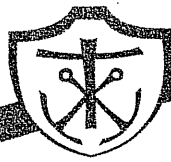


# Brothers



MIDWEST PROVINCE • NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

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## 27 Brothers Celebrate Jubilees Let the Ram's Horn Sound!

With the approach of the millennium, we find the word *jubilee* (Hebrew for ram's horn) conveying the biblical themes of forgiveness and the renewal of broken or interrupted relationships. It also denotes celebration, as announced in ancient times by sounding a ram's horn at the start of the jubilee year.

As brothers, celebration is our primary focus at jubilees.

We invite relatives, friends, and community to rejoice with us. However, when we mark the anniversary of our religious profession, we also become reflective and take the opportunity to reassess our relationships with others. In a spirit of renewal, we may move to re-establish ties between ourselves and others from whom we may, for whatever reason, have experi-

enced some degree of alienation. Jubilees are times for us to blow the ram's horn of celebration and renewal.

The year 1998 finds the Midwest Province marking the vow anniversary of 27 of its brothers, an unusually large group. Two brothers have been professed for 60 years, eight for 50 years, fifteen for 40 years, and two for 25 years. A popular exercise at jubilee time is to calculate the total number of years of vowed life and ministry the jubilarians have contributed to Holy Cross and those whom it serves. This jubilee class has witnessed prophetically to God's presence in the world through

fidelity to their vows for an incredible 1,170 years. Positive results must surely come from such dedication, as will be evident in the accounts that follow.

Birthdays are celebrated, and rightly so, though we do not take credit for having chosen the date on which we were born. On the other hand, the celebration of an anniversary of religious profession of vows marks a day chosen specifically by individuals in faithful response to the unique movement of God in their lives—as would of course be true for marriage and other vocational choices. Religious take justifiable pride in the longevity of their vocation, acknowledging the development of this chosen partnership over the years, one possible only with and because of the God to whom they made these vows. The celebration of their profession reminds and challenges us as brothers, but it also invites relatives, friends, clients and colleagues of the jubilarians to



*40 and 25 Year Jubilarians:*  
(l. to r., row 1) Brs. James Van Dyke, Donald Bailer, Don Fleishhacker, Walter Gluhm, and Robert Livernois; (row 2) James Bluma, Donald Schapker, Jerome Meyer, and John May; (row 3) James Leik, Thomas Scheurer, John Schuszler, Thomas Cunningham, and Charles Drevon; (row 4) Ronald Drahozal and Charles McBride.



*50 and 60 Year Jubilarians:*  
(l. to r.) Brs. William Gates, Walter Davenport, John Stout, Roland Driscoll, Donald Martin, Rex Hemel, Albert Kern, and James Linscott.

consider the meaning of that which is being celebrated.

All of us as brothers are reminded of our own anniversary of profession, of the call to which we at the time responded and have continued to respond in Holy Cross through the years on the strength of God's life within us—because no other source of motivation could engender perseverance. We are challenged by the fidelity of our brothers, especially the older men, to continuous openness to the voice of God in our daily lives as we are led toward an always more perfect response to the ongoing call that defines our vocation. It is not so much *where* these men have been or *what* they have done that counts; it is *who* they have become as religious, as brothers, that challenges us to assess how we too are and ought to be brothers to one another and to others.

At these celebrations, the wider Church—clergy and laity alike—are challenged to reflect on their fidelity to God as they have heard and answered the invitation specific to their own life vocation. The formal celebration recalls the essence of a jubilee year—the renewal of motives and relationships—and is by no means restricted to vowed religious.

The ram's horn sounds in 1998 for 27 individual Brothers of Holy Cross as the celebration of their anniversary of profession begins. Yet, it sounds too for all of us and reverberates through every corner of the jubilee context of preparation for the coming millennium. As we congratulate the 27 for their faithfulness and service, we at the same time allow ourselves to be challenged by their fidelity in community and ministry. We, too, hear the echoes of the ram's

horn summoning us to our own private jubilees and to all that they imply and demand of us.

—Br. Philip Armstrong, CSC

*The ram's horn sounds in 1998 for 27 individual Brothers of Holy Cross as the celebration of their anniversary of profession begins. Yet, it sounds too for all of us and reverberates through every corner of the jubilee context of preparation for the coming millennium.*

*Jubilarians who were graduates of CSC institutions prior to entrance:*

*Reitz Memorial High School, Evansville, IN.*

*Br. Rex Hennel*

*Br. Donald Schapker  
Cathedral High School,  
Indianapolis, IN.*

*Br. Walter Davenport  
St. Edward's University,  
Austin, TX.*

*Br. John Stout  
St. Edward High School,  
Lakewood, OH.*

*Br. John Schuszler  
Br. Jerome Meyer  
Catholic Central High School,  
(St. Mary Catholic Central HS),  
Monroe, MI.*

*Br. John May*

# 60 Years as Brothers

Br. Rex (Charles) Hennel, a native of Evansville, Ind., and a graduate of Reitz Memorial High School, celebrates 60 years of service this year. His ministries have included mission assignments, teaching, school administration, provincial administration, and serving as chancellor for a Ghanaian diocese. He was on the founding faculty that opened the Midwest Province's mission in Ghana, West Africa, 40 years ago. Elsewhere in this issue, Rex reflects on his recent visit to Ghana for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

As a 23-year-old recent graduate of Notre Dame, Rex was on his way to Bengal, India, at the time World War II broke out. When their ship stopped in the Philippines, Rex, along with five other Holy Cross brothers, sisters, and priests, became prisoners of war of the Japanese when they took over the Philippines.

Rex was in an internment camp with 2,000 other prisoners until they were liberated by American soldiers in February of 1945. During this period of over three years, Rex said: "I kept busy teaching the youngsters basketball, teaching the boys to serve Mass, tutoring, and cutting firewood for our stove."

Today Rex reflects: "It doesn't seem like 60 years. And though there have been many experiences, they seem to be a continuous flow, no one in particular commanding all my attention. They are a sum total of experiences which have made me what I am today."

Experienced he is: Rex was assistant headmaster at Notre Dame International School in Rome; superior and principal of Notre Dame High School in

Br. Rex Hennel



Biloxi, Miss.; superior and headmaster of St. John's Secondary School in Sekondi, Ghana; superior and headmaster at Gilmour Academy; chancellor of the Archdiocese of Cape Coast in Ghana; and several years on the Midwest Province provincial council.

Rex's sense of gratitude is reflected in a recent statement regarding his years in Holy Cross. "Never was I in need, whatever it might have been, that I did not find what I required for me in my superiors or fellow brothers. It has been a happy and growth-filled life, leading me closer to God. It has been a satisfying life in serving God's people, wherever I met them, and learning from time to time that my efforts for them were important and that they still remember them and how they affected their lives."



*continue →*

# Golden Jubilarians



Br. Roland Driscoll

was principal at the school in Biloxi, and at Cathedral in Indianapolis he taught and was athletic director for 19 years. He also taught at Msgr. Coyle High School in Taunton, Mass., Catholic Central High School in South Bend, Ind., and Bishop David High School. For many years he spent his summers as director of the Notre Dame Camp at Bankson Lake in Lawton, Mich. "Looking back over the years, I wonder how I and many other brothers did all that was assigned to us. Rising at 5 a.m., teaching five or six classes, supervising assorted activities in the afternoon and sometimes into the evening, preparing classes at night. It was more than a full day's work. But it was a wonderful way to serve God and man."

