

Midwest Bits and Pieces

January 1, 1992

HOLY CROSS ASSOCIATES



Jose Felix, Germaine Thompson, Vicky and Danny Peralta, Dan and Dorothy Rien, Emma Jo Lewis, Camilla Ashman.

The Holy Cross Associates made their promises in the Newman Center at Palm Desert, California on November 10, 1991. The evening started with a meeting of the Associates, and was followed by Mass in the Newman Center. The promises were made after the Gospel. Following the Mass, there was a meal at a local restaurant where all the members of the Newman Center were invited to join in the celebration.

The Associates are under the direction of Brother Carl Stenberg who has been preparing for this event for three years. The members promise to grow in their personal spiritual lives, to participate in the community life of Holy Cross and to continue to seek support in personal ministry. The three key elements are prayer, community and ministry.

This Associate Program was submitted to our Provincial Chapter last summer for their consideration. Presently, there are several different groups of Associates, each having a different way of expressing this relationship. In the South-West Province, it is an association in prayer. In the Midwest Province, there is the well known Associates of St. Joseph and the newly established Associates of Holy Cross. And in the Indiana Province, there is the Holy

Cross Associates. One of the topics at the General Chapter this summer will be to look at the various associates programs and give support to these movements within Holy Cross.

Brother Carl and the members of his Associate Program have put together a spiritual guide for the Holy Cross Associates. The guide has six divisions that somewhat parallel our Constitutions:

1. **Seeking God** is an invitation to enter into a journey which will lead to the heart's desire -- union with God.
2. **Following Jesus** is an invitation to discipleship, starting in the place where one finds him/her self, to live the values for which Jesus lived and died.
3. **Members of One Body** which will enable them to be signs to people of an alienated world of the love they have for each other.
4. **Prayer** with the Church in common and in solitude. These are the sources of one's strength for life and mission.
5. **The Harvest Is Great.** The mission is the Lord's, we are His hands and feet to do the work that only He can do.
6. **The Spiritual Life** is the life that springs from the divine energy within. This Spirit will bear fruits of simplicity and goodness, modesty and joy, courage and gentleness.

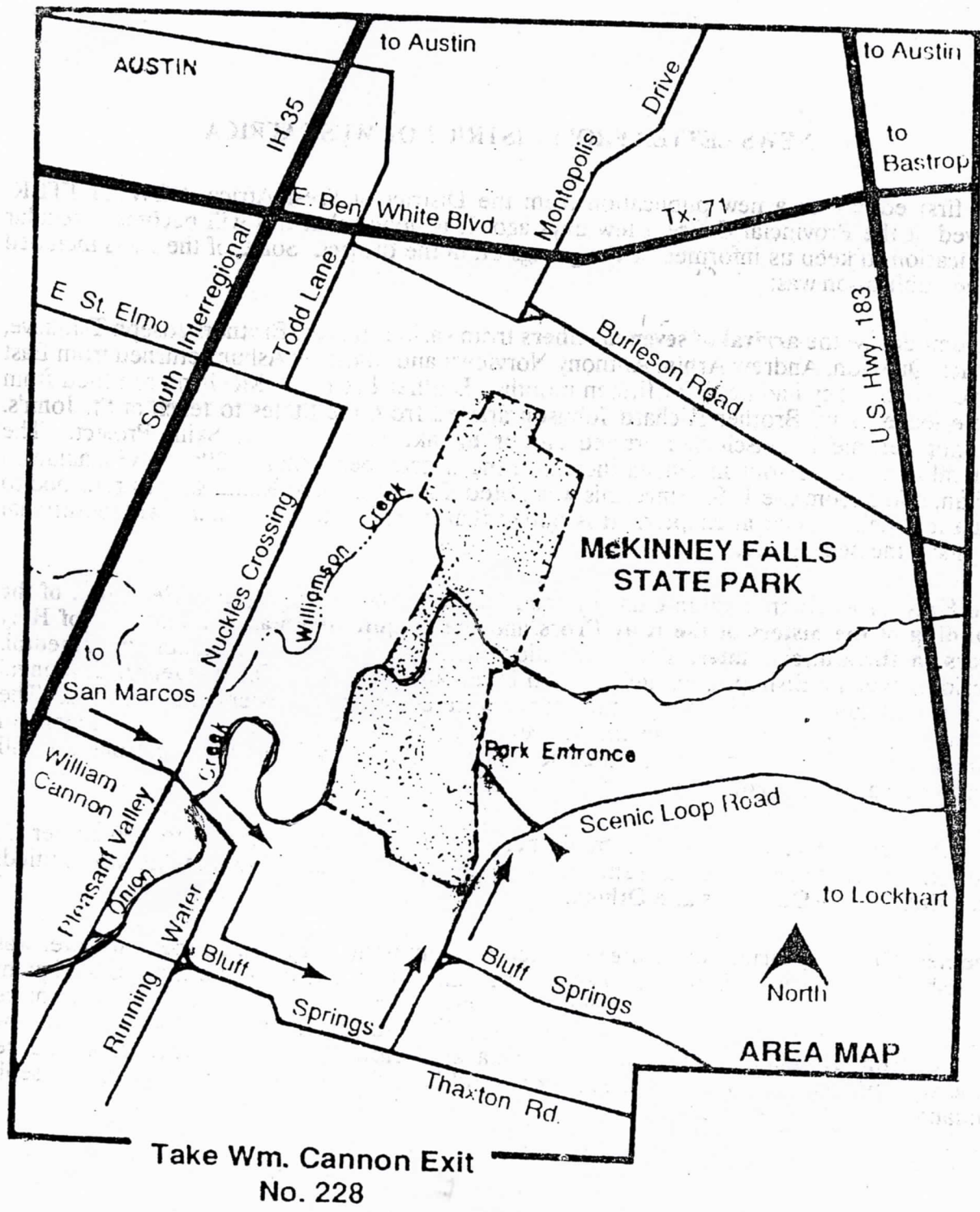
We would like to take this opportunity to thank Brother Carl for his efforts in bringing into being this new part of Holy Cross and to congratulate and thank our new members for having promised to live out their baptismal commitment along with the members of Holy Cross.

