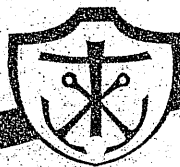


# Brothers



MIDWEST PROVINCE • NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

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## Teachers Inspire Love of Learning

*BHC Educators Reflect on Their Experiences*

Daily, even hourly, we are saturated from the deluge of news about villainous terrorists' attacks, psychopathic killers slaying innocent bystanders just for the thrill of it, families abused and brutalized through violence sometimes from their very own. We become utterly appalled. We throw up our arms in despair of a world ever becoming more safe, humane, and caring. At these moments we lose our hope. But when the smoke settles following the exploded bombs and the noise deadens following the gunshots and the cries of people in pain and distress, we can vividly see a glowing steady ray of hope made by those who selflessly give their lives to the enrichment and growth of others—our teachers, traditionally dedicated to changing the world for the better. They have been here all along and they will be here for sure tomorrow. We pay tribute to these teachers everywhere, past and present.

There can be no strong, moral, free nation without good

schools, and there certainly can be no good schools without good teachers. Our Holy Cross community treasures and reveres its long list of dedicated educators over the century.



*Br. David Fitzgerald, Assistant Professor of Geology at St. Mary's University, San Antonio, with one of his students.*

They have profoundly inspired and assisted countless youth toward becoming morally responsible and critical individuals, effective and sensitive leaders, and compassionate parents and loved ones. And this is indeed why there is hope for this world in crisis.

We introduce some of these present-day educators of our religious community and listen with grateful hearts to what they have to say about their sacred call to teach.

Br. John Benesh (Principal, Colegio Fe y Alegria, Lima, Peru): "In my earlier years as a Holy Cross educator, my role was to prepare and teach my classes in one of our Brothers' schools, to participate in other school activities, to have limited contact with parents, and to sus-

tain these labors by faithful observance of our Holy Cross Constitutions and by participation in our required community prayers.

"Now, after eleven years of experience in the Congregation's missions in the District of Peru, my role is to help educate and form some 70 teachers so that they will extend Jesus' teaching to the 1,800 students we serve. I also meet with parents to promote programs which aid them to help and encourage their children with their schoolwork.

"I participate in the important moments in the lives of students, parents, and teachers—in family sacramental celebrations, in anniversaries, and in birthdays. Although not a native of Peru, I am a part of the school community, part of the neighborhood, and part of the Holy Cross community of men and women.

"I also help in the formation and development of the young men entering the Congregation, knowing that the future of Holy

# Teachers Inspire

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Cross in Peru depends on them."

Br. Bernard Donahue (History Department Head, St. Mary's College; Instructor, Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, Ind.): "As with any profession, being an educator has its good side and its less satisfying side. In the latter area, most professionals can point with pride to something they've accomplished—bridges built, court cases won, or, perhaps, people cured of their ailments. Teaching, on the other hand, is a bit thankless, inasmuch as one never knows whether all the hard work has really made much difference to anyone in the long run. One doesn't see much of the finished product, if only because it's never really finished. Still, the work of interacting with students, watching them hone their skills, growing in understanding and maturity, and sometimes being able to help them get through some rough spots in their lives also make teaching an extremely satisfying profession."

"I've taught fifth grade through graduate school, and even though I have no idea how life has treated most of my students, I like to think I've been at least a tiny part of what has been good in their lives. No one would confuse my accomplishments with those of our heroic missionaries or those working with the poorest of the poor, but I've tried to contribute my mite, however small, to the building up of the Kingdom of God on earth."

Br. David Fitzgerald (Assistant Professor of Geology, St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas) "It is a joy to 'expose' students to geology; after all, earth's processes and systems are always operating before our very eyes and other senses. We can't miss the show even if we want to—or can we? As an educator-scientist, I view my



Br. Frank Rotsaert (center), Assistant Professor of English at Siena Heights College in Adrian, Michigan, shares some comments with students Amy Gillen and Joe Dettling after the convocation for the opening of the '96 school year.

role as one of sharing, inviting, and awakening students to really examining their physical surroundings, the earth, to see how it operates and WHY. How do I accomplish this? Through museum education, using our department's Earth Sciences Museum, as well as city museums, and interactive exercises involving classroom and outdoor education as well as frequent field trips.

"It is the niche of the educator-scientist to instill in his or her students the detective approach to solving scientific questions, and this gets us back to where we started: using one's senses to observe and asking the

"In the final analysis, the challenge of good teaching is not just presenting facts and information, but rather to help students seek the WHY, ask and answer the important questions, find truth, and cultivate the intellect."

Br. Robert Mosher (Good Shepherd Catholic School, Garland, Texas) "I became a Holy Cross educator at that moment in the ceremony of reception into the Congregation of Holy Cross when I was called upon to dedicate myself to the education of youth. For the past 43 years I have carried out that pledge through my ministry as a classroom teacher.