He has been ministering to his family since he retired from a long career of teaching and administration in 1980. He went to Knoxville to help care for his aging mother and has remained there to help with other family members. He has great admiration for the many talented Brothers "who, no doubt, greatly influenced me for the better. In retirement, one of the best things is not having around the clock duties." He greatly enjoys his Smoky Mountains and gardening.

Highly respected as an efficient teacher and administrator, **Br. James Linscott** spent many years in school administration at Reitz Memorial High School, and at St. Joseph High School, where he was principal for 10 years. After James' duty as principal at St. Joseph High School, he devoted much of his continuing active ministry to working with and serving the Hispanic population. He served on the faculty of an orphanage, *Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos* in Mexico for 5 years, and subse-

quently was administrator of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Milford, Ind., for 10 years.

He now serves on the staff at Columba Hall, where he assists brothers in getting to doctor's appointments and going on errands.



For over 20 of his 50 years in the community **Br. Albert Kern** has worked in the Province Business Office, performing a number of duties—among them keeping the car registrations and insurance up to date for all the cars used by province members. In addition to his work in the Province Business Office, Albert, a native of Detroit, has worked in the business offices at Sacred Heart Military Academy, Gilmour Academy, The Holy Cross School, New Orleans, La.; Holy Trinity High School; and St. Joseph Farm,

Granger, Ind. He was also the Student Aid Officer at Holy Cross College.



Having only two ministry assignments in his 50 years of religious life, **Br. William Gates** spent 10 years at Father Gibault School, and then 40 years in Ghana, West Africa. During his time in Ghana he has held many positions—teacher and counselor in schools, master of novices, rector of a seminary, director of the juniorate and scholasticate for those Ghanaians being incorporated into the community. In



Br. Albert Kern



Br. Walter Davenport



Br. James Linscott

Although he never had Abraham's burning bush, or even Reggie White's message from God that told him to play football for another year, **Br. Roland (John) Driscoll** can cite a number of things that he feels are more than coincidences in leading him to Holy Cross: "First and foremost was the influence of my parents who always put God first in their lives. My pastor, Father Grady, the Sisters of Mercy who taught me for twelve years, and others influenced my life. My grandmother frequently gave financial aid to the Brothers of Holy Cross' foreign missions in India. In May of 1938 when I took my sweetie to the Knoxville Catholic High School Jr.-Sr. Prom, I received as a favor a tie clasp with the letter 'R' on it, but it should have been a 'J,' a 'G,' or a 'D.' Maybe this foreshadowed my new name of Roland."

But maybe there is another coincidence. Roland was baptized John Graham Driscoll. He was named after his parish priest, who was a former Holy Cross Brother. "Maybe God destined me to replace Father Graham as a Brother of Holy Cross."

Roland, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., is a typical southern gentleman. He taught at schools in Taunton, Mass., South Bend, Ind., Indianapolis, Ind., Biloxi, Miss., and Louisville, Ky. He

by Father Dujarie, who was also the founder of the Brothers of St. Joseph (later Holy Cross). As a student at Cathedral, Walter remembers the very competent and dedicated faculty—among them Br. Kenan Judge and Br. Marius Wittner, and the principal, Br. Benedict Gervais. During his junior year, a presenta-

Catholic Central High School in Muskegon, Mich. He was also assistant superintendent of secondary schools in the Diocese of Cleveland. "I had forty-two blessed years in active ministry as a brother: thirteen in the classroom and twenty-nine in administration. I was blessed to work with some wonderful men and students." Two of the schools—Catholic Central /St. Mary Catholic Central, and Holy Cross High School—he was at three times. He spent fifteen years at River Grove, where he was the founding principal, and 14 years at Monroe, Mich.

Although Walter has worked in schools all of his religious life, the would-be farmer in him is drawn to the land and the simple life. He fondly recalls working with Br. Lewis Leimeister on the truck farm at Dujarie and harnessing and driving the horses there, often for him an alternative to "organized" athletics. In addition to his teaching or administrative duties Walter has always had a penchant for gardening.

For the last four years Walter has assisted at the Holy Cross School in New Orleans, La.



Having taught or administered at St. Francis School in Brooklyn, N.Y., St. Edward High School, Reitz Memorial High School, Holy Trinity High School, and Holy Cross High School, Br. Donald Martin is now retired and lives at the faculty residence at Holy Cross High School.

Donald also spent many of his summers as the director of the Gilmour Day Camp in Gates Mills, Oh.

A French teacher by profession, Donald has worked a number of summers as a guide for pilgrims at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. "I had the privilege of working with the priests, brothers, and sisters at the Oratory. Being with these members has increased my spiritual life and my devotion to St. Joseph. It is my hope that the many pilgrims with whom I have had contact might have 'caught' my enthusiasm for St. Joseph, the patron of the Brothers of Holy Cross."



After five years of military service, Br. John Harrington, a Chicago native, joined the Brothers of Holy Cross. His brother, Raymond, is also a member of the Midwest Province.

John taught at Holy Trinity High School, St. Edward High School, Holy Cross High School



Br. John Harrington



Br. Charles Hill

tion made by the late Br. Eymard Salzman convinced him to try the life of a brother.

Walter has taught or administered at Vincentian Institute in Albany, N.Y., St. Edward High School, Catholic Central High School/St. Mary Catholic Central High School, St. Joseph High School, Father Gibault School for Boys, Holy Cross High School, Holy Family School in Ashland, Ky., and Muskegon

reflecting on his ministry, William says: "If this is where the greatest need is, then that is where we need to be. It does not matter if we have scant resources for the task. We might think we have little in the way of the needed talent or resources to meet such enormous needs. I have learned over the years that there is no need for such pessimism. We take what we have and put it, little though it may be, at the disposal of the Lord."

William is well known throughout Ghana because of his influence on the many young men who have been under his care in his work and on hundreds of others who have come from all over Ghana to seek his assistance.



Br. Walter Davenport, a Cathedral High School graduate, recalls his early training and connection with Holy Cross. His grade school experience included being taught by the Sisters of Providence, who trace their origin to a group founded



Br. Donald Martin



Br. William Gates



Br. John Stout

in Flushing, N.Y., and Notre Dame High School in West Haven, Conn. He was then one of the first brothers to teach in Uganda, East Africa. After returning from the missions, he served at the Forever Learning Institute in South Bend, Ind., and then for a number of years did maintenance work at the Brothers Center and volunteer work at Dujarie House. John currently lives at the Helen Schubert Villa, where he continues to help with the Dujarie House patients. John says: "I consider myself blessed for fifty years as a Holy Cross Brother!"



For the past 25 years **Br. Charles Hill** has worked with the trophy manufacturing operation that students of Boyssville of Michigan operate. Charles' early career was spent in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), where he taught or administered for 14 years. He also taught at St. Edward High School before going to work with the trophy operation at Boyssville.

At the present time Charles is residing at Dujarie House, recuperating from some recent medical procedures.



"It all seems so simple, yet there have been many changes—in me, in the schools, and in the Church," says **Br. John Stout**, in his 46<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Reitz Memorial High School. In teaching literature and writing, John regularly encounters grandchildren of his earlier students at the Evansville school. For one year he was away from Reitz Memorial, serving on the faculty at Holy Trinity High School. He has also made his "summer home" at St. Edward High School, where he taught summer school for many years.

