

BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross

Fall, 2017

175 years of Holy Cross at ND leads pilgrims on prayerful journey

When Father Basil Moreau, Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross in LeMans, France, sent a band of religious to the new world as missionaries in August of 1841 these men met the challenge with zeal, grit and faith.

Led by the Rev. Edward Sorin, six Holy Cross Brothers endured the adventure which included a 35-day queasy trans-Atlantic journey aboard the steamship *Iowa*, a paddleboat ride on the Hudson River, a horse drawn barge along the Erie Canal, a steamboat trip on Lake

Erie, and finally a harrowing journey by stagecoach through the rugged wilderness of Indiana to Vincennes, Ind. where Bishop Célestine de la Hailandiere awaited their arrival.

The challenge faced by Sorin and Brothers Vincent, Joachim, Lawrence, Francis Xavier, Anselm and Gatian was to establish and support schools Hailandiere had planned for the Diocese of Vincennes—which covered Indiana and Illinois—a mere 50,000 acres of frontier farmland.

After nearly a year in Vincennes



Brother Larry Stewart celebrated his 60th jubilee by walking the 322 mile Notre Dame Trail pilgrimage this August.

deciding where they would establish residence, Sorin's desire and insistence with the bishop to establish a college, brought them to over 500 acres of donated land known as Sainte-Marie-des-Lacs in northern Indiana near South Bend.

Leaving Vincennes for South Bend in mid-November, Sorin and a group of brothers set off with an oxcart and horses into the harsh winds of early winter. The 250-mile journey took them along the Wabash River, past Terre Haute, through Lafayette and Logansport turning north to South Bend. These religious men found a log structure needing repair, a chapel and a dark and cold residence. They also witnessed the beauty of nature in the frozen lakes and forested acres. And here is where Sorin touched by "the spotless

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Thirty-two "pilgrims" traveled the route that Father Sorin and six brothers journeyed 175 years ago to build the University of Notre Dame. The Notre Dame Trail began in mid-August with a celebration of more than 2,000 people participating on the last day.

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“As we skip forward 175 years to 2017, that same pioneering spirit, reliance on Divine Providence and zeal to succeed in establishing a ministry, is still alive. As I write this column, our Brothers in Ghana, West Africa, are busily preparing Saint Brother André High School for the start of their new academic year.”

—Brother Chester Freel, C.S.C.

Dear Friend of Holy Cross,

...we go as educators in the faith to those whose lot we share, supporting men and women of grace and goodwill everywhere in their efforts to form communities of the coming kingdom.

—*Congregation of Holy Cross, Constitution 2.12*

On August 26 I participated in the final day of activities commemorating the 175th anniversary of the founding of the University of Notre Dame. The events included walking the final three miles of the trek from Vincennes, Ind., to Notre Dame, followed by a celebratory Mass and campus-wide picnic.

The full walk/pilgrimage traversed much of the same route followed by the pioneers who first arrived at the wooded area just to the north of the village of South Bend. Those early Brothers and Father Sorin relied heavily on grit and Divine Providence with the goal of educating a population not otherwise served by the Catholic Church.

As we skip forward 175 years to 2017, that same pioneering spirit, reliance on Divine Providence and zeal to succeed in establishing a ministry, is still alive. As I write this column, our Brothers in Ghana, West Africa, are busily preparing St. Brother André High School for the start of their new academic year. The purpose of the school will be to serve the children of Catholic families and to provide a Holy Cross education based on the educational philosophy and principles of our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau. The new school has been in the planning and construction stage for the last five years and is now ready to open its doors.

Yes, the Midwest Province has great reason to celebrate! While we take time to recognize and give thanks for the perseverance and resulting accomplishments of our forerunners 175 years ago, we are equally grateful for all who have supported our efforts to establish and maintain our province ministries over the ensuing 175 years. And now, in the year 2017, our Brothers open a new school and continue our mission as Educators in the Faith, this time in Ghana.

In this edition of *Brothers of Holy Cross*, we give thanks for all those friends of the Brothers who have supported us in this 175-year journey, and we eagerly await the beginning of our next educational ministry. May Divine Providence guide our Brothers opening St. Brother André High School just as was the case for those who arrived in northern Indiana 175 years ago. I ask that you keep the success of St. Brother André High School in your prayers.

