

Brothers

Congregation of Holy Cross



MIDWEST PROVINCE • NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

NO. 2 • SPRING 1996

Midwest Men Minister in Nine Countries Beyond North America

Holy Cross is a community in mission. From its beginning, the congregation has sent religious to minister wherever the need was greatest. Established in 1837, Holy Cross saw several of its youngest and most promising members strike out almost immediately for foreign shores in response to the cry of bishops for educators and pastors to accompany the faithful.

Africa called first. In 1840 Fr. Basil Moreau, founder and first superior general of the fledgling community, sent a band of men to Algeria in northern Africa. Shortly after, in 1841, the first groups of men and women religious set out for the United States, and in 1847, for Canada. In 1853 Fr. Moreau responded to the invitation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith to take on the difficult and challenging mission of rooting the Church in northeastern India (now Bangladesh).

Astonishingly, all this ambitious activity was accomplished before 1857, the year the congregation received official papal approval of its constitutions.

Fr. Moreau always saw his religious as missionaries, bringing the good news of Jesus to every part of the globe to which the congregation could realistically respond. Though France remained the primary seat of the community's activity—Holy Cross had been founded to answer the pressing needs of a diocesan Church in disarray following the French Revolution—the founder knew that a broader vision of service was an essential part of the evangelical role his community could play in serving the universal Church.

Ever since, Holy Cross has ministered on the subcontinent of Asia. Although northern Africa had to be relinquished, the community returned permanently to the continent in 1957 and has integrated itself into sub-Saharan Africa. South America has seen several foundations begun, and Haiti boasts a strong and evolving young community.

Historically, North America has witnessed the most prodigious growth of Holy Cross and may still house the majority of its religious, yet the trend in expanding membership is clearly focused beyond this continent's borders.

And as always, Holy Cross men and women are at home as a congregation wherever they serve.

In this edition of *Brothers*, we briefly consider the mission of Midwest Province members on continents other than North America.



Br. Daniel Dardoe (second from right) supervising masonry training at the Holy Cross Skills Project, Sekondi, Ghana.

Where Are We Now?

Beyond North America, members of the Midwest Province serve the Church today in:

Bangladesh — Brs. Thomas More Beere and Ronald Drahozal remain from among the hundreds who have labored in this Asian delta for the past 140 years and more. Other former Midwest men, Brs. Donald Becker and Ralph Baird, have joined the vice province of Bangladesh, founded in 1988 as the vibrant young community of indigenous religious which is developing toward autonomy.

Chile — Br. Donald Kuchenmeister helps the congregation's District of Chile, founded by Holy Cross priests in 1943, by directing the Hogar Santa Cruz, an orphanage he established in 1987 for poor and abandoned children in Santiago.

Ghana — Midwest men, most of them indigenous religious, continue the effective apostolic presence of Holy Cross in West Africa begun in 1957. They are Brs. William Gates, Frederick McGlynn, Vincent Gross, Richard Johnson, Jerome Kroetsch, Joseph Annan, Nee Wayoe, Michael Amakyi, Daniel Dardoe, Paul Mensah, Sylvester Quaye, Anthony Dadzie, and Anthony Norviewu. Holy Cross Fr. Bob Gilmour also contributes as an integral long-time member of the district.

Israel — Since 1983 brothers have assisted the Holy Cross Sisters in Tiberias in providing a renewal program for Third World religious. Br. Robert Ludwig currently serves at the Mater Ecclesiae Center.

Italy — In 1951 Br. Gonzaga Day went to Rome to help relocate the general administration of Holy Cross in the Eternal City. Since that time at least one Midwest member, such as Br. Edward Dailey, current secretary to the general administration, has served on the general council or the staff of the general administration. Other Midwest men occasionally helped to staff Notre Dame International School in Rome during the school's existence from 1952 to 1991.

Liberia — Only Br. Thomas Dillman remains in this war-torn country from the many who since 1962 have served as educators in the capital city of Monrovia.

Nepal — Br. John Harris, formerly ministering in Bangladesh, has taught since 1974 at a Jesuit high school in the capital, Kathmandu.

Peru — Since 1985 Br. John Benesh has taught and administered in a school operated by the District of Peru, begun in 1976 by Holy Cross priests.

Uganda — In 1990 Br. Joseph Tsiquaye from the District of West Africa began to assist in the novitiate program conducted by the Holy Cross priests and brothers who had founded the district in 1958. Br. Bernard Klim came from Rome to assist in Uganda in 1991.



We live our consecration in many lands and cultures. Our commitment is the same wherever we are, but we seek to express it in a manner rooted in and enriched by the varying contexts and cultures in which we live. In this way we hope to make our witness and service more effective for the kingdom.

— Constitution 5,52

Our mission sends us across borders of every sort. Often we must make ourselves at home among more than one people or culture, reminding us again that the farther we go in giving, the more we stand to receive. Our broader experience allows both the appreciation and the critique of every culture and the disclosure that no culture of this world can be our abiding home.