A native of Cairo, Ill., John became acquainted with Holy Cross while studying at St. Edward's University in Austin

Tex., using the GI Bill after serving in the Army Air Corps. "I had thought of a teaching career. I was impressed by the brothers as teachers, and thought this might be my vocation also. I consider myself unusually blessed in being chosen for a life in Holy Cross, and pray daily that I can continue to do what the Lord wants from me."



A native of Cedar Rapids, Ia., **Br. Ronald Drahozal** has spent almost 36 of his 40 years in Holy Cross in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). During his time there he has ministered at the various schools, been involved in the formation of young religious, and for the past several years he has worked with drug addicts. Ronald says: "A birthday card I received from my sister-in-law years ago had an interesting quotation on it from Emerson: 'Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.' This quote seems to sum up my life in Holy Cross. As a teacher of English, director of a spiritual development program for college seminarians, working with Bengali young men wishing to enter Holy Cross, and now, founding the first two drug rehabilitation centers in all of Bangladesh—all of these ministries have allowed me to leave a trail in Bangladesh and Holy Cross. An offshoot of our main rehabilitation programs has been a children's program for pre- and young teenage addicts/drug abusers. We are also developing a harm reduction program for high-risk youngsters living in the midst of those using and selling all sorts of drugs in the nearby colony. Some of the youngsters from there who play football/soccer with us do not have much more than the clothes on their backs but they are the

# Forty Years of Service

happiest people I know.

"As I look back over the 40 years in Holy Cross, my vocation has been to follow Christ in ways that I could not have planned for or would not have had the courage and confidence to consider, much less plan for. I haven't gone down a lot of safe paths, but I hope to continue to realize that all the trails I have left are actually the work of God working through me and the support of my Holy Cross community."



"Being in an archdiocesan chancery for the past 18 years," says **Br. Charles McBride**, "I have seen how the vocation crisis has impacted us as a diocese here. The same can be seen in the province. In both cases we have been able to adjust and empower lay men and women to take a much more active role in the life and spirit of the Church."

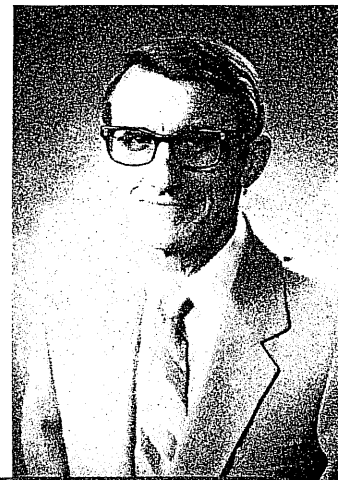


*Br. Charles McBride*

Charles is the Director of Communications for the Archdiocese of Anchorage, Alaska. Prior to going to Alaska, Charles taught at Boyssville of Michigan, Archbishop Hoban High School, and Holy Cross High School. In Akron and River Grove he was

also involved in public relations work for the schools. He was also assistant rector of Morrissey Hall and Assistant Director of Student Activities at Notre Dame, working with student publications.

*Br. Ronald Drahozal*



*Br. Charles Drevon*



*Br. Richard Johnson*

Charles says, "My association with the University of Notre Dame Sports Information Department as a photographer since 1969 has been professionally rewarding. I have enjoyed many of the great moments in Irish sports history over the past 30 years."

Charles enjoys hobbies of fishing, gardening, photography, cooking, and collecting art. "Although separated by many miles from most province members, I have always felt their support and prayers. These past 40 years have given me a great opportunity for spirituality, brotherhood, and professional achievement."



**Br. Charles Drevon** has taught at Holy Trinity High School, Cathedral High School, Holy Cross High School, and at Holy Cross College. During his 21 years at Holy Cross in River Grove he was, at various times, math and physics teacher, assistant principal, religious superior, and principal.

As computers started to make their way into business and education, Charles became interested in computer programming and developed a program for student scheduling which was used by several schools. Charles currently is the Director of Campus Technology at Holy Cross College and system administrator of the campus network. In addition to working with the students and faculty at the College, Charles provides information, advice, and some real hands-on assistance to the brothers in the Notre Dame area who are trying to learn the intricacies of using the computer, especially the Internet and e-mail.

Charles, a native of Flint, Mich., says: "I was inspired by many along the way. I have enjoyed the past 40 years as a Brother of Holy Cross."



"Teaching and office staff work have been the vehicles which the Lord has given to me to reach out to others and for Him to come to me. I have always been somewhat surprised in the ways that I see God working in my life," says **Br. Richard Johnson**.

Richard has taught at Archbishop Hoban High School, Reitz Memorial High School, Gilmour Academy, Bishop David High School, Holy Cross College, St. Augustine's College, Cape Coast, Ghana, and St. Joseph High School in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Richard is currently on the faculty at St. John's Secondary School in Sekondi, Ghana.

"I have met so many people all over the world who have problems that make any of mine insignificant. Whether it was teaching math, teaching the deaf, visiting a sickle cell patient in the hospital, building sets for plays, ice skating with students, or working on computers in the province business office, I have met many people who have more hope and faith in the Lord than I. In our Mission Statement we say we are to be people who bring hope to others but often it is the other way around. I find myself being sustained by the hope and faith of others."



A co-founder of Holy Cross College, **Br. James Leik** has held many positions at the college and with Br. John Driscoll, the founding president, guided the college's growth and financial stability. James continues at the college as an Associate Professor of Accounting, Business Law, and Economics. He began his ministry at the two year liberal arts college, initially called Holy Cross Junior College, in 1967. Prior to that assignment he had

taught at St. Joseph's High School, Archbishop Hoban High School, Cathedral High School, and Holy Cross High School. In addition to teaching at Holy Cross College, James was, at various times, Bookstore Manager, Director of Financial Aid, Corporate Treasurer, Director of Institutional Advancement, and upon the death of co-founder Br. John Driscoll in 1987, Acting President for one academic year.



*Br. James Leik*

A native of Portland, Mich., and a former staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force with duties in the U.S. and Japan, James has performed the countless duties of establishing Holy Cross College with conscientious thoroughness. He developed and implemented the accounting system and all of the related areas of fiscal management. He was also responsible for the initial development and implementation of research and planning, marketing, public relations, the alumni organization program, recruitment and related supportive activities.

"In all of my ministry I have merely tried to heed or follow Divine Providence," says James.



"When I was being discharged from the Army in 1957, I prayed and tried to discern what to do with my life. I responded to an ad in *Our Sunday Visitor* and eventually met Br. Eymard Salzman, the vocation director, and visited the Brothers at Notre Dame. I was convinced that Holy Cross would be the answer to my prayers," says **Br. Walter Gluhm**, a Hamilton, Oh., native.

During Walter's 40 years he has been a clerk in the Notre Dame Post Office, taught and prefectured at St. Charles Boys Home, Boyssville of Michigan, St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend, Ind., and St. Barnabas School in Louisville, Ky., where



*Br. Walter Gluhm*

he was also religious superior of the brothers serving at Bishop David High School. In 1991 Walter joined an interprovince ministry team established in Valdosta, Ga. At present he is a pastoral assistant at St. Mary's Church in Nashville, Ga.