Br. Robert Mosher teaches religion to his class at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Garland, Texas.

question WHY, followed by information and data collecting and experimentation leading ultimately to a conclusion.

"I have always steadfastly believed that my work, confirmed and affirmed by the authority of my superiors, was and remains that of a service to the Church through the Congregation.

"As an educator, therefore, I view my effort in the classroom as that of a witness bringing the truths of God and His creation to the young. I am convinced, however, that I can do this best only as a Brother of Holy Cross; for my vocation in Holy Cross has enabled me to do so through formal study and the multifaceted experiences of a life-long association in community with my other brothers. And it has always been the same, no matter what I have taught or to whom I have taught it.

"My role is to impart knowledge, facilitate understanding, and encourage appreciation through instruction, guidance, and good example."

Br. Frank Rotsaert (Assistant Professor of English, Siena Heights College, Adrian, Mich.) "Soon I will have been involved in education as a Holy Cross Brother for 40 years. What has made it worthwhile? That I am a brother has made all the difference in how I felt and still

*"Most professionals can point with pride to something they've accomplished—bridges built, court cases won, or, perhaps, people cured of their ailments. Teaching, on the other hand, is a bit thankless, inasmuch as one never knows whether all the hard work has really made much difference to anyone in the long run. One doesn't see much of the finished product, if only because it's never really finished."*

feel about teaching. I have had the time and support of my fellow brothers to teach well. I learned from them what teaching is all about. It isn't so much the love of learning as it is the learning to love. I believe in the old truth that knowledge precedes love, but I also believe that love for the person can open the door to the search for knowledge and truth. These may be idealistic thoughts, far removed from the mundane but important 'where's your thesis sentence?' but they have been part of my teaching life and, I believe, must be part of the vision every teacher must have to be effective in teaching students who are, after all, persons first and learners second.

"All of us need to know that what we're doing has some merit, some worth in the total scheme of life. Helping students to see themselves and the potential they possess is what a teacher is supposed to do. It's what we love to do. But love is not enough. Love implies, even demands responsibility. A teacher's love carries its concomitant responsibilities—to challenge our students to be better than when they first came into our empty classrooms. It means not accepting shoddy work or allowing students to take shelter in an 'it's not my fault' mentality. It means that we challenge boredom, apathy, and ignorance. It means we get excited when students meet the challenges and try to be better, or find the passion that will animate their life."

—Br. James Moroney, CSC



## Empowering an Immigrant Community, Adapting to Changing Educational Needs

*Holy Trinity Continues to Minister in the Heart of Chicago*

Since 1910 in the heart of Chicago, the Brothers of Holy Cross have been serving the mainly-immigrant community at Holy Trinity High School. "What makes Holy Trinity unique today is how it has adapted to the diversity present among the students it serves. Although the majority of the students are Catholic, many other faith traditions are represented from the families who turn to the school for an education in the hope they will be able to break out of the economic and racial restraints imposed by society. Education of these students for life demands creativity, sensitivity, and commitment," says Br. Robert Fillmore, Head of the Theology Department. Serving an immigrant community and adapting to changing educational needs have been part and parcel of Holy Trinity High School's 86-year history.

In 1890, some brothers went to Holy Trinity Parish where they performed a variety of tasks including teaching in the grade school. Father Casimir



*Br. Philip Smith, President of Holy Trinity High School, shares a happy moment with several of the students.*



*Br. Robert Fillmore, Chairman of the Theology Department, at last spring's robing ceremony at Holy Trinity High School.*

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## On Teaching a Class of Returning Women Students

Year after year they come into my room  
 From failed marriages or childhoods spoiled  
 By drunken fists too dumb to care.  
 Their bodies, shamed by men who love impurely,  
 And faces, bearing imprints of a life too hard,  
 Are texts too difficult for me to read—  
 I am illiterate before the well-read pages.  
 My lectures avoid the questions in their eyes.  
 I set them in brackets and turn to canonical words  
 About loss and pain. What do I know,  
 I who promised ignorance when my blood was hot?

These women teach me of heart's pain  
 While I write comments on form and content  
 In the margins as they struggle—for once—  
 The subject of their own compositions.  
 They demand to learn, to claim the alimony of mind  
 No court can pay, but is theirs by right.  
 They throb to the lives of Hester and Edna  
 With recognition of a newer canon.  
 What do I know of love, or something like it?

Accepted for publication in the *Onion River Review*,  
 Copyright: Frank Rotsaert, CSC, 1996

Sztuczko, CSC, was pastor of this parish which served the needs of an immigrant Polish population in the Division Street/Milwaukee Avenue area.

Br. Peter Hosinski became the first principal of the newly formed high school in 1910. Brothers Maximus, Victor, Ernest, and Gregory, Father Stanislaus Gorka, and of course, Br. Peter, were responsible for the education of the first class of boys. (Both Brothers Maximus and Victor were later principals of the school.) Classes were conducted in both Polish and English, a tradition which lasted into the 1940s.