Bangladesh Visit Provides Insights

(Br. Donald Gibbs, assistant provincial of the Midwest Province, made a visit last November to members of the province serving in Bangladesh. A few of his reminiscences on the visit appear here.)

Having taught our Holy Cross constitutions to novices, I have often read, reflected on and prayed over the portions which apply specifically to our mission apostolates. This is true particularly of paragraph 52, which states: We live our consecration in many lands and cultures. Our commitment is the same wherever we are, but we seek to express it in a manner rooted in and enriched by the varying contexts and cultures in which we live. But only now, after having been to Bangladesh, do these words come alive for me, fleshed out in real faces and experiences.

If you were to ask me to relate the experience that struck me most powerfully while I was in Bangladesh, I would have to say that it was encountering the masses of humanity on the streets and roads, and the overwhelming press of the beggars on me from the moment I left the airport gate, an experience that persisted throughout the entire three weeks. It was not the actual begging that affected me, but rather the look of longing, expectation, and hope in the beggar's eyes. The season of Advent has forever taken on a more radical level of meaning because of my journey. I can still see many of these beggars' faces.

The people of Bangladesh are hard-working and quite friendly. Villages are primitive

contrasted to standards we hold in the West. But the warmth of the welcome and the generosity with which people share what they have made me quickly forget the surroundings. People were eager to receive insights into life and faith, and equally ready to share their own with me. As I went from family to family, I listened as they recalled favorite stories of the brothers who had labored in their village school, parish or work project. It made me feel very proud of our Holy Cross mission in Bangladesh.

What of our community there? The three branches of Holy Cross—brothers, sisters, priests—are present in Bangladesh. Because of country-wide transportation strikes called hartals, I was limited to visiting Holy Cross College in Dhaka, run by the Sisters of the Holy Cross from St. Mary's, Notre Dame. But in Dhaka the presence of all the Holy Cross religious is felt primarily through our educational and parochial institutions and substance abuse counseling. Thousands of people are touched

daily by the apostolic spirit of Holy Cross. The brothers live very close to the people and are very much at ease in the classroom or on the roads and paths and in the village bazaars. It was clear to me that Holy Cross is present in Bangladesh for one reason only—to witness to the gospel through service to God's people there.

The table the brothers share is much like any family table would be in Bangladesh—rice and curry. I did my best to try all of the varieties of food, but was grateful when the cook provided me with a less spicy curry sauce.

I was privileged to visit all of the houses of the brothers and priests in which young men are being formed for religious life in Holy Cross. I spoke with many of the men individually, and gave a formal talk to each group. All of the formation houses receive men interested in religious life in Holy Cross, whether as priests or brothers. The formation staff, where manpower permits, is composed of both priests and brothers. My

message to the young men was simple: that together we are brothers in Holy Cross; we are to live the good news of the gospel wherever we are sent in the name of the congregation. I thanked the men for their generosity in responding to the call to Holy Cross. They plied me with questions about the community in the United States. I was received everywhere with fraternal warmth, which included music, dancing and flowers. In most places, if time permitted we shared a meal.

I was very much impressed by the brothers' devotion to their apostolic work, whether in teaching, counseling, administration, the formation of young religious, or even playing basketball, a game Holy Cross introduced into the country. Holy Cross tradition and dedication are evident everywhere, and the future of the congregation and its effectiveness in Bangladesh seem to me very much assured.

—Br. Donald Gibbs, C.S.C





Br. Thomas Dillman with Sr. Mary and orphans near Monrovia, Liberia.

Liberia Benefits From One-Man Holy Cross Presence

Peace is gradually returning to war-torn Monrovia, Liberia, but Br. Thomas Dillman, C.S.C., who teaches there, says it will be a long time before things are back to normal.

Br. Thomas, 68, who has been at St. Patrick's High School in Monrovia for 27 years, was recently in the United States on his biennial leave visiting relatives in Evansville, Indiana, his home town.

Dillman estimates it will be at least five years before the hydroelectric system serving Monrovia is rebuilt and the water system repaired. He relies on a limited generator system. The community, consisting of Br. Thomas and some young Liberians considering membership in Holy Cross, depends on rain for much of the year, but needs water trucked in by the Catholic Relief Services in the dry season between November and May.

Dillman, who is also business manager for the school, considers himself living in affluence in Monrovia because he has a bed, a roof over his head and three meals a day. "I don't realize how bad we have it there until I return here," he said.

Returning to America is like visiting another planet, he said. "Normally I kind of watch what I eat here so I don't gain too much weight," he said. "This time I'm not worrying about it."

Dillman said the five rebel factions and the government have reached an agreement for peace and have agreed to a disarmament plan. But before it can be implemented, they need more than the current 10,000 peace-keeping forces from West African countries of Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Once the factions are disarmed and the government is stabilized, rebuilding can begin. "Only 10 percent of the land that was previously farmed is being farmed now," he said. "And more than half of our population is outside the country."

