhacker, C.S.C., (right).

Ministering to the Residents of Holy Cross Village

Spiritual Care Department

With the completion of the 20-month, four-building project at Holy Cross Village, the vision of the new ministry to the elderly by the Brothers of Holy Cross Midwest Province is coming into focus. Featured in this issue of the Brothers newsletter, the main focus is on the Spiritual Care Department and ways in which it serves the residents of the Village and secondly how our brothers are “present” and ministering within Holy Cross Village.

Residents live independently in our 35 villas. In the past four months over 50 independent living households have been established in Andre Place. Another 46 units will be occupied in Andre Place within the year. Schubert Villa’s assisted living service is rapidly expanding. Dujarie House, which offers nursing care is regularly full, and the Phillip Quinn Memory Care Unit, which just opened this fall, is nearly filled.

Into this vibrant, expanding community come residents and associates from all walks of life. Each is in some way experiencing transition. Times of transition can present a need to seek assistance in navigating unfamiliar paths.

Our village is blessed with a Spiritual Care Department of three. Father Ken Grabner, C.S.C.’s career as monk, priest, scholar, teacher, administrator and chaplain spans over fifty years. Father Andre Leveille, C.S.C. has been teacher, priest, administrator, campus minister, pastor, and storyteller for over 40 years. Pat Rowan brings over 40 years experience as mother and grandmother, teacher, principal, chaplain, and department director - much of this while working with Holy Cross.

The spiritual tasks for older adults can include life review: telling stories, making sense out of events – seeing life in all of its giftedness and confusion. This can lead to understanding the legacy that each one leaves for those who follow. Elders learn to practice forgiveness of self and others...and to appreciate their resiliency – they’ve survived a lot!

Ministering in this environment is a gift and challenge for chaplains. They focus on being present and listening deeply to others. They do not try to solve problems, but gently walk with others through times of darkness and confusion. A chaplain’s hope is that ultimately each person will come to recognize God’s presence in the mix of life, and experience God’s supportive and healing love.

Our priest chaplains offer daily Mass and the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Catholic residents have the opportunity to be reconciled, nurtured, healed and prepared for their final journey to God. Ministry to the sick also involves regular visits by the chaplain, involvement in care planning, and visits while hospitalized.

Father Ken is the Chaplain to the Brothers and to those who live in assisted, nursing and memory care areas. All chaplains work closely with the Brothers’ leadership to make sure that traditions, expectations and standards of spiritual care are maintained for the Brothers.



Members of the Holy Cross Village Spiritual Care Department are from left, Rev. Ken Grabner, C.S.C.; Mrs. Pat Rowan; and Rev. Andre Leveille, C.S.C.

Father Andre has the particular ministry of welcoming new residents into Andre Place and of supporting residents who live independently. This is accomplished through initial visits to each resident, group opportunities to share art and stories, scripture study, and many a meal— of course with stories.

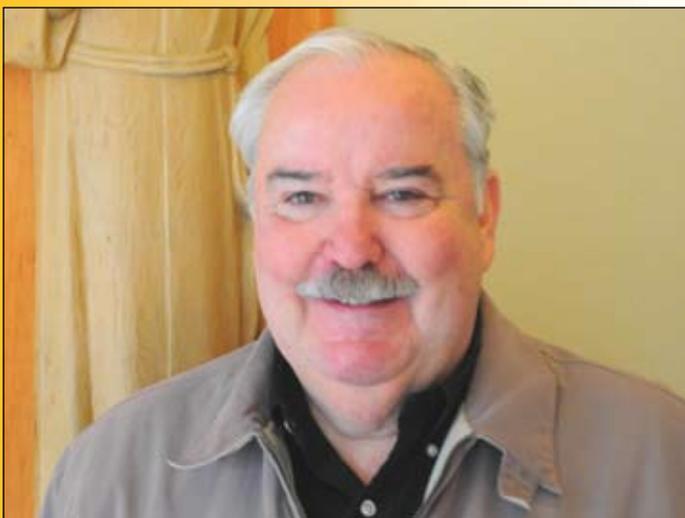
Ministry to the dying is provided through the sacraments, prayer, and caring presence. Support is also provided to family members, friends and staff. Follow up may involve visitation at the funeral home, planning and presiding at the funeral and burial, and notes of condolence. A Memorial Service in the fall honors those who have died at Holy Cross Village, as well as the relatives of residents and staff who have passed away.