The original school was on Cleaver Street. Generations of young men, their sons, and grandsons were educated at Holy Trinity High School. A new school was built on Division Street in 1928. This solid building still stands and now serves an entirely different

population. Today's student population includes young women and is 58 percent Latino, 40 percent African-American, and 2 percent Caucasian and Asian. Many of these students are either immigrants themselves or children of immigrants. Holy Trinity is the only Catholic high school in the near north area of Chicago.

The school has always adapted to different times. In the mid-'40s during the administration of Br. Reginald Juszczak, a business curriculum was introduced so that young men could take advantage of this education in a definitely Catholic atmosphere. In the late 60s, a formal English as a Second Language curriculum was introduced. For several years, many of Chicago's deaf youth attended a special program at Holy Trinity.

According to Br. Philip Smith, president, "The school offers a structured, rigorous college prep and general education

curriculum, teaching and empowering young people to direct their futures." One semester of the senior religion curriculum is devoted to social justice. Most textbooks in this area are designed for middle class youth, but the seniors at Trinity approach social justice from a different perspective since they are the potential victims of racism, sexism, and poverty. Their work has won praise from local churches, business, and civic groups.

New programs have been initiated this year for ninth graders aimed at making transition anxiety less of a problem. Ninth graders take fewer classes for a longer period of time during a semester. In this schedule, the student has to deal with only four adults rather than the seven or eight in a traditional program. Br. Philip notes that the transition to high school, an important and influential time of the student's life, and other

pressures can really take their toll. This program is designed to remove some of the stress. Also, those individuals with serious deficiencies in math and English skills have the daily services of a learning center staffed by teachers and volunteers who care and can supply the attention needed for the integration of the skills needed for success.

Many brothers of the Midwest Province have spent some time at Trinity and the school still has a hold on anyone who was ever there. Several brothers spent their entire careers there.

The school is in its 87th year. Its mission statement is a guideline for the future as well as a summary of Trinity's past.

—Br. Charles Gregg, CSC



## Holy Cross Village Viewed as New Form of Individual and Corporate Ministry

A widely diverse group of men and women joined with the provincial council on Tuesday, September 17, to give input and suggestions regarding the concept and philosophy of the proposed Holy Cross Village. Br. William Geenen, provincial, stated: "The Holy Cross Village concept is a logical development to meet the internal ministry of the Midwest Province, and at the same time it dovetails with the

province's ongoing commitment to external ministry."

Participants in the meeting included Eileen Doran, associate professional specialist at the Notre Dame Law School and director of the Notre Dame Legal Clinic; Judy Eckrich, a member of many social, civic, educational, cultural, religious, and charitable organizations in the South Bend area; Fr. Kenneth Grabner, CSC, chaplain at Holy Cross Brothers Center and at the skilled care facility,

Dujarie House; Jerry Hammes, chairman of the Romy Hammes real estate investment and bank holding group and chairman of the board of trustees of Holy Cross College; Victor J. Riley, chairman and retired CEO of KeyCorp bank holding company; Br. Donald Stabrowski, CSC, academic vice president at the University of Portland and a specialist in urban politics; LeRoy Troyer, president and founder of The Troyer Group, an architectural services and design group and recog-

nized internationally for his leadership and participation in Habitat for Humanity and the Mennonite Economic Development Associates; Sr. Mary Ellen Vaughan, CSC, currently the director of novices for the Sisters of the Holy Cross and formerly the Senior Vice President for Mission Services for the Holy Cross Health System. In addition, the following Brothers participated in the meeting: Brothers William Geenen, Donald Gibbs, *continued on page 5*

## Holy Cross Village

*continued from page 1*

Richard Gilman, Robert Fillmore, Donald Bailer, Philip Armstrong, John May, and Charles Gregg.

Prior to the meeting, the participants had a chance to read a document which gave the historical background leading to the development of the Holy Cross Village concept, and a document which focused on how the Holy Cross Village project fits into the overall mission of the Midwest Province.

The Holy Cross Village concept was developed to assure adequate and dignified housing, retirement, and health care on all levels for the brothers into



*A meeting of Holy Cross Village advisory group.*

and through the early part of the 21st century. But the vision of the village surpasses the narrow concepts of intra-province self-service and security. It is viewed as a new form of individual and corporate ministry for the province. The Village will inspire an aging population of brothers to renew their commitment to the service of others and maintain an

active and productive life for themselves and those they serve. Even as they are ministered to, the brothers will themselves simultaneously become ministers to others who will benefit from the facilities and services offered by the Village. Care received by the brothers will enable them to be in turn care-givers among others in need.



The meeting participants focused on two questions: "How can we together accomplish this vision for Holy Cross Village?" and "How can we help formulate practical steps to move this vision forward?" The meeting included a number of suggestions for refinement of the Holy Cross Village Plan and proposed practical steps to advance the planning and development of this new ministry and apostolic presence for the Brothers of Holy Cross.