Although some danger from the fighting factions has ended, armed robberies are increasing.

Dillman recently described one situation to students at Reitz Memorial High School, his alma mater and long-time site of the Holy Cross Brothers' presence in Evansville. "Suppose you were in the seventh or eighth grade and you were taken by force into a rebel army and you were marked with three slashes on your arm," he said. "You had no choice whether to stay and fight with the army because you were marked. You would be killed by others if you left. After three years of fighting, the war has ended, and you are 17 years old. What do you do? Would you go to school?"

Dillman said the only schools open now in Liberia are in Monrovia. His school has cut tuition by 75% to \$60 a year. Dillman has also collected donations for scholarships to help about 90 students.

On this trip home Dillman has been collecting supplies for his students. One of his greatest needs is for parts for a mimeograph machine. Because of limited electricity, this is the only way to duplicate study and exam materials for the students. Dillman, handy with tools, said he has exhausted his ability to repair and fabricate replacement parts. Dillman has also collected library books, copy books and sports equipment for the students.

He returned in January with hope, but also with an image firmly fixed in his memory of the reality of conditions in Liberia. His faith in God and in the capability of good people to rebound in hope from tragedy are what keep him going.

—Linda Negro (*The Evansville Courier*)



Br. Donald Kuchenmeister and some of the children at the Hogar Santa Cruz orphanage in Santiago, Chile.

The District of West Africa A Permanent Holy Cross Presence

Next year the Midwest Province of brothers will celebrate forty years in Ghana.

In December 1957, Br. Donatus Schmitz, provincial, saw the need for mission outreach on the part of the newly formed province and responded to the requests of Archbishop William Porter of Cape Coast, Ghana, to send brothers to initiate a presence in the country at St. John's School, Sekondi. Br. Rex Hennel, along with Brs. Eduardo Michalik and Donald Allen, formed the nucleus around which many other brothers gathered over subsequent years. By 1962, because of political unrest in the country the brothers sought an alternative base in West Africa by taking on the administration

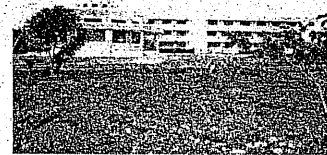
and staffing of St. Patrick's High School in Monrovia, Liberia. Despite the political situation in Ghana, the brothers began recruiting and forming young Ghanaian men as Brothers of Holy Cross, an initiative that has produced solid vocations and eventual leadership for the district.

The brothers expanded their academic presence in 1965 when four men joined the staff of St. Augustine's Secondary School in Cape Coast. In 1970 two brothers took up positions on the staff of St. Theresa's Minor Seminary in Amisano, near Cape Coast. In 1979 some brothers moved upcountry to the Diocese of Sunyani to engage in laity and youth ministry in the newly formed diocese. The Sunyani presence continued until 1991. In 1982 the Holy Cross Skills Project was established near Sekondi to provide technical training in carpentry, masonry and automotive mechanics for boys who do not have the educational background or means to attend training institutions beyond primary and middle school levels.

The establishment of an indigenous branch of the province was aimed at creating a permanent pool of local religious to investigate unlimited possibilities for ministry in all of West Africa. To date, numbers have not permitted the luxury of widespread response, but a solid

core of young religious bodes well for the future. Despite its limitations, Holy Cross has been privileged to establish a Center for Continuing Formation in Brafuyaw, a suburb of Cape Coast, adjacent to the brothers' district center. The formation center, directed by a brother, caters through a nine-month program to the ongoing formation of young religious men and women from communities throughout Africa, as well as the establishment of retreat, renewal and religious educational programs for the laity. A small farm in operation for several years near Sekondi is expected to provide food and income for the brothers and their works.

The service rendered to the Church in Ghana by dedicated Holy Cross individuals, Americans and Ghanaians alike, is measured more properly in decades than in years. Nevertheless, Holy Cross continues to find itself in something of a



Continuing Formation Center and new chapel (foreground) in Brafuyaw, Ghana.

pioneering stance, dependent very much on new vocations to balance the return of some American men to the U.S. because of age or infirmity. The strong desire of the brothers' district to collaborate in mission with Holy Cross priests and sisters has been to some degree achieved in recent years, and, with the 50th anniversary of Holy Cross in Ghana only ten years away, the hope remains high for engaging in ministry to the people through the presence of the entire family of Holy Cross.