"Forty years have gone very fast. Being involved in many ministries throughout the U.S., and living in a community atmosphere have been positive features of religious life. There were good times, bad times, but through it all the support of the community where I lived was a real blessing," says Walter.



Br. John Schuszler, a native of Cleveland and a graduate of St. Edward High School, has combined both teaching duties and facility maintenance through most of his religious life. He previously taught at Archbishop Hoban High School, Fr. Gibault School for Boys, the Antoinette Tubman Child Welfare Center in Monrovia, Liberia, St. Joseph School of Industrial Trades in Dhaka, Bangladesh, LeMans Academy, St. Catherine School in Cleveland, Oh., and Holy Trinity High School, where he has been for the last 12 years.



John has been able to combine his training in industrial arts by teaching drafting, shop, and mechanical drawing, but has always lent a hand with the school maintenance. "Actually, doing God's will for His glory and our happiness makes for meeting a nice person," has been one of John's operating principles in ministering to others, whether it was in the classroom or replacing light bulbs.

Br. John May is currently the Director of Planning for Holy Cross Village, editor of this newsletter, *Brothers*, and an associate in the province development office. He is the province liaison with architects and contractors and has selected furniture and furnishings for the

new buildings on the Holy Cross Village campus.

"All of my ministries—from teaching English, journalism,



Br. John May

and chorus, to administration as business manager, treasurer, dean of student affairs, assistant principal, and now my work at Holy Cross Village—have been challenging and rewarding.

"My involvement with a number of programs that were being initiated in schools or in the province has been especially challenging. I was on the founding faculty at Holy Cross High School, and was likewise a pioneer on the faculty of Bishop David High School, when the brothers assumed the administration of that school. During my time at Archbishop Hoban High School and at Gilmour Academy I was involved in the planning and implementation of the change from all-boys schools to coeducation in both of the schools. Being the administrative team member responsible for the development of the Gilmour Academy Montessori and Lower School programs was another stimulating experience. Needless to say, my current work in the development office, editing the newsletter, and Director of Planning for Holy Cross Village puts me in another pioneering experience."

A native of Monroe, Mich.,

and a graduate of Catholic Central High School there, John values and appreciates the continued support of his religious community, his family, and the people with whom and to whom he has ministered over the past 40 years. He especially recalls the contributions and influence of his parents and family, and his superiors in formation and in early religious life, namely, Br. Gerontius McCarthy, Br. James Moroney, Br. Walter Davenport, and Br. Dominic Elder.



Br. James Bluma, a Green Bay, Wisc. native, had been in the Marine Corps and had a college degree in accounting before entering Holy Cross. Immediately after the completion of the novitiate he began his teaching career at St. Joseph High School, then at Holy Trinity High School. At Holy Trinity he also became an assistant principal and fulfilled a similar role at Archbishop Hoban High School. He was then appointed principal at Reitz Memorial High School, where he spent 14 years. Most recently James has been an administrator at Holy Cross College, from which he retired as Dean of Student Affairs on June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. He originally came to Holy Cross College to guide the school



Br. James Bluma

through its initial self-study for regional accreditation and two subsequent self-studies for the North Central Association. He has also been involved in student activities, student government, and the establishment of the residency program at Holy Cross College.

"It has been an interesting trip as I look back on my own growth and development in the religious life. The willingness to respond to a call has enabled me to engage in apostolic works that I might not have selected for myself. At times the religious community invites one to take on a new position and new responsibilities which stretch our talents and enable us to grow and develop in our personal lives. As men of faith, we take on new positions and responsibilities with a trust that God will provide us with the necessary means to accomplish our goals."

During the coming year James will enjoy a sabbatical for relaxation and renewal.





Br. Thomas Scheurer



Br. Jerome Meyer

Br. Don Fleischhacker hails from Chicago, Ill., and for the past 22 years has lived and worked in the Chicago area. Currently Don is Case Management Director of the Marquard Center, a part of the Franciscan Outreach Association in Chicago.

"As I help our guests, I realize that each is unique but that all are in need. Much of my time is spent listening to them about their own situation and helping them contact agencies that can help them. Examples of their need are: finding housing or shelter, work and job opportunities, food, clothing, legal assistance, furniture, alcohol or drug abuse programs, AIDS assistance."

Prior to his work with the Franciscan Outreach Ministry, Don taught and prefectured at Fr. Gibault School for Boys, served on the staff at the Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Ind., taught at Bethlehem Catholic High School in Bethlehem, Penn., LeMans Academy, Cardinal Mooney in Rochester, N.Y., Holy Cross High School, and Holy Trinity High School. Don is also a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knight of Columbus, a member of the Chicago Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, and on the Board of Directors of San Jose Obrero Mission in Chicago, Ill.

Of his present ministry Don says: "It is overwhelmingly humbling how trusting these men and women are with their private lives. Being able to share their inner secrets with someone is probably one of their greatest unfulfilled needs. Their sad stories are very painful for them. Every day I pray that I may show human compassion to them and recall how Our Lord disguises himself in the homeless and afflicted."



A native of Mankato, Minn., Br. Thomas Scheurer has spent most of his religious career as a teacher of shop and industrial arts along with a good amount of school maintenance on the side. He was on the staff at Gibault School for Boys, Boyssville of Michigan, Holy Cross High School, Archbishop Hoban High School, and St.

Edward High School. He is currently on the staff at Boyssville of Michigan. In 1990 he was a member of a group who went to the Grand Bay Primary and Secondary School in Dominica, West Indies.



Br. Donald Schapker

Br. Donald Schapker, a native of Evansville, Ind., and a graduate of Reitz Memorial High School there, worked for 31 years in the Notre Dame Post Office before retiring from that position in 1994. Since that time he has worked on the mailings at the Notre Dame Law School's NITA (National Institute for Trial Advocacy). He has also given assistance to the group of volunteers who process the mailing for this newsletter, **Brothers**.

Prior to his work at the Notre Dame Post Office, Donald was on the staff at Sacred Heart Military Academy in Watertown, Wisc., and the Ave Maria Press at Notre Dame.



"I have been blessed to be able to experience God's love through the lives and examples of great men and women of faith. My parents were the people who nurtured within me the concept of love and service to others, and of deep faith in God," says Br. Jerome Meyer. "The Sisters of St. Joseph helped

this faith to grow and the Brothers of Holy Cross challenged that commitment to blossom."

Jerome is currently the Rector of Knott Hall at the University of Notre Dame. He began this new ministry one year ago after 25 years of math teaching, attendance office work, bus driving, serving as community director, and other associated duties at St. Edward High School, his alma mater.

In addition to teaching at St. Edward High School, Jerome also taught at Archbishop Hoban High School and Sacred Heart Military Academy. Now adjusting to the life of a college hall rector, Jerome works with his resident assistants, provides leadership in the operation of the hall, and is learning to adjust his daily routine from a day schedule to a nighttime one.