May St. Joseph, Patron of the Brothers, and his disciple, St. André Bessette, pray for us.

In Holy Cross,

Br. Chester Freel, CSC

Brother Chester Freel, C.S.C.

Provincial Superior

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beauty of our august Lady whose name it bears” started the new school named Notre Dame du Lac, Our Lady of the Lake.

The University of Notre Dame celebrates its 175th anniversary of becoming one of the world’s most renowned institutions of higher education.

To commemorate the adventure that Father Sorin and the Brothers undertook 175 years ago in their trek of about 250 miles from St. Peter’s Colony (27 miles east of Vincennes) to found Notre Dame, its development office planned a 14-day walk, 322-mile prayerful pilgrimage to honor our Blessed Mother Aug. 13-26.

Among the 32 pilgrims was Brother Larry Stewart, archivist for the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross. Brother Larry chose to use his 60th jubilee stipend to take part in the Notre Dame Trail pilgrimage.

Sixtieth jubilee stipend—this puts Brother Larry on the other side of eighty, but when he sent in his application to take part in the adventure, Katherine Lane the leader of the pilgrimage remarked, “Look at what this guy has done. He’s pedaled a bike across the country twice and best of all, he’s a C.S.C.”

“I felt my role would be to make sure that the Holy Cross Brothers would be featured and given credit in the founding of Mary’s university,” Brother Larry said.

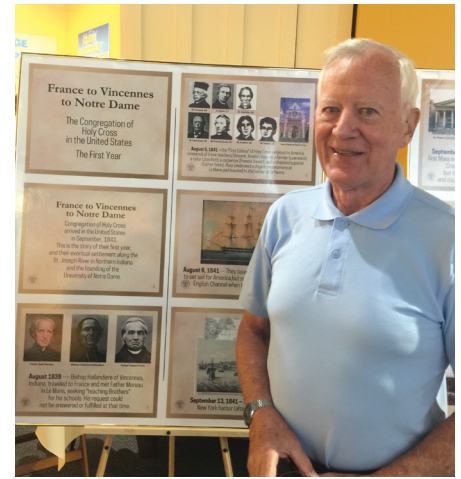
The pilgrims were celebrated at a grand get-together and feast along with

the invited Holy Cross families (Sisters, Brothers, Priests) in the Notre Dame area at our one-time St. Joseph Farm. The owners renovated one of the barns to convert it into a “Museum”. Brother Larry brought a number of memorabilia from the Midwest Archives to display in the exhibition, such as the original bell from the first school in the U.S. at St. Peter’s, samples of the Notre Dame yellow bricks and Brother Larry’s PowerPoint panels which emphasize the route the pilgrims took from Vincennes to Notre Dame.

“All 32 of us pilgrims made the entire journey. We also had 79 pilgrims who did the five-day walk, 170 who did the three-day walk, and at least a few thousand who walked last Saturday from Howard Park to the Notre Dame campus to join the pilgrimage,” Brother Larry said. The pilgrimage finally ended with an outdoor Mass and celebration on Notre Dame’s campus.

The Constitutions of Holy Cross state: “The footsteps of those men who called us to walk in their company left deep prints, as of men carrying heavy burdens. But they did not trudge; they strode. For they had hope.”

Brother Larry’s adventure illustrates the zeal, grit and faith of the Brothers of Holy Cross in the United States and around the world as they continue to bring hope to students and others in the tradition of those who walked before them.



Brother Larry Stewart in front of posters he created depicting the story: France to Vincennes to Notre Dame. Brother Larry is the archivist for the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross.



Brother Chester Freel, Provincial Superior, welcomes a walker at the end of the Notre Dame Trail and gives her an Our Lady of Notre Dame medal for her participation.



Over 2,000 walkers participated in the final three miles of the Notre Dame Trail on Aug. 26. They stopped at Holy Cross Cemetery to pay respects to Father Sorin and the brothers buried there, continued to the Notre Dame Grotto, then celebrated an outdoor Mass on the Bond Hall Quad, near where Father Sorin first arrived.



Father Monk Malloy (left), Father Jenkins (front) and Brother Larry Stewart (white shirt), all Holy Cross religious, walk the Notre Dame Trail.