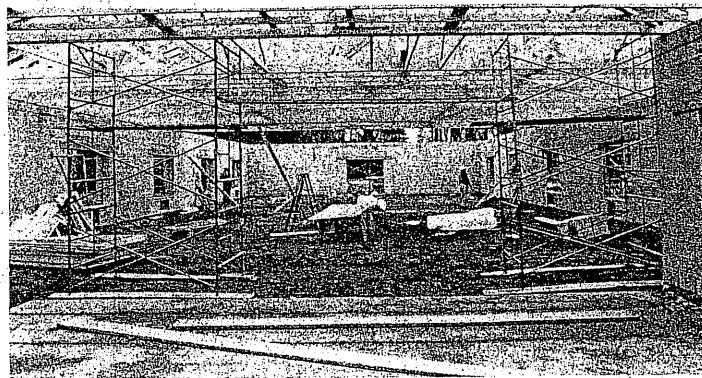


Holy Cross Village

The Dujarie House expansion and renovation is only a part of the planned expansion for the Holy Cross Village, a learning, worshipping, and service community offering several types of residential living, as well as social, educational, and health care facilities. Planning for the second phase of the expansion,

the assisted living building, is continuing through the next several months. Planning and design documents are being prepared with the anticipated groundbreaking for the assisted living center in late spring, as funding for this phase becomes available.

Discussions and planning of the other components of the Holy Cross Village and site improvements are continuing. Future issues of *Brothers* will update progress on Holy Cross Village.



After trusses were put in place it was easier to get a sense of the size of the Dujarie House addition.

Holy Cross History: Brother Tough as Nails

Editor's Note: This brief sketch of one of the pioneer Brothers of Holy Cross reflects the hardships experienced by the early brother-teachers who were sent to teach and operate parish grade schools. Often they had little or no preparation to teach and had meager supplies and crude schoolrooms. Sometimes their personalities clashed with pastors. Even as they worked hard to establish schools in these very difficult surroundings, the brothers longed to be with their community at Notre Dame and to hear of its progress. They wrote letters to Father Edward Sorin, their superior at Notre Dame, or Father Basil Moreau, the superior general in France.

Br. George Klawitter, CSC, translated and published over two hundred letters written by these early brothers between 1841 and 1849. The letters chronicle hopes, hardships, perils, and conflicts. They give us a picture of both pioneer life and the early development of the Brothers of Holy Cross in America. Here Br. George provides an account of the feisty Br. Mary Joseph who was in the community for a little over three years.

The most pugnacious of the early brothers in America had to be Brother Mary Joseph (Samuel) O'Connell who was born in Ireland in 1819 and joined the community at Montgomery, Indiana, in December, 1842, when he was twenty-three. By that time, Brs. Francis Xavier and Gatian had already settled into life at Notre Dame with five novices, prepared to face the northern winter in a log cabin on the banks of what they presumed was a single lake under the snow. Brs. Lawrence and Joachim remained at Mont-

gomery with eight novices and the postulant Samuel O'Connell. Br. Vincent, in nearby Vincennes with Brother Anselm, may have served as novice master for the southern foundation in spite of the fact that he was teaching full-time at the Cathedral grade school. In the February following Samuel O'Connell's arrival, all of the brothers headed north to Notre Dame, except for Anselm who remained in Vincennes. Samuel was the first postulant to become a novice at Notre Dame, an event which happened on the feast of St. Joseph in 1843.

What was this Irishman like? How wonderful it would be to have a picture of him, but photography was in its infancy in the 1840's, and if he had his picture taken after he left the community in 1846, we will probably never know. We can, however, get a very good portrait of him from the letters that the brothers wrote in those early days. Br. Mary Joseph was apparently a fearless kind of fellow, as we can surmise from the following incident that Br. Francis witnessed on a ride in November, 1845: "The first day of our traveling was good enough, but Brother Mary Joseph was too full of gab with the driver. This it is that caused some dissatisfaction for when we came on the other side of Lafayette, we came to be going in the night, not knowing where to stop when Brother Aloysius spoke to the driver to drive faster, but in place of doing it did much harm. The driver spoke harshly to Brother Aloysius and said to him, 'None of your lip,' etc. Brother Mary

Joseph spoke then very roughly, etc. I was silent. Brother Mary Joseph scolded me for not speaking."

Br. Mary Joseph seems here a kind of protector of gentler brothers; he was not about to take abuse from some cheeky coach driver. This same Br. Francis had a kind of awe for the tough Br. Mary Joseph. In a later letter he complains about not having wood for the school in Vincennes: "And as for Brother Mary Joseph we were informed that he went in the river frequently when the water was high to get wood." Br. Mary Joseph was not about to freeze in his classroom when there was wood to be had floating in the nearby river. He had a reputation in Vincennes as a severe disciplinarian and in Madison (Indiana) as a truant teacher. He was, apparently, his own man.

