

Midwest Bits and Pieces

JUNE 1, 1990

LE MANS ACADEMY HEADMASTER

The province is pleased to announce that Brother John McMuldren, CSC, has been selected by the LeMans Academy Board of Governors to succeed Brother Peter Graham as Headmaster of LeMans Academy. The appointment is effective as of July 1, 1990. The province is confident that Brother John will continue the excellence that the school has attained during Brother Peter's term of office and assures him of its prayers and assistance if the need arises.

The province also wishes to thank Brother Peter Graham for his many years of devoted service to LeMans and to wish him the best of all good things in his new assignment at Gilmour Academy.

ROME SOJOURN

Brother Joseph Barry has joined twenty Holy Cross religious in Rome where they are attending a program at the Generalate to study the issues related to formation of young men in Holy Cross. The primary points being discussed are those issues of formation that are unique to Holy Cross, among which are its history and the contribution that Holy Cross has made and is making to the Church. Formation personnel have been invited from North and South America, India, Bangladesh and Africa. Joe is presently part of the formation community at St. Edward's in Austin and is highly respected in his field.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

A recent notice concerning the Retirement Fund for Religious noted that the total amount collected for the fund thus far is over \$21 million. Although the amount collected this year was over \$3 million less than last year, it is a substantial sum that can do a vast amount of good for our retired religious.

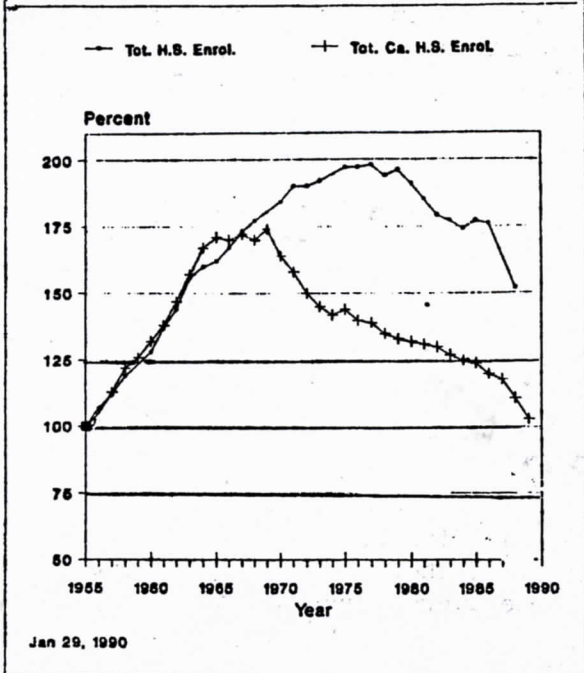
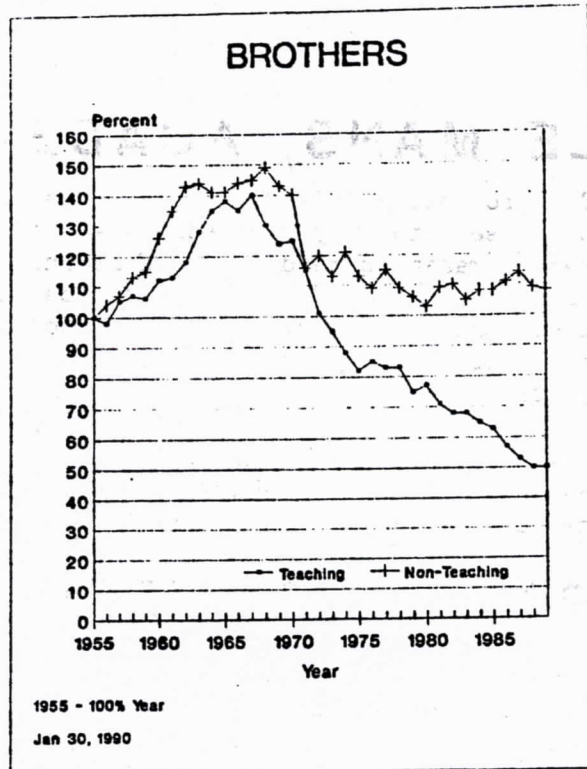
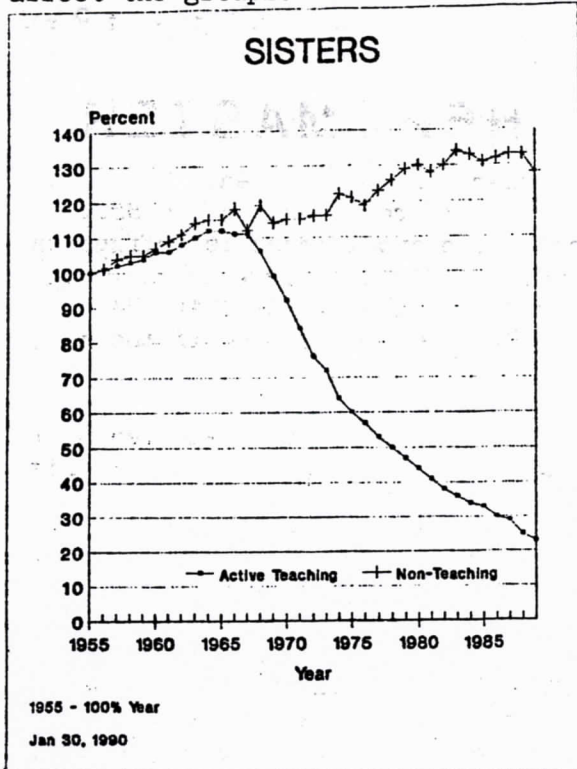
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