Annual Report 2017

Brothers able to carry on legacy of service because of generous donors

BY BROTHER ROY SMITH, C.S.C.,
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Last month, August, 2017, a small group of members of the Notre Dame family retraced the path from Vincennes, Ind., to Notre Dame, Ind., that Father Edward Sorin and Brothers Vincent, Joachim, Lawrence, Frances Xavier and Gatian made in November, 1842.

A second set of brothers, Vincent Pieau, Lawrence Menage and Joachim André; and several novices, Joseph Rother, John Steber, Thomas Donoghue, Paul de la Hoyde, Ignatius Everard and Celestine Kirwin; and two postulants, Samuel O'Connell (who became Brother Mary Joseph) and Peter Berel (who became Brother Francis de Sales) made the same trek, arriving in early 1843.

It would be interesting to know the mindset of the original band of Holy Cross members as they trudged from southern

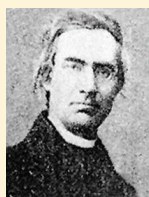
Indiana to the edge of northern Indiana. Little did they know, I imagine, that many would follow their footprints and expand into many places in North America and around the world to serve all people.

Today members of the Midwest Province are enabled to carry on the legacy of service because of your generosity. This donor list includes all who made gifts between *July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017*.

During the past fiscal year more than 1,009 individuals made donations, totaling \$475,090. We give our appreciation to those who over many years have supported us with funds and prayers.



Brother Roy Smith, C.S.C.



Father Edward Sorin



Br. Lawrence Menage

175 years

of Holy Cross at Notre Dame



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†Deceased, yet the legacy of these donors continues through their estate gifts.

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“Dave and I feel compelled to include the Holy Cross Brothers in our yearly contribution budget because of the amazing care and compassion all of the Brothers show on a daily basis. We have been blessed to know many Brothers through our years at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio as well as our son David’s years at Hoban and at the University of Notre Dame. Empowering minds and engaging hearts are not simply words for the Brothers it is a way of life. The Brothers have touched our hearts in so many ways, through teaching our son, to counseling us during loss, to enjoying life’s simple pleasures of breaking bread together and playing cards or games. The Brothers will forever be in our hearts and hopefully in our lives.”

—Patty & Dave Wartko

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“As a student at Archbishop Hoban High School, I witnessed firsthand how the commitment to the Holy Cross mission and values permeated everything that the Brothers taught us. Their steadfast dedication to Father Basil Moreau’s vision of “Educating in the Faith” is the reason the Brothers of Holy Cross will always have my family’s support.”

—*Philip & Tomiko Maynard*

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Brother Philip Smith works with sophomore Connor Shee on a writing assignment at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. Brother Phil is director of the new writing lab at Hoban, similar to those on today's college campuses. Students have access for intervention by peer and professional mentors to hone their skills in composition.

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Brother Robert Livernois teaches a class in psychology to seniors at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. He also teaches a leadership training class to upperclassmen. As vice president for mission and leadership, Brother Bob guides the faculty in following an effective Holy Cross curriculum.

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Holy Cross Brothers Aristide Biney and Augustus Mensah stand in front of the sign for St. Brother André Senior High School in Ghana, West Africa. The new high school has been in the planning and construction stages for five years. Thanks to generous benefactors, it is set to open its doors to educate children of Catholic families in the Holy Cross tradition.

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“The sacrifice demonstrated each day by the Brothers of Holy Cross at Hoban and St. Edward’s University served as the ultimate model of Christlike servant leadership. They touched the fabric of our lives and inspired us to do the same in our interactions with others.”

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“From my long association with the Brothers of Holy Cross, I am always happy to hear about—and support—the ministry that they continue to offer on behalf of the Church far beyond South Bend. The Brothers have been—and continue to be—a blessing multiplied many times over. I am also happy to know that the Brothers have a safe place in South Bend to spend their later years. The support of generous friends helps to make this possible and multiply the blessings.”

—Fr. Paul J. Rosing, Diocese of Cleveland

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Brother retraces route of Holy Cross first missionaries in United States

The following are excerpts from a homily given by Brother Larry Stewart to a parish congregation in Logansport, Ind. Brother Larry was among 32 individuals who traveled the Notre Dame Trail pilgrimage in August.