Br. Mary Joseph's final days in the community were not happy ones. In the nine letters that remain from him, he gives evidence of being very astute in money matters. He was also outspoken, and the latter trait did not help him in his final assignment. Arriving in Madison with Br. Francis to begin a new school term in October, 1846, he had a terrible row with the local pastor, Maurice de St. Palais, future bishop of Vincennes. It seems that the priest was not interested in having brothers at his school and when they showed up, told them to return to Notre Dame. Br. Mary Joseph refused for two reasons: under his vow of obedience he could not go any-

where without an order from his Notre Dame superior, and moreover, Br. Francis was too sick with a fever to travel. The atmosphere in the town had been poisoned for the brothers by two laymen, one of whom felt he had been slighted when his children had been treated harshly by Brother Mary Joseph in the previous year. St. Palais lost his temper and ordered the brothers out of his parish.

Instead of returning to Notre Dame, Br. Mary Joseph went to St. Mary's College in Kentucky where a previous Madison pastor, Julian Delaune, was struggling to keep the institution afloat. Br. Mary Joseph officially left the community a month later on November 12, 1846. His final letter clears up what has always remained a mystery in histories of St. Michael's Parish in Madison. Those books wonder why the brothers left the parish, but the mystery is no mystery to anyone who reads the early letters of the brothers. The bad blood between the pastor and the confrontational Br. Mary Joseph is all too apparent.

It would be most interesting to know what happened to Samuel O'Connell in later years, but he has faded into the frontier of the Midwest, caught perhaps in some county records in Kentucky, Illinois, or Indiana, records that are still waiting to reveal the further years of a most colorful Brother of Holy Cross in pioneer America.

—Br. George Klawitter, CSC



Boysville: Rekindling the Light of Hope and Compassion

For nearly 50 years, Boysville has worked to create hope and rebuild the lives of youth and their families. The Brothers of Holy Cross have been a part of Boysville's entire history. The organization, which began at the request of Cardinal Mooney of Detroit in 1948, had humble beginnings. Br. Patrick Cain was the pioneer founder. Serving the southeastern Michigan area, Boysville was originally intended to provide residential care and schooling for "boys with a problem."

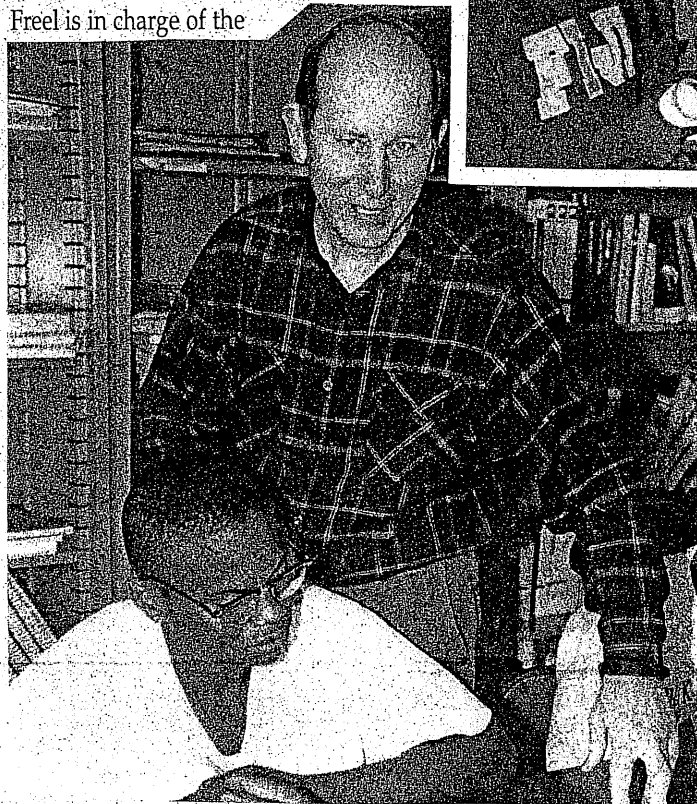
Today, the organization attempts to meet the comprehensive needs of 2,600 at-risk youth and their families throughout the entire state of Michigan. It has recently expanded into northern Ohio and also maintains a regional office at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio. It is the largest private child care agency in Michigan.

Programs include residence, alternative detention, and assessment programs for boys and girls. Many home and community-based services such as specialized foster care, supervised independent living and intensive in-home crisis intervention are included. On the Clinton campus, there is a full-program high school.

Boysville's programs take an aggressive approach to guiding children and their families in a positive direction for the fu-

ture. Improving self confidence and self worth and instilling moral and personal values in youth who have been victims of neglect, abuse, or violence is the tremendous everyday challenge of the Brothers of Holy Cross and the many men and women who join with them in providing skills and support to troubled youth and their families.