# Providence at Work:

## *A Shift in Educational Emphasis for the Brothers*

In 1820 the bishop of LeMans, France, encouraged one of his most zealous priests, Fr. James Dujarie, a veteran of the difficult days of clerical persecution, to organize some laymen into a teaching force designed to assist in restoring Catholic elementary education to a diocese that had felt the worst effects of the French Revolution and its subsequent political and economic impact.

Fr. Dujarie formed a small group which he named the Brothers of St. Joseph. For fifteen years he led this group and sent its members out singly or in pairs into parishes, often with inadequate training as religious and not much more as teachers, to establish and conduct the urgently needed schools.

Ill health forced Fr. Dujarie to seek someone to take over the guidance of the growing community, and he found a willing collaborator in one of his fellow priests, Fr. Basil Moreau. Fr. Moreau united the brothers to an already established band of priests he had gathered and called them the Association of Holy Cross, named after the LeMans suburb in which the priests had been formed. The brothers began to be known then as the Brothers of Holy Cross, and Fr. Moreau continued to encourage and broaden their ministerial presence in elementary country schools.

### To America

Fr. Moreau's vision spread far beyond the diocese, however,

and within four years he began to send missionaries to various parts of the world, including the United States. Six brothers and one priest arrived in southern Indiana in 1841 to address the needs of the French immigrant community there, and soon the brothers had taken up teaching in Montgomery, not far from Vincennes. Even after the small colony of religious moved north the following year to what is now the University of Notre Dame, the brothers served not only there, but in numerous primary schools throughout the midwest and a few in the east.

### An Apostolic Transition

Despite the significant and effective growth of the brothers' presence during the last half of the 1800s in elementary

education, the turn of the century found them paradoxically closing or withdrawing from nearly all of the 76 foundations undertaken between 1841 and 1893.

Three reasons contributed to this turn of events. First, Catholic sisters were becoming available for the primary education of children up to the eighth grade, and were doing so at such a meager stipend that it was no longer economical for pastors to hire men, even brothers, who charged for their services only half that asked by lay teachers. But the sisters charged only half that of the brothers, and could be maintained for only \$200 each per year. Increasing vocations to the sisters and permission for them to teach boys up to the age of thirteen contributed to the lessening presence of the brothers in primary schools.

The second reason was that the University of Notre Dame, a principal apostolate for both priests and brothers of Holy Cross in the U.S., required money and manpower to support its continuing development. Superiors, therefore, recalled many of the brothers from the far-flung schools to serve at the university and contribute to the enhancement of the primary, preparatory, and college levels there.

A third reason underlay the decline in the brothers' presence in primary education. As the 20th century began, bishops were seeking male religious to conduct boys' secondary school departments in their dioceses. This new and ready market for the brothers' talents soon became a focus for their apostolic activity.

Of course, few brothers had been trained for secondary education. The most important advances made for the brothers in the U.S. in the first quarter of the century, then, resulted from the decisions taken by the congregation to upgrade the certification of the brothers and to encourage their moving into secondary education—"the outstanding vocation of our Brothers," as the superior general, Fr. Gilbert Francais, characterized the new direction.

**The Affirmation of Hindsight**  
The brothers made the shift from primary to secondary education at a time when it was logical and appropriate for them to do so. Hindsight affirms the decisions made to facilitate the transition. The shift also occurred at a time in the history of the congrega-

tion when the societies of priests and brothers in Holy Cross needed, even demanded, opportunities to expand and develop independently in terms of the objectives of their specific apostolic ministries.

So, largely forced out of primary education as the new century dawned, and affected by intracongregational tensions, the brothers were nevertheless able to regroup, begin responding to the emerging needs of Catholic education at the secondary level, and develop admirably by mid-century, led by such talented and aggressive religious experts in education as Frs. James Burns and William Cunningham, and especially the charismatic Br. Ephrem O'Dwyer.

The providential circumstances precipitating the shift contributed to the exceptional effectiveness of the brothers' presence in Catholic high schools throughout the country during the post-WW II era when the need was greatest. It is a role that continues for the brothers, if not as noticeably in its physical presence, at least in its perduringly enviable spirit.

—Br. Philip Armstrong, CSC



# Reading the Signs of the Times

James Francis Dujarie, Founder of the Society of the Brothers of St Joseph, later the Brothers of Holy Cross

The history of the Brothers of Holy Cross dates to early 19th century France where a country priest formed a group to help him provide education to young people during the great disarray that existed after the French Revolution. James Francis Dujarie was the priest. He is the founder of the Brothers of St. Joseph, later to become the Brothers of Holy Cross.