"I feel that the prompting of the Holy Spirit has led me to my present ministry as Chaplain at the Los Angeles Men's Central Jail and its 7,500 inmates and staff," says Br. Thomas Cunningham. "Although I enjoyed my years of teaching, it was not until I began to work outside the community that I felt a sense of accomplishing something that made a difference in peoples' lives. I thank God every day for the opportunity that



Br. Thomas Cunningham



# Silver Jubilarians



*Br. Robert Livernois*

has also ministered at LeMans Academy, Gabriel Richard High School in Riverview, Mich., St. Joseph High School, and Gilmour Academy. Br. Richard Gilman, president of Holy Cross College, has recently appointed Bob as Dean of Student Life at the college. With his experience in residential life programs, student government, and counseling, Bob will bring enthusiasm, talent, and experience to this important position. Says Gilman, "He (Livernois) has a solid and known reputation for student-centered service."

Not only is Bob fondly remembered by those with and to whom he has ministered over the last 25 years, but he also maintains close relationships with many former colleagues and students. Says one brother: "He has an incredible capacity for getting people organized and getting things done. He seems to be happiest when working with others. He brings out the best in others. I guess that's why he is such a great educator in the true sense of that word."

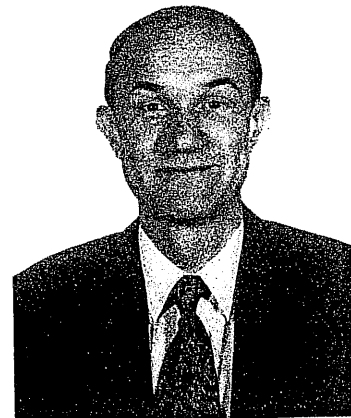


Br. James Van Dyke is an attorney in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chicago, Ill., where he has ministered for the past 11 years. "Holy Cross celebrates that there are many gifts,

but one Lord who bestows the gifts, and requires us to develop the gifts received, at the same time supporting us in developing these gifts. Joined together we can accomplish more than we ever could alone."

James' work as an attorney is primarily with the poor who cannot afford legal assistance in their need. His early years were spent in education—at St. Charles Boys Home and Holy Trinity High School. Recognizing the need for legal assistance among the poor, James studied for a law degree at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago and received his degree in 1987.

James acknowledges his brothers' support in his direct service with the poor and that his current service is an extension of both his brotherhood and the development of the talents he has been given by God and allowed to broaden because of this community support. He says, "Being a brother means being a part of a community that frankly and openly admits it is in a time of transition, but remains committed to discerning and living out the will of the Lord in the world."



*Br. James Van Dyke*

the provincial treasurer for a period of 11 years in the late 60's and into the 70's. He became provincial treasurer again in 1994.

"Thanks to my parents and to Holy Cross, I have had 40 great years in the community. I pray daily for God's grace to keep me going and growing," says Donald.

In addition to his work as provincial treasurer, Donald taught at St. Joseph High School, Holy Cross High School, and was the treasurer at Holy Trinity High School. For 15 years he had various positions at Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills, Cal., where he was an internal auditor, controller, and/or director of financial projects. Since 1993 he has been controller at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, Cal., duties which he performs in addition to his work through faxes and e-mail as the Midwest Province Steward.



"I think the role of the brother in the Church is often misunderstood and ill-defined. For me, the personal contact, being with people, is what gives meaning to my vocation as a brother," says Br. Robert Livernois, serving in his seventh and final year as principal at St. Mary Catholic Central. "The parable of the talents is my favorite scripture passage because I think it sums up my vocation as a Holy Cross Brother. It inspires me to give back what God has given to me. Because I have been given a very loving family and a loving community, I have been able to develop my talents and skills to do the will of God and offer to others what I have been given."

In addition to ministering at St. Mary Catholic Central, Bob

Br. Thomas Moser and other provincial administrations allowed me to devote my ministry to persons infected and affected with HIV/AIDS in Washington, D.C., New Jersey, Utah, and California. In addition to my work at L.A. Men's Central Jail, I have a monthly prayer group for persons infected or affected with HIV/AIDS.

"A year ago I was very pleased with the response which I got from the Holy Cross Brothers' schools when I asked them to help with the purchase of Bibles for the inmates. The overwhelming response of schools and students impressed the prison chaplains and helped in providing a spiritual resource for the inmates."

Previously Thomas taught at St. Edward High School, Catholic Central High School, St. Joseph High School, and Holy Trinity High School.

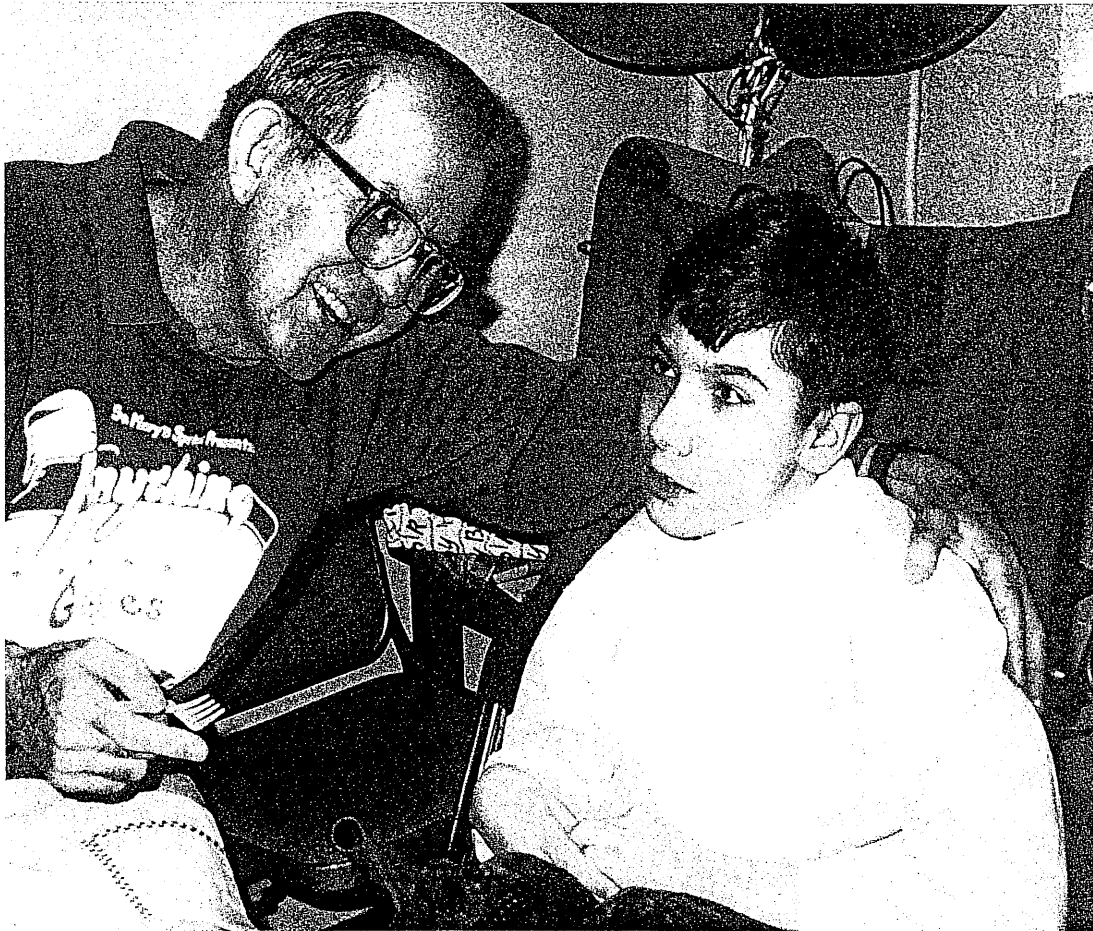
"In my current ministry I feel that as a brother I can give witness of the love of Christ and represent 'the Church' while not being 'the Church' because so many have had past difficulties with the 'official Church' and really want very little to do with it."



