

Midwest Bits and Pieces

APRIL 1, 1990

BROTHERHOOD AWARD

In a recent letter from Brother William Martyn, S.A., Vice President of the National Assembly of Religious Brothers, Brother Paul Kelly was informed that Brother Donald Becker, CSC, a missionary in Bangladesh, had been selected to receive the 1990 Brotherhood Award in the category of Healer. He was nominated for this award by Father David Schlaver, who wrote that Brother Donald "has spent his entire ministry in Bangladesh...lives a very simple life and spends his free time working directly with the poorest of the poor." The award will be presented at the Awards Banquet of the National Assembly which will be held at the University of San Francisco on June 28, 1990.

NOMINATED

Brother James Greteman wrote recently, "I am nominated this year as a "fellow" for the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. Each year, about fifteen are nominated and six are selected. I don't think my chances are very good because everyone who has gotten the award has lived in the Eastern United States. However, it is still an honor to have been selected for consideration out of 15,000 members. I think I was put up because of my workshops and writings."

James also indicates that his new book, When Divorce Happens, will be published soon by the Ave Maria Press. His next book will be on marriage and he hopes to write a later book on community.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

On March 30, 1990, Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California, held "A Celebration of Christian Service at Notre Dame" honoring Brother Clarence LaMere, who celebrated his Diamond Jubilee, Brother Charles Buetter, who celebrated his Golden Jubilee, and Brother Jerome Donnelly, who celebrated his Silver Jubilee. Also honored were eight faculty members for twenty or more years of service. Included in this latter group was Brother John Dobrogowski who has served Notre Dame High School for twenty-one years. In a separate ceremony in April, twenty teachers who have spent ten or more years at Notre Dame will be honored. Included in this group are Brothers Charles Buetter, Gerald Comeau and John Dobrogowski whose combined years of service is seventy-three years.

GHANA

For a number of years, the District of west Africa has had the three branches of Holy Cross (priests, sisters and brothers) working in the Ghana Mission. Both the sisters and the brothers have Ghanaian members. There have been a number of young men who were interested in becoming Holy Cross priests. However, none could be accepted.

At the 1987 District Chapter, talks with the Province of India began concerning accepting Ghanaians to the priests' society. During the recent Council of the Congregation meeting in Ghana, further talks were held between Father Abraham Mattakottil, the Indian Provincial, and Brother Joseph Annan, the District Superior.

Upon his return to India, Father Mattakottil presented the matter to his council. It was agreed that Father George Kallungal will arrive in Ghana in September to evaluate conditions. He will spend one year there, living with the Sekondi Community, spending periods of time with the other communities, and engaging in a ministry yet to be determined. If, at the end of the year, Father George, after consultation with his Holy Cross confreres, including the sisters, gives an affirmative evaluation, the Indian Province will send additional personnel to the District of West Africa and Ghanaian young men will begin to be accepted to study for the priesthood in Holy Cross. We are asked to pray for the success of this most important venture.

HOLY CROSS TO DOMINICA

Brother Thomas Moser and Sister Verda Frederick, after consultation with their councils, appoint Brother Jerome Meyer, Brother Thomas Scheurer, Sister Juanita Wood, Sister Nell Murray, and Sister Ann Arno to the new Dominica Project. Others may join the project later.

The Marianites and the Midwest Province will join efforts in a five year project in Dominica which aims at assisting this Catholic country overcome serious problems of spiritual and material poverty. Most of our efforts will be involved with management of the Grand Bay School which will be supported by Ms. Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, and Bishop Arnold Boghaert who have invited us. It is expected that the living presence of Holy Cross will serve as a catalyst for the long range social development of the Grand Bay Area.

Two themes very prominent in our Constitutions are working with the poor and collaboration. Brother Paul Kelly, Sister Bertilla McNeely, and Sister Suellen Tennyson, along with many others, have been involved for some time to bring about such an effort. This has been realized in the Dominica Project.

We offer our congratulations to our Brothers and Sisters who have accepted this call to mission in collaboration beginning this summer in Dominica.

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