James Francis Dujarie taught more by his life than he did by his writings. This founder of the Brothers of St. Joseph left a "message of courage in adversity, of compassion, of openness to reading the signs of the times, of sensitivity to the needs of youth, and of service to the poor." (Grou, Circular Letter #4, p. 14)

James Dujarie was born in 1767 and immediately after completing his basic education began to prepare for the priesthood. In the years following the French Revolution, Dujarie was one of those men with initiative who were to bring France back to its Christian origins despite numerous obstacles and in the midst of endless disturbances. He was 22 years old in 1789 and was one of the last beneficiaries of a solid clerical education. His formation was completed at the peak of the Reign of Terror. He was ordained a priest in secret and the early days of his ministry were lived in circumstances in which saying Mass put one in danger of death.

Once the storm had passed, everything had to be reorganized. This could not be done all at once, as if the crisis had blown over from one day to the next. The work had to be done in great uncertainty. Dujarie was pastor of the parish in Ruille. The activities of the young priest, even though he was personally filled with zeal, were not enough. He had to have help. To educate the young girls in the faith he formed a group of women which eventually grew into the Sisters of Providence. This group grew and he continued to guide them. Later, when he was 52, he accepted the task of organizing an association of men who would take care of the pressing needs for education of boys.



painting by Br. Harold Ruplinger, CSC

Dujarie's health was already deteriorating when he founded the group of men called the Brothers of St. Joseph. Also, as a founder, he was relatively old. There were many problems in having the group of brothers recognized: civilly, financing the group, and giving them some type of spiritual formation. Young men came to join and were almost immediately sent out to teach. The requests for schools came from many areas and Fr. Dujarie sent his young brothers, many with only rudimentary formal education and even less spiritual formation, to teach in parish schools and to assist and live with parish priests. His counsel was: "Before all things else, let

the brothers teach children virtue and religion."

Life was difficult and very poor conditions existed in these country parishes. In addition, the social and political changes caused many hardships and the brothers left at an alarming rate. By the time of the annual retreat in 1831, it was obvious that something had to be done in order to save the foundation. Dujarie's health had worsened and the small group at the retreat realized that the future of the group lay in their hands.

After consulting with the Bishop of LeMans, the brothers and Fr. Dujarie began to look to Fr.

Basil Moreau to assume the task of guiding the community. Fr. Moreau, who also had founded a group of auxiliary priests, had preached retreats to the brothers and had been a friend and spiritual guide to some of the brothers. In 1835 at the annual retreat, Fr. Dujarie, the aged founder, handed over his society to Fr. Moreau, who eventually provided the structure of a religious congregation to the group and incorporated them into what eventually became the Congregation of Holy Cross. By the time Dujarie died in 1838, Fr. Moreau had begun to organize the group into a religious community and the brothers began to take vows.

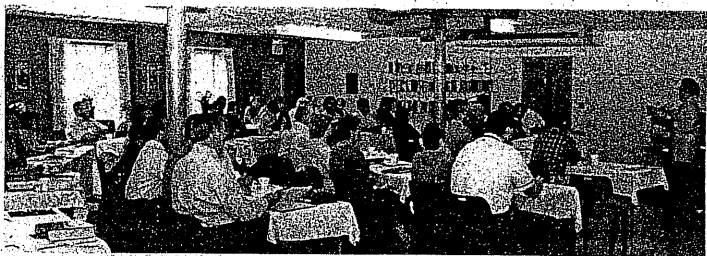
Dujarie and Moreau, each in his own way, were founders of Holy Cross. But both would most likely disavow the term and say that they were merely instruments of Providence in the realization of His plan and that the Congregation of Holy Cross is not the work of Dujarie or Moreau, but truly the work of God.

—Br. Robert Kelly, CSC



# Partnership of Trust and Sharing

*Models of Sponsorship Explored*



*Administrators and board members from Holy Cross schools at the province workshop on sponsorship.*

and direct sharing. Education of the heart is as important as education of the mind. Students, brothers, faculty, parents, trustees, and alumni/ae are united in a common mission to recognize and develop the gifts of each member. Holy Cross schools must continue to be signs of new and vibrant forms of community among lay, religious, clerics, men and women. A Holy Cross school must be characterized by mutual respect and vibrant faith, hopeful signs of the reign of God in our midst.

On September 6 and 7, Sister Lourdes Sheehan, RSM, a Mercy Sister and an internationally recognized expert on the subject of sponsorship, gathered with 60 members of CSC school boards, administrations, and the provincial council to help reflect on the question of sponsorship.



*Sr. Lourdes Sheehan, RSM, expert on the subject of sponsorship, at the recent workshop for province administrators and board members.*

Sr. Lourdes, who holds a doctorate in educational administration, is a native of Savannah, Georgia. She has been a Catholic school teacher, principal, diocesan superintendent and director of education, as well as a provincial administrator for her congregation. She has been Executive Director of the National Association of Boards of Education for the N.C.E.A., and has held the position of Secretary for Education at the U.S. Catholic Conference.

Geenen, provincial, has held a series of meetings to gather information and set a direction to accomplish the goal of the last chapter.