Br. Donald Bailer, a Chicagoan transplanted to the Los Angeles area, is at the present time provincial steward (treasurer) for a second time. He was



*Br. Donald Bailer*



*Br. Raymond Papenfuss and Matthew Cook*

## Matthew finds "Home" at Bethphage

For 28 years Br. Raymond Papenfuss lived and carried out God's will for his life in Africa helping those less fortunate. Upon returning to the United States in 1987, he began volunteering at Northern Indiana State Developmental Center (NISDC), a facility for children with disabilities.

This is where Raymond met Matthew, and his work began with Matt and advocating for his rights. Matt was born with encephalocele, a condition where the brain is outside of the skull. The optic nerve was damaged and Matt is partially paralyzed

on the right side, among other difficulties. When the two met in 1987, Matt was five years old and in a body cast following surgery on his hips and knees.

The employees of NISDC weren't giving Matt the individualized care he needed to make a strong recovery. That's when Raymond decided to do all the physical therapy on Matt himself, after learning what kind of treatment was needed. Raymond visited Matt every day for the next several years. During this time they would go on walks and visit the mall. Matt really enjoyed the interaction

with others. He was 12 years old when he said his first word, "car." Matt quickly learned to say "no" upon arriving at NISDC after returning from a Sunday trip to the mall.

His years with Raymond proved to be invaluable to Matt's development. Soon it seemed that Matt had outgrown NISDC and there was nothing left for them to do for him. Raymond decided to get him out of NISDC and into a group home. After two years of applying for Medicaid and state waivers, the facility where Matt was on the waiting list suddenly wouldn't accept

him. Very angry and discouraged, Raymond concluded, "This just means that God is going to find him a better place."

Last June, at age 15, Matt moved into a four-bed home with three other men. Now when he and Raymond return from Sunday trips to the mall he says, "Home."

Now that Matt is older and in a home setting, Raymond feels that he can begin to slowly withdraw from Matt, visiting only three times per week, as Matt learns about feeling safe around others.

Br. Raymond Papenfuss is currently the Mission Promoter for the District of West Africa for the Brothers of Holy Cross.

—reprinted from *Eye on Indiana*

# Br. Rex Hennel Reflects

## Thoughts on Being in Ghana for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

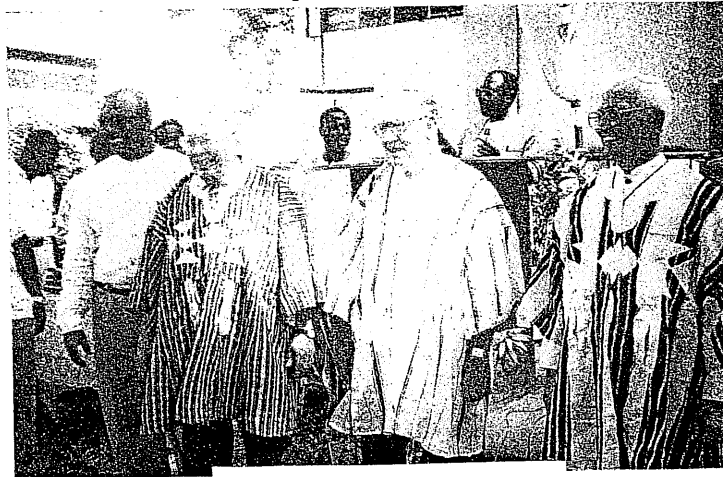
Br. Rex Hennel, one of the first three brothers to arrive in Ghana in 1957 to assume administration and staffing of St. John's School, Sekondi, traveled in mid-November to Ghana and spent two weeks helping the brothers of the District of West Africa and wellwishers celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the coming of the brothers. Upon his return, Br. Rex shared several insights regarding the community and the institutions in Ghana.

First of all, Br. Rex felt his belief in the positive future for the brothers in Ghana was enhanced. The leadership is strong, but the enthusiastic participation of all the brothers in sharing responsibility for their future in mission is a highlight substantiating that belief. This factor is further augmented by the spirit created at St. John's School with the coming of a new headmaster who is seeking actively to recruit the assistance of the "Old Boys," or alumni, in helping return the school to the level of influence and effectiveness it enjoyed in earlier times.

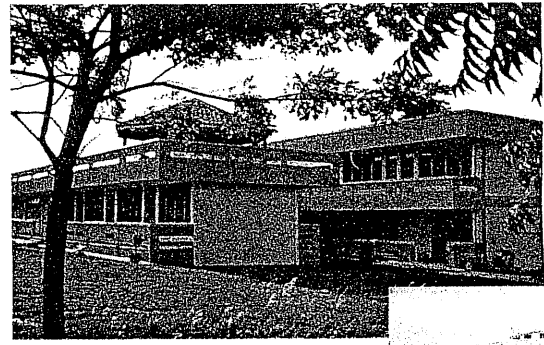
Seeing for the first time the four buildings comprising the District Centre at Brafuyaw, near Cape Coast, Br. Rex was very much impressed. He found the permanent presence of Holy Cross as community and as apostolic energy symbolized strongly through its district administration headquarters and the Continuing Formation Center. The latter is a facility built to house programs of ongoing Catholic formation for religious and laity alike, and staffed by Holy Cross religious, among others. All the buildings, Br. Rex said, are unique, beautiful (en-

hanced by exquisite landscaping), well designed, and practical. Still, among them the simple but magnificent chapel is clearly the "center of the Centre" as well as the visible confirmation of the spiritual base on which the presence of Holy Cross rests. The Brafuyaw neighborhood and community life is shared with the Jesuits and the O.L.A. (Our Lady of Apostles) Sisters, who both have houses for training religious there. Mass is celebrated at the Centre chapel for everyone.

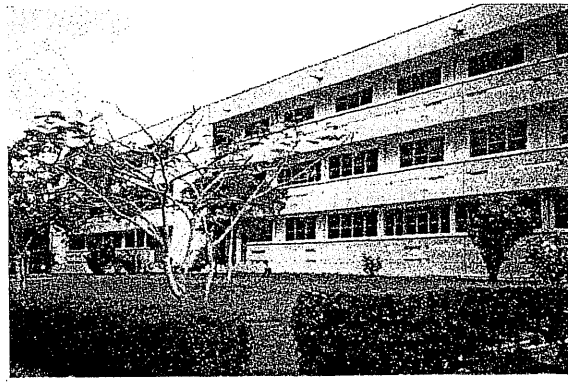
Of course there was a difference between getting off the plane in Accra in November of 1997 and disembarking from a ship at Takoradi Harbor in 1957, even though the changes were mitigated by the fact that Br. Rex had spent many years in Ghana after his arrival. He even returned for a lengthy tour in the mid-seventies and again in the early eighties. But he did note the development of various properties, especially those of the Church and its programs for evangelization, the clear consciousness of the importance of religious vocations and the recruitment of young men for the brotherhood, and the impressive character and enthusiasm for community and mission exhibited by all the indigenous brothers in Holy Cross. What also had great impact for Br. Rex was the tremendous welcome given the visiting brothers at their arrival in November and the sincere gratitude and respect shown so clearly by the "Old Boys" for the brothers and the education for life the brothers had given them so many years ago.