Pat Rowan’s special ministry is tying this all together: coordinating services, planning vespers, organizing morning prayer, and liturgy, preparing the environment in the meditation room, scheduling speakers and retreats, seeking to know what the pulse of the community is, so that the department may respond effectively and its work assist residents in their own spiritual growth. She also provides individual ministry as referred.

Brothers at Andre Place



Brother Thomas Cunningham, C.S.C. is the director of the Holy Cross Brothers living at Schubert Villa, Dujarie House, and the Philip Quinn Memory Care Center.



Brother John McMuldren, C.S.C. is the Activities Director of Holy Cross Village.

The Brothers at Andre Place are an active part in the daily events of the senior community. Life for seniors is an easy mix of the many professions who enjoy their independence as well as living in a small community of Brothers, friends, and neighbors. Residents there have a high energy, with an active positive focus.

Brothers John McMuldren and Roger Berg have assisted Wendy Perry (Enrichment Director) in helping to plan and/or participate in the many special events scheduled both on and off campus. Events have included: a trip to the Chicago Art Museum, an Architectural Tour on the Chicago River, a Fall Program at Pokagon State Park, a private "Religious Art" Program at the Snite Museum, a Christmas Star presentation in the Jordan Planetarium, and several theater and musical performances on our local campuses and nearby communities.

Future programs are being planned for a dinner cruise on Lake Michigan, the Field Museum of Natural History, an opera in Chicago, and a dinner – theater at Amish Acres. Several residents also participate in the spiritual enrichment offered by

our Chaplaincy programs: Advent and Lenten prayer services, volunteer programs and daily Mass.

Brother Thomas Cunningham, who is the religious director of the brothers at Schubert Villa, Dujarie House and the Philip Quinn Memory Care Center, is a resident of Andre Place and interacts with residents during times of prayer and meals.

Resident Services Coordinator



Br. Lew Brazil, C.S.C., right, the Resident Service Coordinator at Holy Cross Village, meets with residents Ray and Monie McFadden who moved to the Village from Sun City West, Arizona.

Br. Lew Brazil, C.S.C. arrived at Holy Cross Village from Phoenix, Arizona, in June 2006 to join the professional team in the Village and serves as **Resident Service Coordinator** for all independent residents living at Andre Place and in the Villas.

Br. Lew utilizes his background and skills in geriatric social services to "walk with residents" in an effort to be an advocate, a means of support, to assist residents with transition issues and provide linkages to valuable resources when needed. In addition, he also envisions his ministry as working alongside the staff at Holy Cross Village, promoting an interdependent community as befits our mission of collaboration and being a "good neighbor." During the past several months, Lew has also been a guest lecturer in the Aging Studies Certificate Program at Holy Cross College. Likewise, he was a presenter at a Caregiver Conference on March 6th sponsored by the Gerontology Consortium of Michiana.

Br. Lew began his ministry with seniors in 1986 with various coordinator positions at Lakewood Division of Aging in Lakewood, Ohio. While working full time, he earned a Masters Degree in social work from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Following graduation, he accepted a position, also in Cleveland, with the Benjamin Rose Institute as a mental health case manager.

Before coming to Holy Cross Village, Br Lew worked for the Foundation for Senior Living, which provided social services to five parishes in the Sun City, Arizona.



Regular drivers for the brothers are from left Brothers Joseph McTaggart, James Reilly, Julian Przybyla, Francis Ellis and Roger Berg. Other volunteer brothers who drive are Brothers John McMuldren, Bernard Donohue, Robert Berthiaume, Charles Gregg and Robert Dierker.