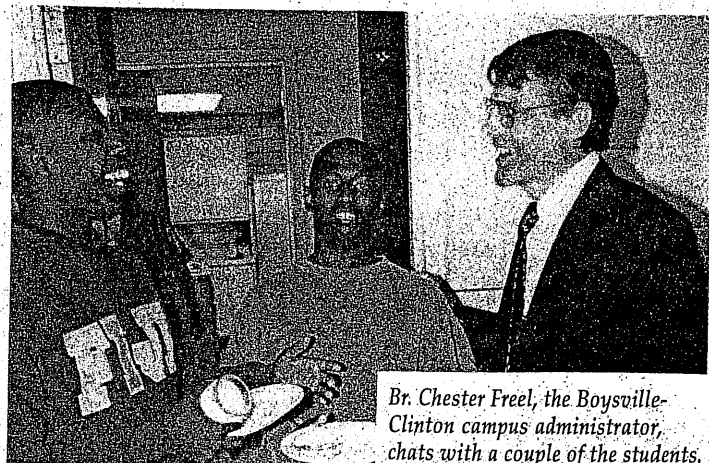
In the classroom, on the job, at therapy, around the dinner table, the Brothers of Holy Cross, in cooperation with co-workers, agencies, and local capacities in the Boysville program. Br. Albin Kuzminski teaches a class in values and works with the students in reinforcing what goes on in academics and life. Br. Chester Freel is in charge of the



Br. Albin Kuzminski relates values and academics with everyday life.

Clinton campus and is assisted in various aspects of the justice systems work to help these troubled youth acquire the confidence and resources to begin again.

"Boysville offers the benefits of new experiences, new relationships, and the discovery of new ways to deal with everyday problems," says Br. Francis Boylan, executive director of Boysville since 1976. Nine other brothers assist in various



Br. Chester Freel, the Boysville-Clinton campus administrator, chats with a couple of the students.

program by Brs. Gerald Nettesheim, Thomas O'Malley, Charles Hill, James Kozak, Thomas Scheurer, and Donald Morrison. Br. Leonard Siwierka cooks and works with the residents at Moreau Center in Monroe, Michigan. Half the brothers involved at Boysville have been there for more than twenty years.

Holy Cross Center in Detroit has grown from an alternative school to a community center for all citizens living within a four-mile radius of the former St. Andrew's parish site in inner-city Detroit. The center includes services such as recreational sports programs, volunteer opportunities for neighbors to help one another, pasto-

ral ministry services, help with education and job preparation, and collaboration with other area service providers, according to Br. Francis. By providing services close to home and by developing community partnerships with other organizations in the area, the Holy Cross Center helps form a network of people who care about each other and seek the resources they need to better nurture their families.

—Br. Charles Gregg, C.S.C.



Holy Cross Village Plan Launched

Skilled Care Facility Construction on Schedule

With the turn of a shovel and a sprinkling of holy water, the Brothers of Holy Cross launched their first phase of a five-year expansion plan which will create Holy Cross Village on the grounds of the Brothers' Center at Notre Dame.

Dujarie House residents and other Brothers from the Notre Dame area gathered outside Dujarie House for the groundbreaking.

Father Ken Grabner, CSC, chaplain at the Brothers' Center and Dujarie House, blessed the ground and asked God's blessing for the safety of those who work on the project.

"We see Dujarie House, our skilled care facility, as the focal point of our expansion," said Br. William Geenen, CSC, provincial. "It is an integral part of our larger plan for a residence community with social, health, spiritual, and educational offerings in which each person is an active participant in the living, praying, and service community."

Construction of the new wing providing ten patient rooms, a nursing station and lounge, plus major renovation of the existing facility, began in early December. Work on the skilled care facility has been proceeding on schedule throughout the

winter months, according to Mike Nagy, Verkler, Inc., project manager. There have been no delays caused by the weather. With the completion of the roof, brickwork, windows, and pouring of the floor, workmen will soon begin framing the interior walls.

This first phase of the expansion project consists of approximately 7,000 square feet of new construction and 2,000 square feet of renovated space at Dujarie House. The new construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of May.

Some patients will then be moved into the new wing and the renovation will continue in the present patient rooms. The completion date for the entire project is mid-August.

Along with a significant gift from the United States Brothers' provinces, a major gift from the Murlan J. Murphy, Sr., family of Cleveland, Ohio, funds construction of the new wing and partial renovation of Dujarie House.

group of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

This year's gathering of the Council of the Congregation was held in Lima, Peru, where the district of the Eastern Province of Priests and Brothers conducts parochial and educational ministries.

The annual Council of the Congregation, usually held in one of the thirteen provinces or ten districts in which Holy Cross is present, is organized by the superior general and his council for the provincials and vice provincials, and some or all of the district superiors. The meeting carries forward action mandated by the general chapter meetings held every six years in the congregation, and serves as an ongoing source of advice to the superior general.



During the month of October, the general administration of the Congregation of Holy Cross conducted an official visit to the membership of the Midwest Province. This visit, required by constitution at least once during each superior general's six-year term, gives the general administration an opportunity to observe more closely the life and apostolic work of a particular province through interviews and meetings with individual religious and others associated with their mission.

The October visit was conducted by Fr. Claude Grou, superior general, and three of his assistants, Br. Patrick Sopher, Fr. Leo D'Souza and Br. Joel Giallanza. Nearly every Midwest Province member living in North America was individually visited.