On May 7, Brother George Klawitter's Dean at Viterbo College informed him that he was the recipient of the Burlington Northern Award for Academic Achievement for the present school year. The award carries with it a grant of two thousand dollars. The Province rejoices with George on this recognition of his excellence as a teacher.

GROWTH AND DECLINE

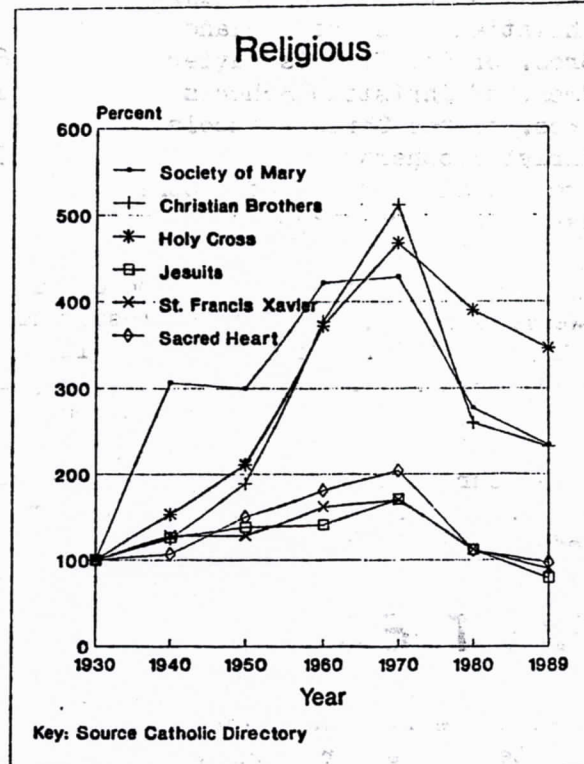
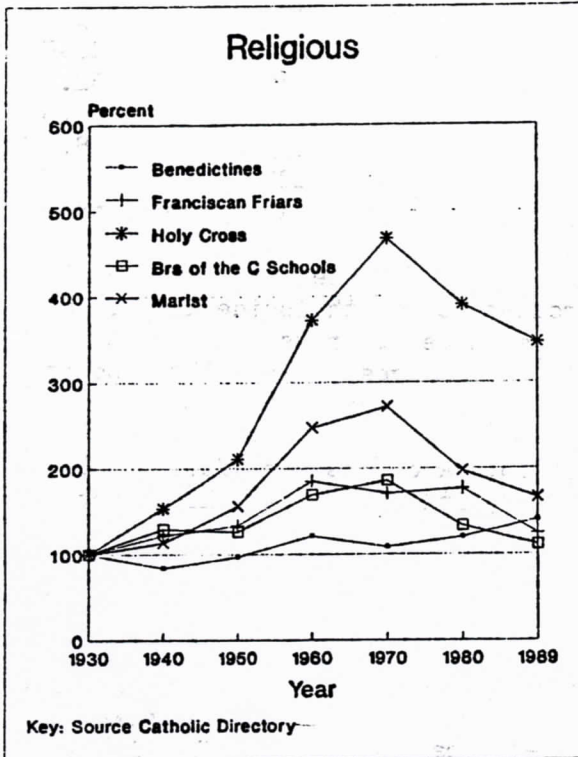
The graphs are courtesy of Brother Richard Johnson and have been prepared from statistics taken from the Catholic Directory.