VINCENT HALL SWIMMING HOLE

The former site of Vincent Hall on St. Edward's campus is marked with a sign noting that this was the home of the student Brothers of Holy Cross. Another area frequented by these student Brothers was Onion Creek, a few miles down the road. It's fate was unlike that of the house. The Onion Creek area has been enhanced and raised to the level of a State Park.

That swimming hole is still there, but now it is in the center of Texas's newest State Park, McKinney Falls. We called it Onion Creek Falls. Most of us are no longer in shape to walk that distance, but it is enjoyable to visit the site. In addition to the run down McKinney Homestead, the falls and bald cypress trees, you will find a full blown recreation area, a visitors' center, a picnic area, a playground, a camping area and an area for group dining. What more could you want?

No doubt, it was the popularity of the spot created by the Vincent Hall crowd that gave the State of Texas the idea that this was a good place to enjoy and appreciate the beauties of nature.



NEWS LETTER FROM DISTRICT OF WEST AFRICA

The first edition of a new publication from the District of West Africa, **NEWSLETTER**, arrived at the Provincial Office a few days ago. It is hoped that this will become a regular publication to keep us informed of the goings on in the district. Some of the news included in the publication was:

September saw the **arrival of seven members** from various places. Brothers Joseph Tsiquaye, Patrick Quayson, Andrew Arhin, Anthony Norviewu and Matthew Ashun returned from East Africa, where they had been for fifteen months. Brother Frederick McGlynn returned from home leave. And Brother Richard Johnson arrived from the States to teach at St. John's. Brother Jerome Kroetsch had arrived earlier to take charge of the Skills Project. The arrival of these persons in Ghana increased the district personnel to 20: 14 Ghanaians, 1 Indian, and 5 from the U.S. Since this was noted, Father George Kallungal has returned to India for their provincial chapter. It is hoped that he will return to Ghana with additional priests in the near future.

The Holy Cross community in Ghana joined on September 14 for a **joint celebration of the founding of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the sesquicentennial of the arrival of Holy Cross in the United States**. The celebration included a liturgy at Sekondi Pro Cathedral, presided over by Bishop Sam, and assisted by about 40 priests. Father George Kallungal gave the homily. The readings at the liturgy were done by the Sisters and Brothers. The Sisters served refreshments following the celebration. The following day, the Brothers and Sisters joined once again to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, patroness of all three branches of the Holy Cross Family.

The **district retreat** was preached by Father George from September 8 to September 13. Earlier, he had given a four day seminar to the newly professed. The seminar was entitled: **Learning to Love Ourselves and Others**.

The new **Ongoing Formation Center** was nearing completion at the time the newsletter was published. The ground floor had been finished and the fittings and last coats of paint were being completed on the first and second floors. About half of the furniture is in place and the remainder scheduled to arrive shortly. The fruit trees and pineapples planted by Brother Tom Dillman while he was in Ghana are bearing fruit. The program should be underway by now. Brothers Vincent Gross and Nee Wayoe have joined Brother Joseph Annan at the District Center.

DEDICATION RECITAL

Sunday, December 8th, Brother Daniel Kane presented the Dedication Recital of Hoban's new Schumann Grand Piano. The recital was excellent and most appreciated by the Hoban Community. Mrs. Meinecke and the Hoban Choir also presented *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*.