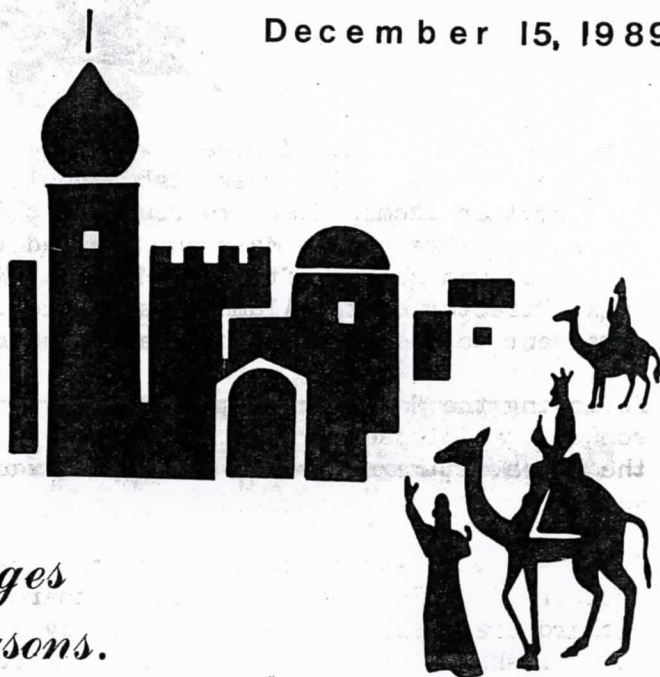


Midwest Bits and Pieces

December 15, 1989

*Merry
Christmass*

*Happy
New Year*



*May the Hope of the ages
be your joy for all seasons.*

The Provincial and members of his council wish to extend warmest best wishes to all province members for a holy and happy Christmas and a New Year filled with every blessing from the Saviour.

LOOKING TO 2000

Recently we sent province members copies of the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of Provincial Councils. The minutes announced the setting up of inter province committees. The membership of these committees has now been determined and plans for meetings are being made. Membership of the committees is as follows:

School Conference Committee: Brothers Richard Gilman, David Andrews and Stephen Walsh. Mr. James Bomber completes the committee.

Models of Sponsorship Committee: Brothers Raymond Papenfuss, David Andrews and Joseph Connell.

New Ministries Committee: Brothers Paul Kelly, John Gleason and Keric Dever.

Sharing Province Offices Committee: Brothers Lawrence Skitzki, Raymond Papenfuss, Peter Martin, George Schmitz, Ralph Kuder and Edwin Reggio.

Should you have questions concerning the work of the committees or suggestions that you feel should be considered by them, please contact one of the committee members.

Memorial Mass



More than three hundred guests were present for the first Annual Alumni Memorial Mass at Holy Cross High School, River Grove, on Sunday, November 19. Brother Thomas Moser represented the province. Bishop William E. McManus celebrated the Mass and blessed the Memorial Wall. A continental breakfast was served after the Memorial Wall dedication. Mr. Edward Jakubczak, Director of the Alumni Association, planned the program. Invitations were sent to the families of the sixty-one students who have died.

Following the Mass, the Memorial Wall, located in the front wing of the school, was blessed by Bishop McManus. Individual wooden plaques bearing the names of the sixty-one deceased students are mounted on the corridor wall.

Twenty-four deceased faculty and staff members were remembered at the Mass: Brothers Ómer Bielawski, Donald Burkhardt, Charles Blavat, Philbert Cook, Richard Grejczyk, Anthony Houser, Flavian Lambert, Eric Landers, Theophilus Machalinski, John Moore, Roy Nash, Edward Olszowka,, Romanus Ringwelski, Gilbert Scher, David Schimpf, Benedictus Secoy and Andrew Sukenik; Father Rolland Stair; Mr. John Loef, Mrs. Rose McCarten, Mr. Edwin Nadrowski, Mrs. Toni Stankus and Mr. Joseph Vogt.

Out Speaking

Many of us are not aware that Brother Thomas Balthazar is well known in the field of child sex abuse treatment. He is frequently invited to speak to groups concerning this matter. In addition to a Child Abuse Prevention Workskop given to the North Side School Teachers at Mishawaka, Tom also gave a number of talks throughout the state. Some of them were:

Treatment Issues in Individual Therapy of Adolescent Male Sex Offenders, presented to the Children's Campus, Mishawaka, Indiana.