Sponsorship is a concept that goes beyond ownership to include a sense of responsibility and lively concern for all aspects of Catholic value-centered education. It is a continuation of the partnership between the Brothers of Holy Cross, the bishop of a local diocese, and the local community in which a school is located. This partnership must continue to be built on trust and honest

The role of brothers in secondary education has gradually shifted from classroom teaching to administration and operations, and on to what is called sponsorship and greater collaboration with lay men and women at the board and trustee level. A 1994 provincial chapter committee charged with assisting the development of our province's education ministry mandated the provincial to set up a plan "to maintain our historical ties to the present schools, and to develop models and instruments for sponsorship." With this in mind, Br. William

# Decio Given Cross of Hope Award

At its graduation ceremonies Holy Cross College conferred the Cross of Hope Award upon Mr. Arthur Decio, outgoing chairman of the College Board of Trustees.

According to Br. Richard Gilman, CSC, president of the College, "The Cross of Hope Award recognizes lay benefactors who have assisted the Brothers of Holy Cross directly or through one of their institutions.

Recipients have in an outstanding way demonstrated faithful service and donations of time, resources, or specialized talents to the mission of the Brothers of Holy Cross. Through their life

and values, recipients exhibit their belief in the traditions of the Congregation of Holy Cross, namely, that the education of the heart is as important as the education of the mind, that education in the faith is at the core of all education, and that service to others is freely and generously given out of a sense of shared brotherhood."

Mr. Decio, a resident of Elkhart, Indiana, and Chairman of the Board of Skyline Corporation, has illustrated these qualities and more in his very active and influential life. As a business and social leader and as an

astute adviser, he has brought the benefits of an infectious enthusiasm and dedication to organizations such as Holy Cross College.

After nomination by the College, Mr. Decio was selected by the administration of the Midwest Province to receive the Cross of Hope Award, named after the symbols found in the coat of arms of the Congregation of Holy Cross—a cross with two anchors superimposed in opposite directions diagonally across its surface, and the motto, "Spes Unica," which means, "Our One Hope."

The anchors represent hope, and the cross is representative of the instrument on which the salvation of the world was achieved through the sacrifice of Jesus. The winner of the award typifies, in the opinion of the Brothers of Holy Cross, a person who brings to his or her involvement with a particular Holy Cross institution or work a strong sense of the same hope and sacrificial dedication that mark the presence of Holy Cross in its apostolic works.



# New Vocation Promoter Appointed



During a gathering of well over a hundred Midwest Province members of the Brothers of Holy Cross at Notre Dame in June, Br. William Geenen, provincial, announced the appointment of Br. John Tryon

to the position of Vocation Promoter for the province.

Br. John succeeds Br. Raymond Papenfuss, who was Vocation Promoter for the past eight years and who has been asked to devote full time to his other role, that of Mission Promoter for the congregation's District of West Africa. Br. William expressed his gratitude, as did the members gathered, for the generous and dedicated manner in which Br. Raymond functioned as Vocation Promoter.

Br. John is a native of Perrysville, Ohio. He pronounced his first vows in the congregation in 1967 and taught in schools, particularly Holy Trinity High School in Chicago. He most recently completed a sabbatical, during which he studied, taught, and pursued creative writing. He brings to the position his faith, talent, and enthusiasm, qualities required in abundance by vocation promoters today when alternative service options, an apparent disinclination toward perpetual commitment, and less

than forceful support from family and society contribute little to an individual's selection of the religious life as a viable vocation.

The prayers and encouragement not only of the province but of all our readers are requested for Br. John as he takes up his new position. A longtime resident of Chicago, he will operate the vocation office principally from there.



# Groundbreaking for Assisted Living Building

Within weeks after the dedication and blessing of Dujarie House on October 6, the Brothers of Holy Cross were able to break ground for the next phase of the comprehensive plan to provide more appropriate housing accommodations for aging and infirm members.

Groundbreaking for the Assisted Living Building took place on

Monday, October 21. Enthusiasm and excitement in beginning this project were evident among those gathered at the ceremony near the site of the new building, just south of Dujarie House, the skilled care facility. The Assisted Living Building will attach to the south end of Dujarie House near the Dujarie dining room. The new building will provide

residential rooms, a clinic, library, lounge, exercise and fitness center, dining room, and a new central kitchen which will serve the residents of Dujarie House and the Assisted Living Building and, in the future, persons living in the yet-to-be developed housing.

At the groundbreaking, provincial Br. William Geenen said: "We are grateful for the support and

important and pressing project. We trust, however, that many more benefactors will help us complete this assisted living center. We still need several major gifts and numerous smaller contributions. I am sure that those who have benefited from the services of the brothers will honor or memorialize the influence of the brothers in their lives by making whatever gift they are able."





# Volunteer Service Noted

The *South Bend Tribune* and the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocesan paper *Today's Catholic* featured the recognition by local organizations of Br. Thomas Corcoran of Columba Hall, Notre Dame, for the significant volunteer service he has contributed since September 1992. Volunteer service became a part of Br. Thomas's rehabilitation after he underwent an operation on his back in 1990 that left him

largely reliant on wheelchair mobility.