*The three original Brothers in Ghana are shown at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Holy Cross in West Africa. (l. to r.) Br. Donald Allen, Br. Rex Hennel, and Br. Eduardo Michalik.*



*The Holy Cross Centre in Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa, the home of the District Administration and Continuing Formation Centres.*



*continue →*

Br. Rex felt it was extremely important to have celebrated this occasion, both for the brothers in Ghana, expatriates and indigenous alike, but equally for those who returned from the U.S. to participate. Besides Br. Rex, there were Brs. Eduardo Michalik and Donald Allen, who shared with Br. Rex the honor of being the first brothers in Ghana; and Br. Raymond Papenfuss, first district superior and current mission promoter for West Africa. An article written by an "Old Boy" of St. John's about the anniversary and the brothers appeared in one of the national newspapers and was highly complimentary of what the brothers have accomplished not only for the schools and in other works, but for the country as a whole. The article was typical of often repeated affirmations of exactly the same sentiments everywhere the visitors went. The occasion was a confirmation of the wisdom and power of the faith and hope exhibited by Br. Donatus Schmitz and his provincial council in the mid-fifties as they pondered invitations and encouragement to respond to the needs of the Church in West Africa.

An African proverb, "God is there," expresses the belief that everywhere and under all circumstances in our lives God can be found. There is little doubt that "Holy Cross is there" has also assumed the nature of an enduring proverb in Ghana.

-Br. Philip Armstrong, CSC

## Brother Lewis Bertrand Leimeister

On June 12th, less than two weeks before he would celebrate his 75th anniversary as a brother, **Br. Lewis Bertrand Leimeister** died at 102. He had been the oldest living member of the Congregation of Holy Cross.



Br. Lewis Leimeister

Carl Leimeister, a farmer from a large family from Huron, Oh., entered Holy Cross at the age of 26, and received the religious name Br. Lewis Bertrand. His brother, Br. Fabian Leimeister, had preceded him in the community by a few years. Br. Lewis' life was dedicated to those things he knew most about—prayer, farming, gardening, and vitamins. Br. Lewis spent over 40 years as farm manager at community houses in Portland, Or., Rolling Prairie, Ind., Watertown, Wisc., and Notre Dame. For over 20 years he managed the garden at Dujarie Hall, the scholasticate for brothers studying at Notre Dame. Over these years, countless brothers were involved with gathering eggs, killing chickens, picking strawberries, raspberries, green beans, asparagus, and all other kinds of garden vegetables. For many city-bred brothers, this was an initiation

to gardening or caring for chickens, but Lewie's instructions were clear and commanding. Many brothers reminisce about Lewie's "chicken kills" and mammoth garden crops, and fondly recall his advocacy of natural foods and vitamins, which he credited for his longevity.

In addition to his work as a farmer, Lewis also had been a prefect at Notre Dame for the minims (grade schoolers), and at Holy Cross in New Orleans and St. Charles Boys Home in Milwaukee.

For the last six years he lived at the skilled care facility, Dujarie House, where he spent many hours a day in the chapel. He liked to spin some colorful stories that are probably a combination of history and lore. He will be fondly remembered by all who had the chance to hear about how he once saved Notre Dame, and how he appeared in the movie "Knut Rockne, All American."



## Brother Sixtus Perzynski

A farmer all his life, a native of Foley, Minn., **Br. Sixtus Perzynski** died on May 26<sup>th</sup> at Dujarie House, Notre Dame. He had been in poor health for the past several months. He operated the farm at Silver Lake Farm in Rolling Prairie, Ind., for many years and in his later years he worked on landscaping and gardens at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, Cal. As Br. Bernard Donahue said in the eulogy, "I think everyone who knew Sixtus realizes that we had the privilege of knowing and associating with one of the truly great men of our community. It's very evident, of course, that Sixtus' greatness didn't lie in great

accomplishments as the world sees great accomplishments. This is not to say that what Sixtus did in his lifetime as a Holy Cross Brother was small or insignificant, only that it was done so superbly well that it was rather taken for granted, or, at best, done so competently and quietly that those unfamiliar with that line of work didn't appreciate the enormous effort that went into it or the remarkable knowledge needed to do it well.

"I recall one Sunday, perhaps 35 years ago, I went for a walk at Silver Lake Farm with Sixtus. He explained the various chemical compounds in the soil, why some crops were grown here and not there, what the yield should be, what the market price would be, and so on. He gave me an eye-opening education that day, and I remember clearly thinking, 'This guy knows more about farming than I'll ever know about anything.'

"What can we say about Sixtus in a world that preaches self-aggrandizement, chest-thumping and self-importance? I believe he was what we all set out to be—the quintessential sacrament signifying the presence of Christ in this world and a prophet pointing out to everyone he met the supreme value of the next."



## Brother Ramon Purzycki

In an article written about Br. Ramon Purzycki at the time of his retirement as postmaster at Notre Dame, the author described him as "quiet and genial" and "following in an indefatigable line of Brother-postmasters stretching right back to Father Sorin, founder of the university and its first postmaster (1851)."

A native of Erie, Pa., Br. Ramon Purzycki died at Dujarie House on June 1. Ramon's entire religious life was spent ministering on the campus at the University of Notre Dame. After working part-time for a year in the Notre Dame Bookstore, he began working at the Notre Dame Post Office in 1944 and continued there for 34 years, retiring in 1978 as postmaster. After that, Ramon worked another 14 years at the Notre Dame Bookstore. During all of these years he lived at Columba Hall on the campus.

Brother Ramon and his fellow brothers in the post office saw their often tedious work as part of the community's apostolate, a service to people, and a means of witnessing to the presence of God. May he rest in peace!

# St. Edward High Honors Nettleton

Br. Bennet Nettleton was recently honored for his 45 years of service to St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Oh. Bennet has served under every principal in the history of the school, seen duty in almost every corner of the building, and is legendary for his care and concern for students. He is a world history teacher and curator of his classroom museum, which he affectionately tells people is his "hobby out of control." The artifacts don't sit on the shelves as museum pieces; they are passed around as pieces of history to be examined.

Bennet attends many athletic and fine arts events, watching and encouraging the students to achieve in all that they do.

Another St. Edward faculty member, Mr. James Nieberding, was the recipient of the John Carroll University Alumni Educator Award. He is a 1952 graduate of John Carroll and has taught at St. Edward since 1955.

Br. Bennet and Jim Nieberding know most of the St. Edward graduates and had many of them in classes over their combined 83 years of teaching at the school.

## Rotsaert Named to Advisory Board

In the fourth edition of the *Collegiate English Handbook*, published by the Collegiate Press, Br. Frank Rotsaert is listed as one of the Advisory Board members for the textbook. Frank used the text in his composition classes at Siena Heights College in Adrian, Mich., and submitted his and his students' responses to the editors for the 1998 edition.

Three articles by Br. Frank Rotsaert have been accepted for

publication in the forthcoming encyclopedia, *An Encyclopedia of American Literature of the Sea and the Great Lakes*, to be published by Greenwood Press, Westport, Conn. Frank wrote entries on the authors William Taylor Adams (pseudonym of Oliver Optic) and Thomas Bailey Aldrich, and the book *The Perfect Storm* by Sebastian Junger.