Groundbreaking for the skilled care Dujarie House addition and renovation: (l. to r.) Br. Thomas Shaughnessy, director of Dujarie House; Br. Richard Gilman, provincial counselor; Br. William Geenen, provincial; Vernon Feather, representative of The Troyer Group, architects and planners; and Jim Lusk, president of Verkler, Inc., general contractors.

News at a Glance

At a dinner on December 18 marking the 75th anniversary of St. Charles Boys Home, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Br. Roy Smith spoke on behalf of the Brothers of Holy Cross who, as a community, administered, taught and

preferred at St. Charles from 1928 until 1990.

Br. Roy, South Bend regional director of Catholic Charities for the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese and former staff member at St. Charles, brought greetings from former directors Br. Lawrence Miller and Br. Joseph Berg, and from former administrator Br. James Newberry.

The dinner was sponsored by the board of directors of the boys' home and was held at the Simeon Center on campus.

From January 10-17, Br. William Geenen, provincial of the Midwest Province, attended a meeting of the leadership



Br. Lewis Bertrand Leimeister (seated, center) and relatives from Huron, Ohio, who attended his 100th birthday celebration.

Vitamins and Prayer Yield One Hundred Years

History was made on Thursday, November 30, when for the first time a Brother of Holy Cross reached 100 years of age. Br. Lewis Bertrand Leimeister, a resident at Dujarie House, celebrated his 100th birthday with a Mass and Open House attended by relatives and community members.

Raised on a farm near Huron, Ohio, Carl Leimeister arrived at Notre Dame in 1922 at the age of 26 and took the name Br. Lewis Bertrand. His older brother, Br. Fabian Leimeister, preceded him in the community by several years.

Br. Lewis Bertrand was a prefect at Holy Cross School in New Orleans and of the Minims (grade school boys) at Notre Dame before going to St. Charles Boys Home in Milwaukee. After that he was primarily involved in farming or gardening at various Holy Cross institutions, especially houses of formation. He spent over twenty years gardening and raising chickens at Dujarie Scholasticate at Notre Dame. During this period countless brothers had occasion to work in his garden, take care of chickens or gather eggs, and certainly be influenced by his generous doses of philosophy or homespun advice.

History and lore become fused when listening to or talking about Br. Lewis, one of the community's most colorful characters. Some say he is the farmer pointing up to the sky in the opening scene of the 1940 movie, *Knute Rockne, All American*. Br. Lewis himself claims that he helped save the University during the Depression by sending in the money received from having his boys at St. Charles pick up papers on the fairgrounds in Milwaukee.

A strong believer in vitamin and mineral therapy, he credits vitamins and minerals for his own good health and longevity. He takes no medications at the present time. "I know very well that if I hadn't been taking the vitamins and minerals, I would have been dead years and years ago," he asserts.

For the last five years Br. Lewis has lived at Dujarie House. He generally spends about eight hours each day in prayer in the chapel. "I used to work outside. Now I work inside, praying. I've gotten to where I am today only with the help of the Blessed Virgin. When I got weak and discouraged, she helped me, and still does."

Two Midwest Province members have recently completed their doctoral studies. Br. Phillip Smith, president and principal of Holy Trinity High School, Chicago, Illinois, was awarded a Doctor of Education degree on November 3 by Nova University after three years of work focusing on educational leadership with emphasis on curriculum design.

Br. Richard Gilman, president of Holy Cross Collège, Notre Dame, Indiana, received his doctorate of philosophy in educational administration from the University of Dayton on December 16. Br. Richard's area of specialization is also the direct application of educational theory to the practical arena of higher institutional life.



Br. Robert Mosher, long time teacher at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Garland, Texas, was recently the recipient of a diocesan award for excellence in teaching.

Already a well known counselor and author in the field of marriage and divorce, Br. James Greteman published an article recently in *The Catholic World* on qualities necessary for a successful marriage. He illustrates several stages through which a marriage passes, stages similar to those of other life processes.

Moreau Day Celebrated

Following a beautiful eucharistic liturgy in the St. Joseph Chapel at the Holy Cross Brothers Center on Friday, January 19, well over 250 religious from the women's and men's congregations of Holy Cross in the Notre Dame area enjoyed a festive supper in celebration of the occasion of the anniversary of the death of their venerable founder, Fr. Basil Anthony Moreau. Pictured here at the celebration is a typical table composed of candidates, seminarians, brothers, sisters and priests.



"When I first came to the United States in 1971, after graduating from St. Augustine's, I found my first year of college studies to be surprisingly easy. In calculus especially, Br. Frederick McGlynn and Br. Richard Gilman had prepared me well.