A longtime teacher, counselor, and administrator, Br. Thomas was chosen to receive two volunteer service awards, the first made by the Community Association of Volunteer Coordinators, a community based organization for professionals in volunteer services, and the second by the South Bend Community School

Corporation. The awards were presented in April at a special breakfast.

Br. Thomas contributes a significant amount of time and energy to teaching English as a second language to immigrants. He is very pleased to be part of the large group of over 500 volunteers who give hours of their time to the less fortunate, and subscribes wholeheartedly to the CAVCO motto: The

reason volunteers are not paid is not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless! He is representative of dozens of Holy Cross Brothers who volunteer their time and talent to assisting others in need.



## Touched by Holy Cross

### Dorothy Vessini, Part of the Holy Cross Team

"In 1972, Br. Thomas Corcoran invited me to work for Holy Cross School and continue there almost 25 years later. The years have been happy and fulfilling," says Dorothy Vessini. But even before becoming an employee at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Illinois, Dorothy had been associated with the brothers and the school for ten years.

Dorothy married Ernie Vessini in August 1961, the same month and year that Holy Cross opened its doors in this northwest Chicago suburb. As newlyweds, the Vessinis moved into Elmwood Park just across the street from the school. They were soon introduced to the newly formed Associates of St. Joseph by their Elmwood Park neighbors, John and Sara Pedicone. Thus began the Vessini's 35-year relationship with HCHS.



Dorothy Vessini

As members of the Associates of St. Joseph, an auxiliary group to the Brothers of Holy Cross and Holy Cross institutions, Dorothy and Ernie have spent countless hours in spiritual, social, and fundraising events. Ernie served as president of the group; Dorothy has served for many years as secretary/treasurer.

Dorothy and Ernie have two boys and two girls. Mark graduated from Holy Cross in '80; Robert in '86. Donna graduated from Mother Theodore Guerin High School in '81; Diane in '82.

The Vessini family grew up at Holy Cross. In the early days the children would be brought along in their playpens when Dorothy and Ernie

set up for a dance or some other social event. Important events in the family's life such as the 50th wedding anniversary of Ernie's parents, and Dorothy and Ernie's own 25th wedding anniversary have been shared with the brothers in the chapel at Holy Cross. Son Robert and his wife Michelle celebrated their wedding reception at the high school.

"Whenever and wherever we have been with the brothers, we have always been treated as family," says Dorothy. "Our many trips to Notre Dame (which Ernie calls the Holy Land) have been memorable. The happy times included football games; some trips were just to go and pray at the Grotto; most trips included a visit with former teachers from River Grove. We attended many joyous occasions such as jubilees. There were the sad trips, too, saying goodbye to our dear friends by attending their wakes or funerals.

"At Columba Hall, the Province Center, the Provincial House, LeMans Academy, at the River Grove house, and even in Rome, Italy, the Holy Cross hospitality has always been warm and genuine.

"Being associated with Holy Cross has been like being a part of a team

made up of brothers, faculty, staff, parents, and students. I remember how Br. Quentin Hegarty offered to drive my daughter to grade school every day when she was recovering from surgery. With great fondness I remember working with Br. Chester Rachel on the Good Friday Walk which he had organized for the Holy Cross students. And how could I ever forget the hours of work selling hot dogs and soft drinks at the concessions stand at football games with Br. Paul Kelly, Br. Julian Przybyla, and Br. Thomas Corcoran?

"Over the years we have had the opportunity to attend many functions at Notre Dame and other Holy Cross schools and residences. We have drawn very close to the congregation and the many wonderful people we consider as close personal friends. Our door has always been open to CSCs. Many happy hours and many pans of lasagna have been shared with the brothers and priests associated with Holy Cross."

Br. Raymond Dufresne, former principal at Holy Cross said: "Dorothy Vessini, by her faithfulness and dedication, has been touched by Holy Cross, but even more, she has touched each of us and has been a real source of inspiration to all who have known and

## Dujarie House Dedicated

"It is indeed a happy occasion to bless and dedicate this skilled care facility for the Brothers of Holy Cross of all three United States provinces," said Br. William Geenen, Midwest provincial, at the dedication of Dujarie House on October 6.

Most Rev. Joseph Crowley, retired Auxiliary Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend celebrated a Mass for the Dujarie residents and guests prior to the dedication ceremony. Bishop Crowley, educated by Brothers of Holy Cross in Fort Wayne, spoke of his appreciation for the lessons learned and the example he received as a student of the brothers.

The addition and renovation projects were made possible through a large grant from the Murlan Murphy family and from the United States Brothers Provinces. Mr. & Mrs. Murlan Murphy, Sr., and Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Murphy represented the Murphy family at the ceremonies.

Dujarie Board members, the three provincials, many priests, brothers, and sisters, infirmary staff, and many other invited guests participated in the blessing and toured the new and renovated facility. A luncheon was served following the ceremony.