## Dierker Receives Award

At the end of the school year at St. Joseph High School, Br. Robert Dierker was the recipient of the Glenn R. Rousey Award. This award was established in 1990 to recognize a member of the staff for generosity and dedication to St. Joseph High School. Robert has worked in the attendance office at St. Joseph High School for 25 years.



## Volunteer Efforts Noted

A recent issue of the newsletter for FamilyCare of Illinois profiles Br. Richard Shea as one of the "Volunteers Who Make a Difference." Richard has volunteered as a Senior Companion since 1993. During his career as a school teacher and subsequently as a social worker, Richard earned a master's degree in gerontology. As a retiree, he now spends 20 hours per week putting his skills and experience to work for seniors. "Br. Shea is

a real asset to Senior Companions," says Alma Reed of FamilyCare's Senior Services. "Whether he is working with a senior or with other volunteers, he thinks not just about filling an immediate need, but considers what caused this need and how it can be handled more effectively in the future. His skill and competence make a world of difference to the seniors he visits." Richard is a member of the Peer Leaders Group,

serves as photographer for the Senior Companion Program, assists with the pre-service and in-service training of volunteers, and, being fluent in Spanish, currently organizing a Spanish class for volunteers and staff.



# Ted LaTour Stays in Touch

When Sacred Heart High School's Class of '48 gathered back in Dearborn, Mich., this past June for their Golden Anniversary Reunion, Ted LaTour and his wife, Kathryn, drove from Milwaukee for the celebration. Even though the LaTours scarcely had time to unpack their car from a two-week vacation, they repacked for their excursion to Michigan. Such seems to be Ted's nature: *He stays in touch with those whose lives have touched his.*

And so it is that Ted LaTour (formerly Br. Theodore) also celebrates a fifty-year relationship with the Brothers of Holy Cross. It is a relationship which began when he got off the train in Watertown, Wisc., in September of 1948 to begin his candidacy as a brother, and that relationship continues today. Yes, characteristic of Ted, he has always stayed in touch.

His memories as a vowed member of Holy Cross are sweet, at times bittersweet, but never bitter. He recalls the happy years as a scholastic at Notre Dame and St. John's University; he speaks with great fondness of teaching at St. Francis of Assisi (Brooklyn) and St. Thomas Aquinas (Bronx) schools where he also coached basketball and baseball and developed and coached swim teams; he tells of his sadness in leaving New York when the U.S. Brothers' Province was divided into three; he speaks of his grueling schedule as a graduate student in the School of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee while carrying out duties as residential prefect at St. Charles Boys Home; he remi-

nisces with satisfaction of his five years as Director of St. Charles. Ted articulates his memories of ministry and community with obvious affection. His anecdotes, ranging from heroic to hilarious, speak of a fraternal bond which, if shaken, was not severed when he took a dispensation from his vows in 1963.

Indeed, if Ted was no longer formally engaged with Holy Cross, he never lost touch. Brothers and former brothers have often been welcomed guests in his and Kathryn's home. And vice versa. Says Ted, "I'm blessed that Kay has really caught the Holy Cross spirit ever since Br. Joe Fox invited her to have a beer with the brothers in the Brothers Center living room. She thoroughly enjoys all the 'old war stories' that seem to surface whenever we visit Holy Cross. Visiting the brothers is like coming home."

Perhaps the most significant homecoming for Ted, however, was when he and Kathryn joined the brothers, along with other former brothers and their families and significant others, for a weekend of *Re-membering* in 1993. "It was awesome," Ted recalls. "I remember thinking how we [Holy Cross] had come a long way from the time when departing brothers 'left out the back door.'"

If Ted is no longer engaged in the formal ministry of Holy Cross, he has always been involved in some form of education. In the last 35 years he has served as director of development at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wisc., founding director of the alumni associa-

tion at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, and later the director of university relations at UWM. For the past 12 years he has been a financial advisor with American Express Financial Services. Of his current position, he is quick to point out, "Financial advising is really about being an educator!"

Ted finds the time to serve others in the spirit of Holy Cross: an active member of the Notre Dame Club in Milwaukee, for the last several years he has chaired the Universal Notre Dame Night; he is also an active Emeritus Alumni Board of Trustees member at UWM.

Ted and Kathryn speak with great pride of their two children: Theodore III is in sales, and Jean Marie is a public defender in Manitowoc, Wisc. Family is very important to the LaTours.

The spirituality of family and welcoming others seem to be at the core of Ted and Kathryn's lives. It is the spirituality of Holy Cross. They reach out to others: children, relatives, clients, members of their parish, and their sprawling family of Holy Cross. Most recently, Ted and Kathryn have been active in founding a chapter of the Holy Cross Associates of the Midwest Province. They are enthusiastic in calling forth community in the spirit of Holy Cross. Ted states, "The concept is a re-blossoming of the spiritual heart of Holy Cross—a sense of family, of community, of church. Holy Cross provided me with a spiri-

## Touched by Holy Cross



Theodore "Ted" LaTour and his wife, Kay, on their recent trip to Yellowstone and the Tetons.

tuity that took root in the novitiate and has served me well my entire life. I want to continue to share that inclusive spirituality with others. Kay and I are proud to be part of the legacy of Holy Cross."

—Br. John Tryon, CSC

# Person to Person

—A Word from Brother Geenen



Br. William Geenen, CSC, Provincial

On June 20, we of the Midwest Province officially acknowledged the contributions of the twenty-seven brothers marking their 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of profession. In doing so, we gave public recognition to the intangible and immeasurable value of their participation in the life of the Holy Cross community and its mission as expressed in diverse ministries.

It was many years ago that these men, in the context of another public setting, vowed fidelity to God through the observance of the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience as defined by canon law and the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The public nature of their commitment was intentional. The Church considers consecration of oneself to God in the vowed life to be a public witness to a particular form of God's presence. As Jesus said of his mission to be the visible image of God, "Whoever sees me sees the Father." Each religious in his own way is also to be the visible representation of God's presence in the world simply because through his profession he takes on the task of carrying forward Jesus's mission on earth, which was to show the Father to the world.

Agreeing that all twenty-seven of these jubilarians retain the human characteristics that mark their uniqueness and endear them to others, we also acknowledge that they have become instruments of God in the fulfillment of God's mission, though we admit that sometimes the human can show through more transparently than the divinely inspired elements of witness that must become the habitual reality of each man's role in Holy Cross. Yet, God's omnipotence takes the weakness of humanity. St. Paul celebrated as present in his own body and transforms it into the power of divinity present, accomplishing things both great and small in God's plan for the salvation of the world. Each of these jubilarians has shown, and continues to show, God's power working through and despite the human imperfections that plague us all.

What is more, the fundamental profession of prophetic witness to God's presence that constitutes the vocation to religious life remains constant even though the nature and form of

ministry each religious engages in can and probably does change, even frequently. These twenty-seven brothers, whatever their ministry, have taught us by the example of their faithfulness and perseverance about God's fidelity to the covenant made with the chosen people and renewed through Jesus in more modern times. We can learn from them, and we do. We can bless them for that, and we do, even as we offer them our congratulations, our assurance of prayer, and our continuing fraternal support.

—Br. William Geenen, CSC,  
Provincial



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