Ministry of Driving Infirmed Brothers

There are businesses in most cities which provide transportation services for non-emergency, medical needs. South Bend has them as well. Organizations like this come to your home, take the identified rider to their designated appointment, and return to pick them up when called, coming back to take the rider home after the task is completed.

However, our brother drivers do neither, for ours is a mission and ours is a ministry. The mission of our driving, is the task at hand. The ministry of our driving is in the relationship to those we drive and the personal caring that goes into the calling to be there for one another, no matter what, and in something as simple as driving someone from point A to point B. Unlike a business of transportation, we do not leave our brothers alone in the doctor's office and go pick up another rider for another service. We stay with our brothers. We are their family, and they are not left alone whether on an errand for shoe laces or a necessary trip to the hospital.

The brother who drives our ill and infirmed to their appointments and outings is not "on the clock" nor need they be rushed in the process. We are there in relationship, in a human interaction of friendship and support for any need, large or small. Whether going to the store to look for just the right kind of requested pen or buying a new pair of pants or a couple of t-shirts; whether driving a brother to a doctor's appointment when he is elderly and infirmed, slow of gait and perhaps forgetful as well, or picking up an urgently needed prescription from the drugstore; whether being there in crisis with a listening ear and a compassionate heart when another receives a "difficult" diagnosis or challenging words from one's physician, or chewing the fat when going to the shopping center;

it is all a ministry for us, and it is all done out of and with the same love and commitment that the brother driver offered different others in his own "active" ministry in previous years. But, this driving thing, these "runs" as they are called, are beyond a second career or solely a volunteer operation. This is ministry to our family.

To be there, to listen, to support and direct, to converse and be silent, to clean up a spill or hold up wobbly legs, this ministry of caring, offered in different form to others in one's teaching and maintaining years, is now, in great measure and humble regard, brought to bear on our very own, to our own former teachers, mentors, and colleagues in their time of need.

It is a humbling work indeed, and it is quite instructive. It is seeing in the other, in our own brothers and their declining and slowing-down years, what each of us will face as we, ourselves, reach that "calling" in our own future lives. Practically everyone will one day become dependent. Everyone's role will one day be reversed. We will move from giver to receiver, from caring to receiving care. It is inevitable. It is coming. It will be a challenge.

In fact, it is we who have become the learners again and they the teachers. They teach us what this time of life is like. Those drivers are just a couple of years ahead of what we will all eventually face. Our driving these brothers is more than the proverbial cup of cold water "in my name" or the necessary purchase for a needed commodity. This is who we have always been called to be—"brothers for others"— in community and there for one another in time of need.

message from...the Provincial

Continued from Page 1

It is important for those who are concerned about the future of the Brothers to understand that the Brothers continue their commitment to education. The fact of dwindling numbers, age and illness does not allow the community to minister in education with the numbers we had become accustomed to in the past. Knowing that one of the charisms of Holy Cross is that of being “educators in the faith,” helps us realize there are many ways to educate in the faith. As men of faith, prayer and committed lives of service, we are teaching and encouraging those who come to know us in the Village to live their faith.

A recent completion of a major expansion of Holy Cross Village, which included the construction of a 96 unit independent living building, adding 30 rooms to the Assisted Living, a new chapel and a 12 bed memory care facility attest to the success of the Village. Over 300 residents who now live in the Village are enjoying the benefits of this new ministry.

We ask you to support us in this new and needed ministry by making a donation to help with the cost of our Spiritual Care Department in the Village. The Brothers are committed to providing the highest quality of pastoral care to all those living and working in our Village. The bond agreement, which made it possible to finance the Village, does not include the financing of the Spiritual Care Department. At the present time the Brothers are underwriting the cost of the program.

My hope is that with this explanation of our new ministry and the reasons which motivated it will help you, who have supported us over the years, understand the direction we have taken and share in the excitement and the joy we have in following the lead of the Holy Spirit at this time in our history.