Touched by Holy Cross

Fluent in Complexity, Intimate with Simplicity

"On a visit to Ghana in August 1994, I visited Br. Frederick McGlynn. We sat on the balcony of the brothers' quarters overlooking the coconut palms and the Atlantic Ocean. Twenty-five years dissolved away as we reminisced about life at St. Augustine's School in the 1960's. Brother Frederick remembered our class well and noted that we were an unusual group—in his words, intellectual giants! Our worlds have been greatly enlarged by the Brothers of Holy Cross."

Reflections by Herbert G. Winful, distinguished scientist at the University of Michigan, recount the education and encouragement he received from Brothers of Holy Cross at St. Augustine's Secondary School in Ghana, West Africa. He came to the United States in 1971 to earn degrees at the Mas-



Herbert G. Winful

sachusetts Institute of Technology and his doctorate at the University of Southern California.

But Herbert Winful has never forgotten the influence of the Brothers of Holy Cross during his early years in Ghana. He writes: "I remember Sunday afternoons playing chess with Br. Eduardo Michalik. I learned a lot from these sessions; I learned to think several moves ahead, a skill that I should probably apply to my own life.

"Br. Philip Armstrong, he of the silver tongue and pen, I loved the way he wrote—crisp, tidy, and with a wry sense of humor. Lessons learned from Br. Philip are constantly put to good use as I teach my classes and make technical presentations in my field of research.

"When I first came to the United States in 1971, after graduating from St. Augustine's, I found my first year of college studies to be surprisingly easy. In calculus especially, Br. Frederick

McGlynn and Br. Richard Gilman had prepared me well. Br. Richard had an informal style and became a pal to many of us. Today my own interactions with my students are characterized by that same informality.

"Br. Chester Rachel was larger than life. The man had incredible energy and he knew how to get things done."

Professor Winful has published over 60 articles in the fields of optics and laser physics and holds two U.S. patents. The recipient of many honors, *The University Record* of the University of Michigan reported in October 1994: "Outstanding lecturer and research scientist, mentor, and friend to his students and to his faculty colleagues alike, Herbert Winful exemplifies the truly effective educator. A specialist in nonlinear optics and quantum electronics, he understands that in teaching one must not only be fluent in the complexity of the subject matter, but must also be intimate with its simplicity."

A long way from Ghana to Ann Arbor, but Herbert Winful's life and his own teaching style have been greatly affected by his association with the Brothers of Holy Cross in Ghana.

—Br. Francis Englert, C.S.C.





Person to Person

—A Word from Brother Geenen

Br. William Geenen

I am pleased with the response we have received to the first issue of *Brothers*. I want to thank those of you who contacted us through notes or gifts. We are encouraged to continue trying to make of this publication a clear expression of who we are as brothers and of our mission today.

The brotherhood is a way of life that is not always understood in society, even in the Church. Those readers who have at some point been touched by Holy Cross—as you will see highlighted in each edition of *Brothers*—will know something of who we are. As our masthead intimates, we are brothers for others. Our mission is to be of service to people through a variety of ministries that respond to today's needs. The small number of brothers—as contrasted with sisters and priests—suggests rightly that we must rely on many others to help us in our mission and ask them to be, actually, others for brothers. I want to invite you to consider along with us ways in which you can be involved directly or indirectly with the Brothers of Holy Cross in our mission. We welcome ideas and suggestions you may have, and ask that you share them with the brothers in your area or with us.

I recently returned from my first visit to our brothers' district in Ghana, West Africa. It was an exciting and eye-opening experience for me. Though I was well aware of the contributions of the brothers there, it took an on-site visit for me to appreciate fully their effort and success over the nearly forty years they have been in Ghana—and this despite the serious political and economic difficulties that have regularly impacted the country.

Among Ghanaian Church authorities, religious of other communities, school personnel and students, the brothers enjoy exceptionally high esteem as educators and as religious. They have accompanied the people during critical times. They have become an institutional presence in Ghana. They belong.

From what I witnessed, I believe that our mission in Ghana, as in the United States, is ripe for welcoming the involvement of lay volunteers of all ages. Persons recruited in the United States for short- or long-term volunteer work alongside the brothers could contribute significantly, I think, to the full scale mission projects being planned and undertaken by the whole Holy Cross family of brothers, sisters and priests in West Africa.

I solicit your prayers for our work not only in Africa, but also in Bangladesh and in Peru and Chile where I was also able recently to witness and appreciate the contribution of our religious. Our focus in this issue on the apostolic work of the Midwest Province outside North America reminds us of the missionary nature of our Church and of the obligation we personally share, as Jesus exemplified, to be people in mission.

—Br. William Geenen, C.S.C.,
Provincial



Br. Donald Stabrowski has been named Academic Vice President



of the University of Portland. He will begin his new position immediately following the 1995-1996 academic year. Br. Donald has been Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences as well as professor of political science at the Holy Cross sponsored university.



The Constitutions of Holy Cross call us "educators in the faith." These brothers are exercising their teaching ministry in new and bold ways—ways that Christ meant when he said, "When you do it for these, you do it for me."