

Legacy Project

May 12

Brother Vincent Anthony Gross, C.S.C.

born: 18 May 1939

died: 12 May 2020



Vincent was born in Conklin, MI, and in 1956 he graduated from Coopersville High School and entered Holy Cross in 1957 professing final vows in 1962. From 1960-63 he was on the maintenance staff at Archbishop Hoban High School, Akron, OH. He then worked at St. Patrick's High School in Monrovia, Liberia from 1963-1965. Returning to the States in 1965, he served for three years as director of maintenance at Holy Cross High School, River Grove, IL. In 1968 he was assigned to the staff at St. John's School, Sekondi, Ghana. Brother Vincent returned to the States in 1989 for a one-year medical leave. Returning to Ghana in 1990, he spent the remaining 30 years serving as a maintenance director at Holy Cross District Center and as Director of the Institute for Continuing Formation from 1999-2013. When Vincent celebrated his 40th jubilee of religious profession, he commented that "Once I joined the Brothers, I never felt a real desire to turn back. It is a very satisfying life because I am in a situation where I am helping others." From his earliest days in Holy Cross, his superiors found him to be an industrious, committed and earnest brother. Not being drawn to the academic life, Uncle Vince, as he was known in Ghana, demonstrated a natural affinity for using his intellect and his hands for the maintenance and care of all the places where he was assigned. He could be depended upon to carry out all assigned tasks with exactness and was known as "Brother Fix-It". Brother Vincent embodied the words of St. Paul to the Colossians: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters" (3:23).

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born
I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.*

--Jeremiah 1:5

*"All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God
because they reckoned on God being with them."*

-Hudson Taylor