The Lenten Series Marks 10 Years

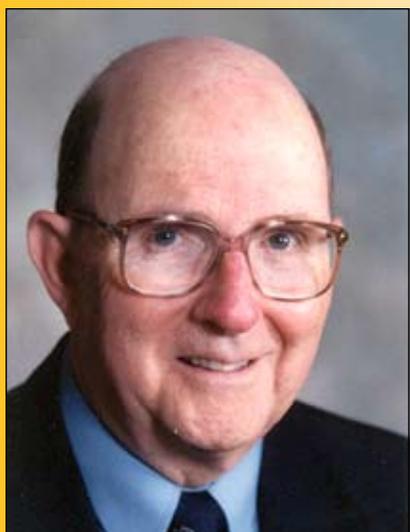
On Ash Wednesday, February 6, the Holy Cross Brothers at Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame, began their tenth year of presentations on practical spirituality. The series is scheduled for the six Wednesday evenings between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

On each Wednesday a presenter shares with an audience made up of Village residents and others from the local geographical area. The six talks center around personal spirituality and offer imaginative and practical ways in suggesting a lenten practice that will help build a firmer awareness of and relationship with God.

Early versions of this series began more than ten years ago, but it soon evolved into its present shape as a response to suggestions made by participants.

The brothers seek speakers who hold a view of spirituality that is personal, practical and intriguing and which can be conveyed in such a way as to be a potential model for pursuing one’s honest search for a closer relationship with God.

The evening begins at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation of some 30 to 40 minutes, followed by questions and remarks from the audience, and concluding by 8:00 p.m. Immediately following is an informal gathering for light refreshments and further conversation. The site of the talks is in the new chapel in Dujarie House at the north end of Holy Cross Village. The talks are free and open to all.



Br. Philip Armstrong, C.S.C. is responsible for helping start the Lenten series of talks.



Br. Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C. gives one of the recent Lenten talks in Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel in Holy Cross Village.

Development Director's Message

What does the presence of a brother mean to you? For literally thousands at the Senior Friendship Centers in Sarasota, Venice and Naples, Florida, founded by our own Brother William Geenen, it means companionship, socialization, recreation, education and sometimes healthcare. To the hundreds living in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame it means all those things plus prayer services, sacramental opportunities and daily liturgies.

Presence to the elderly is the brothers' new focus and expansion of a ministry founded in 1973. As Brother Robert Fillmore mentioned in his message, the brothers' average age is 72 so, we "get it." We understand the issues and the needs of the elderly. We also understand that it costs money to provide these critical services to arguably the most neglected yet important segment of our society.

Spiritual care and counseling are provided by Holy Cross priests, brothers and lay people. Several articles in this newsletter provide a more vivid picture of the unselfish and important work being done by these dedicated servants of God. The most significant ministry, however, is simply the presence of Holy Cross religious.

As Brother Robert Fillmore mentioned in his message, bond financing allowed for the construction of a non-denominational chapel in Andre Place at Holy Cross Village but it didn't allow for the cost of the spiritual care conducted within that chapel, throughout the Village or in Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel which many of you generously supported over the past couple of years. We can measure the cost at over \$100,000 per year but the spiritual and life enhancing benefits cannot be measured.

We need your help to continue this important and necessary work. We intend to recognize those who respond to this plea for support. Please be generous so that this ministry may continue and the brothers' resources are retained for their care and welfare.

Mr. Jerome Kearns
Development Director
574-631-2937
jkearns@brothersofholycross.com

Remembering Our Deceased Brothers in Your Prayers

Brother Richard Hillis, C.S.C., 71,
died September 8, 2007,
50 years a vowed religious.

Brother Rudolph Talaga, C.S.C., 77,
died October 21, 2007,
56 years a vowed religious.

Brother Marius Wittner, C.S.C., 88,
died November 26, 2007,
68 years a vowed religious.

*In Christ We Will
Come to Life Again*
1 Cor: 15:22

Brothers
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Brothers of Holy Cross
Visit Our Website at:
www.brothersofholycross.com

The South Bend Tribune had a two-page feature on the Brothers of Holy Cross in Ghana for 50 years.

For the South Bend Tribune story, go to:
<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080225/REPORTS/926625901>



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