The top two graphs reveal that with Brothers and Sisters, the tendency is away from the classroom. Fewer are to be found there and more are entering other careers. Retirement, deaths and departures are also factors which affect the groups.



The graph to the left illustrates the rise and fall of public and Catholic high school enrollments. The difference between the enrollment in the public high schools and the Catholic high schools is growing less. This would indicate that, on a percentage basis, the overall enrollment of the Catholic high school enrollment is on the rise. Your area may not experience this rise since there is also a shift to the sun belt by many Catholics. It is important that we continue to seek a larger share of this population. This move needs to be encouraged by our efforts and supported by our prayers.

Starting with 1930, the two charts show the growth of all ten communities listed on the graphs. 1930 equals 100% for each of the communities. The percentages listed for the following years indicate the growth or decline of each community in respect to its starting point in 1930. You can see that the Christian Brothers had the largest growth by 1970 and that Holy Cross was second. At present, our growth remains the highest of all the communities and seems to be declining the least of the ten communities listed. The final percentage for each groups is affected by vocations received, departures and deaths.



The enrollment of the Jesuits, the St. Francis Xavier and Sacred Heart Brothers are lower than they were in 1930. The Marists, Brothers of Christian Schools, Franciscan Friars and Benedictines are slightly larger than their 1930 population. The Christian Brothers and the Society of Mary follow closely the same pattern and are leveling out on the curve about half way between Holy Cross and the starting point.

One possible reason for our elevated position may be that, unlike the other groups, we have a high number of indigenous vocations from our missions in our sample. This gives us an elevated sense of vocations. There is no way to tell from the Catholic Directory, since indigenous vocations are included. On the other hand, the other communities may also have indigenous vocations included in their total membership.

Another interesting point to speculate on is that some of these communities, more centralized around high school education ministry, have lost personnel as their members felt they could no longer continue in education. We, on the other hand, have permitted our members to utilize their talents in other areas and they have found fulfillment in working in a variety of ministries.

The table below shows the professed memberships of the listed communities for 1965 and 1990. The statistics have been taken from the National Catholic Directory. What reason would you offer for Holy Cross retaining the highest percentage of members during this period?

Congregation	No. Brothers 1965	No. Brothers 1990	%age Retained
Alexian Brothers	169	61	36.1
Brothers of the Sacred Heart	585	264	45.1
Christian Bros. of Ireland	890	406	45.5
Bros. of St. Francis Xavier	602	298	48.7
Bros. of Christian Schools	115	60	52.0
Bros. of the Chris. Schools	2334	1309	56.8
Marist Brothers	572	335	58.6
Franciscan Brothers of Brooklyn	218	128	58.7
Holy Cross Brothers	889	613	68.9

Many of the changes that these graphs outline have taken place in the last twenty-five years and are a result of circumstances both inside and outside religious life. These changes will continue as we progress into the twenty-first century and you and I are a part of the changes. Hopefully, the part we play will be that of wheat ground into the new flour.

I see our role as adapting to these new circumstances as they form. You and I have to inform the future with our refined faith, our joyful hope, and our enduring charity.

PARTIES

Two farewell parties were held for Brother Joseph Tsiquaye before he departed with the four Ghanaian novices for Uganda, where they will make their novitiate. The first party was given by the local community in Sunyani. Community and staff members attended. The second party was sponsored by the Diocese of Sunyani at the recently completed Diocesan Pastoral Center. At the celebration, Bishop Owusu thanked Joseph for his contribution to the spiritual growth of the diocese during the years Joe worked as diocesan coordinator for the laity of the diocese. Brother Joseph will be on the staff of Holy Cross Novitiate, which has both priest and brother candidates for the East African district, and assist the four Ghanaian novices in their adjustment to a new society. The novices, Matthew Ashun, Patrick Quayson, Andrew Arhin and Anthony Norviewu, will spend two months getting adjusted to a new country before beginning their novitiate program in July.

ADDRESS CHANGES/PHONE NUMBERS

Brother Timothy O'Connell's new phone number is (409) 762-6063.
 Brother William Mewes has returned from Ghana and is now residing at Columba Hall.
 Brother Warren Shea has returned to Milwaukee for the summer. His address is 822 N. Glenview Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213.