The Dujarie House addition and renovation provides 10 new and 5 renovated rooms, bringing the total to 27 rooms in the skilled care facility.



*Blessing of Plaque at Dujarie House: (l. to r.) Murlan Murphy, Jr.; Susie Murphy; Bishop Joseph R. Crowley; Margaret Murphy; and Murlan Murphy, Sr.*



*About 150 guests and residents gathered for the dedication of Dujarie House.*



*Bishop Joseph Crowley presided at the ceremony.*

# Person to Person

—A Word from Brother Geenen



Br. William Geenen emphasizes in apostolic work exercised by the brothers from the time of their establishment in France.

Though the brothers were founded by Fr. James Dujarie in 1820 to respond to the urgent need for Catholic primary education in the diocese of LeMans, a significant change of direction occurred, as noted by Br. Philip Armstrong in this edition of *Brothers*, causing the brothers to opt almost by necessity for secondary education as their apostolic focus around the turn of the century.

By being open to change in their ministerial concentration, the brothers illustrated the principle of adaptability fundamental to the wider mission of Holy Cross. As times changed and circumstances demanded, the brothers responded according to the degree of freedom they enjoyed as lay religious in Holy Cross. What resulted was a surprisingly effective educational outreach into secondary education.

It is to our brothers in formal education that we pay particular honor in this issue of *Brothers*. For many of our readers, the influence of the Brothers of Holy Cross has come most perceptibly through their work as teachers, administrators and counselors in high schools. We take justifiable pride in what we have done in the schools, and we salute those brothers and their predecessors who have devoted their entire professional lives to the

ministry of formal education. We hope to continue instilling a strong sense of the Holy Cross spirit in our lay collaborators in the schools.

Even as we acknowledge brothers who remain active in formal education, we reiterate the readiness of the province to adapt when and where necessary to the demands of the times, and we affirm the swift response already given by many of our men. In our last issue of *Brothers* we listed some seventeen ways in which one or more of our province members are ministering that are not directly associated with formal education. Yet there is never a time during which any of these men is any less an "educator in the faith" than his confreres in the classroom or school office. By the very nature of their vocation, brothers are able to be educators in many ways and in many places. The fact that all of us in some manner were trained as educators, formal or otherwise, and for direct or supportive roles, assures that our insertion into needed ministries, whatever their nature today, will find us, as we have always been, effective and enthusiastic educators.

Today brothers work with people confronting the challenges of being outpaced and outdistanced by confusingly complex developments in technology and their social implications. These brothers bring the fruits of their educational background into newer areas where needs are felt in ways different from earlier times. Open to adapting to whatever is required of them, brothers take pride in their traditional contributions to the

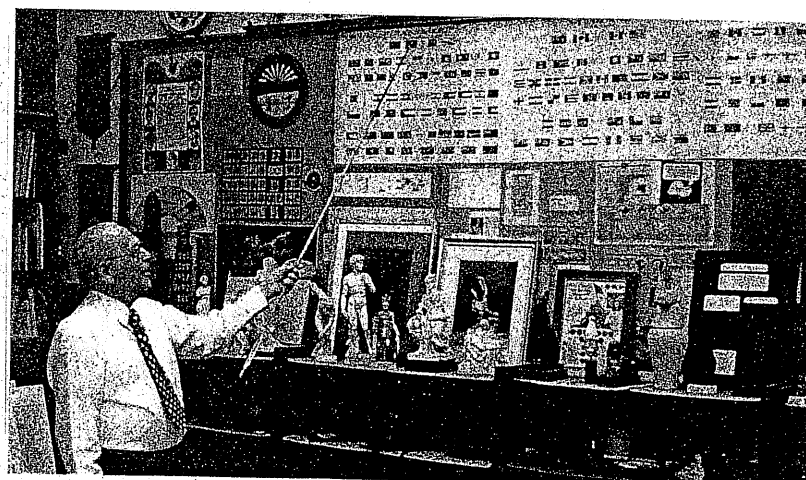
formal educational field while at the same time willingly accepting the clear invitation to move into areas of expertise that can benefit from the unique vocation of the lay religious.

Your prayerful and encouraging support is essential for the continuation of our mission as brothers in the Church.

—Br. William Geenen, CSC  
Provincial



Br. Reginald Justak greeting some of the Class of '58 as they arrive for classes at St. Joseph High School in South Bend.



Br. Bennet Netleton, long-time history and social studies teacher at St. Edward's High School in Lakewood, Ohio, teaches in a classroom/museum which he has enriched with thousands of artifacts collected during his fifty years of teaching. Br. Bennet recently received the Cleveland Plain Dealer's Crystal Apple Award which recognizes outstanding teachers.

*"Education of the heart is as important as the education of the mind, that education in the faith is at the core of all education, and that service to others is freely and generously given out of a sense of shared brotherhood."*