I am sure many of us have seen that TV commercial, “Ancestry,” You know the one I mean, the one where the person says she had her Blood DNA tested and was surprised to learn she had 30 percent native American genes. Tracing one’s ancestry is a fascinating hobby.



Brother Larry Stewart presents homily to a congregation in Logansport, Ind.

I’ve researched my dad’s side of the family back five generations to Scotland. We also spent two generations in Ireland, hence we are really Scotch-Irish. Mom’s family is German, but her name “Didion” sounds French because they lived in the Alsace region of France on the German border. Once you start looking for relatives in the past, you get hooked into searching more and more.

The oldest Native American people lived here in Indiana more than 7,500 years ago at the end of the last glacial Ice Age. By A.D. 600, the natives were

mainly mound builders who lived along the Ohio River in Indiana and Ohio. Europeans discovered Indiana in the 1600s and found groups or tribes of Native Americans such as the Miamis, the Potawatomies and the Mississippians who lived and thrived north of the Ohio River up into Michigan.

Europeans began migrating into the Midwest in the 1700s. The Indiana censuses identify the most common nationalities to be French, Germans, Irish and English, who entered the state from Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas.

Since we are visiting you here in Logansport, I did some checking into the history of your city. The first permanent European arrived in this area in 1826. A settlement developed along the Wabash River as a shelter for travelers and named in honor of Captain Logan, a half-Shawnee, half-English soldier. He was a close friend of early settlers, since he served as a scout for U.S. forces during the War of 1812 against the British. The city grew from 1820 to 1840 into a transportation center between the Ohio River and Lake Michigan via the Wabash River, which is now also linked by canals with the Great Lakes.

We pilgrims from Notre Dame are here in Logansport because we are tracing the route that a group of French missionaries took in their travel to Indiana from France to reach Vincennes in 1841. The seven missionaries were led by their chaplain, Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin, and six Holy Cross Brothers (Vincent, Joachim, Lawrence, Francis Xavier, Anselm, and Gatian). It was your ancestors who offered hospitality for a couple of days after the missionaries

had crossed the Ohio-Indiana border. One of your Catholic priests, Father Augustine Martin, the Vicar General of the Diocese of Vincennes, invited the muddy and tired French missionaries to rest for a couple of days.

Bishop Hailandiere of Vincennes requested the Holy Cross missionaries to come from France and serve as teaching Brothers to develop schools. They were eager to reach southern Indiana to start working, but Father Martin knew they needed a little rest after they had endured a challenging and weary trek through the mud and forest from the Ohio-Indiana border to reach the Wabash River. He provided hospitality and helped them find a suitable flat-bottom boat, then led them on a shortcut to Lafayette. The Holy Cross missionaries finally arrived in Vincennes on Oct. 10, 1841.

We “pilgrims” from Notre Dame are traveling in the opposite direction than the first Holy Cross religious. Father Sorin and the Brothers did reach Vincennes and began teaching youth there, but within three months they accepted a gracious offer from Bishop Hailandiere to move north from Vincennes to a 524-acre plot of land to build a college and a novitiate which has blossomed into the University of Notre Dame. We began hiking last Sunday (Aug. 13) from the original foundation outside of Vincennes on the very same route that the Holy Cross missionaries traveled 175 years ago to celebrate the founding of the University of Notre Dame.

And today, we pilgrims are grateful for the generosity and hospitality that you, descendants of Logansport, provided those original Holy Cross people who visited here 176 years ago.

Remembering our Deceased Brothers in Your Prayers

Brother John (James) Stout, C.S.C.
at the age of 94
died June 14, 2017

68 years a vowed religious life

Brother Richard Gilman, C.S.C.
at the age of 74
died September 24, 2017
55 years of vowed religious life



Elizabeth Hillegas, Megan Sutterluety and Gracie Bagdon, students from Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, work at Saint André Senior High School in Ghana, West Africa, under the friendly supervision of Brother Augustus Mensah as part of an immersion experience in mid-August.

Brothers Michael Brickman, Joe Fox and Roy Smith are joined by volunteers from Notre Dame's development office as they greet walkers on the last day of the Notre Dame Trail pilgrimage outside Columba Hall, a residence for the brothers. The brothers welcomed more than 2,000 walkers celebrating the 175th anniversary of the University of Notre Dame.