Adult Male Child Sexual Abusers: Assessment and Treatment, presented to Howard County Community Health Center, Kokomo, Indiana.

Mental Health & Religion - Partners in Helping Sexual Offenders, presented to the Wabash Ministerial Association, Wabash, Indiana.

Community Coordinated Sexual Abuse Treatment, presented to the Porter County Welfare Department and Sexual Abuse Task Force, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Dragons Do Not Die Easily: Reducing Abuse in Our Communities, presented to the general public, Richmond, Indiana.

Supervision of Sexual Offenders, presented to the Indiana Probation Officers' Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Therapy With Incestuous Families, presented to Indiana University of Social Work, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Freedom of Speech

Brother Paul Mensah writes to Brother Thomas Moser from St. Edward's University in Austin: " It is always nice to see you and to talk with you. I am sure your visit to the rest of the South was smooth and uneventful. Thank you also for going with me to the speech therapy session at the University of Texas. I appreciate all the help you and the provincial council are doing to give me the opportunity to better myself and to develop the gifts I have.



Staff photo by Ralph Barrera

Classes are going fine and I am doing fine also. You missed being part of my popularity in Austin. I was a news maker in the local newspaper -- Austin American Statesman -- on November 13 with my new personal vocal feedback device equipment. I was given an interview by the local newspaper about my vocaltech. I was featured on the front page of the City and State section. I am enclosing the article with the picture as it appeared in the newspaper. I was surprised to know how many people know me in the city. Many people, when they met me, told me they saw my picture in the newspaper the other day. There were a number of telephone calls to the speech therapy clinic about the equipment. I have become an instant celebrity. I have to behave more now since I have become a public figure in the city.

The interesting thing is that this week while there is much political freedom going on in East Germany, I am also fighting for freedom of speech. Isn't it interesting? Anyways, there are great prospects in using the new equipment. I am going to try hard to learn more and even to learn a new way of talking altogether. I am very grateful to you for all the assistance you are giving me."

The device Paul is referring to in his letter is called a Vocal Feedback Device. It is a neck vibrator that is plugged into a portable amplifier about the size of a pocket calculator. As the user speaks, the movement of the vocal chords are picked up by a sensor on the front of the collar, amplified and transmitted back through the collar in the form of vibrations. Paul has always wanted to be a teacher. With this new device he and his teachers are confident that he will be able to fulfill this ambition. The community has purchased the device for Paul and he will take it to Ghana with him when he finishes his studies here.

Boys Hope

Brother James O'Donnell is working as a residential counselor at Boys Hope, a Jesuit affiliated program in St. Louis, Missouri. Boys Hope is an educational and residential program for boys 11 through 18 who have the intellectual capacity to perform in a college preparatory private high school and who are in need of a long-term home and support due to death of parents, abuse, neglect, abandonment or serious disruption of the family unit. It does not serve boys who have serious emotional problems.

Boys are accepted into the program between the ages of 11 and 14, provided they have not entered high school. Referrals come from the Courts, the Division of Family Services, private agencies, private counselors and therapists, schools, and private families. To be considered a boy must 1) have the potential to perform academically in a college preparatory high school, 2) have a long-term (at least two years) need to live away from home, and 3) not able to be more appropriately served through another means of intervention. The average length of stay in the program is two years. In addition to St. Louis, there are similar programs in New York City, Chicago, New Orleans, Cincinnati, Detroit, Cleveland and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The homes (6 to 8 boys in a residence) are located in the neighborhood surrounding a Jesuit high school. The staff of each home consists of 3 residential counselors who manage the home, provide child care for the boys, perform individual and group counseling and other supportive services. There is also a cook who prepares the evening meal 5 days each week and a part-time bookkeeper.

Boys Hope places primary emphasis on education and achievement. Each house has a special study period in the evening supervised by the residential counselors. The counselors are also available for tutoring when needed. The boys are encouraged to pursue education beyond the secondary level and there is a counseling and financial aid program to assist them toward this goal. Each boy is expected to work up to his academic potential. If he does not, he can be asked to leave.

The program is funded through major fund raising events, grants from foundations and corporations, individual donations and support payments from families, agencies and the courts.

Summer of '90

The Summer of '90, a renewal program for religious Brothers, under the sponsorship of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, will be held at the Oblate Retreat House in Hudson, New Hampshire. The program runs from July 2 to July 30. It is open to any religious Brother. For further information, write to Brother Adrian Gauden, SC, Director, Summer of '90, 555 Cardinal Drive, Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301. Or call (504) 447-4354.

