

Midwest Bits and Pieces

March 1, 1992

AND NOW; PETER NAULT

The January 31, 1992 issue of **The Florida Catholic** featured the following article:

VENICE--Next month marks the beginning of the annual Bishop's Faith Appeal (BFA) campaign designed to raise funds for the operation of diocesan programs and services. Campaign officials hope to raise \$4.4 million to help cover costs of the 1992-93 diocesan budget.

Last year, the campaign raised more than \$2.7 million, almost half of the campaign's goal.

"With the Persian Gulf War and bad economic conditions last year, people still managed to give from their hearts," said Brother Peter Nault, CSC, executive director of the campaign.

While Brother Nault remains positive about this year's goal, he sees some difficulty in reaching Florida's seasonal residents. He says there is "great competition" for charitable dollars during this particular time when part-time residents return to Florida.

At the end of January, the campaign begins by sending direct mail correspondence. More than 62,000 parish families received notice of the campaign's intentions and fund-raising goals. This is an increase in that portions of the campaign, said Brother Nault, due to an increase in registered parishioners.

"More and more people are moving here," Brother Nault said.

With the theme "Put your gifts at the service of one another," the BFA campaign hopes to provide monies for programs operating within the diocese so individual parishes are not assessed a fee later in the year. To make up fund-raising gaps, individual parishes are usually charged an assessment to realize the difference. So it is in each parish's interest to help raise as much money as is possible, says Brother Nault, so it will not be charged an assessment later in the year.

"We really get a lot of enthusiastic support from each parish anyway", said Brother Nault. "It is the pastors who can really drive it (the campaign) home," he said. The Bishop's Faith Appeal parish collection is scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 22-23.

Brother Nault is encouraging donors to make pledges according to individual needs and budgets. He recommends "spreading" a donation throughout the year to help alleviate the burden of financing. It is this method of payment that seems to appeal to most donors said Brother Nault.

The Pastoral Outreach Programs of the diocese will benefit the most if funds are realized from the collection. Twenty-nine percent of the funds collected are slated to aid programs such as the migrant, Hispanic and Haitian missions, as well as counseling services of Catholic Charities. Catholic Schools of the diocese are also expected to receive 21 percent of the collection funds. For more information on how to make a pledge or donation to the Bishop's Faith Appeal, call 484-9543 or write the Bishop's Faith Appeal, Diocese of Venice, P.O. Box 1958, Venice, Fla. 34284-9907.

The National Institute for Clergy Formation is Proud to Present

Its Fourth Annual Institute for Brothers

THE BROTHER IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH TODAY

July 6th to July 17th - Attend All or Part of Two Weeks

Week I: July 6th to 10th, 1992

Bro. Bernard LoCoco, FSC

Spiritual Growth Through Life and Ministry; Models of Spirituality immediately Prior to and After Vatican II, Spirituality of Ministry, Relationships, Healing and Spirituality of the Paschal Mystery.

George Basil Cardinal Hume, O.S.B., S.T.L., D.D.

Thinking about God and Trying to Discover Him in my Life Rev. W. Norris Clarke, S.J., Ph.D. The Human Person as Journey and Meaningful Story: The Basic Phases of Authentic Personal Development

Dr. Robert Wicks, Ph.D.

Reaching Out...Without Being Pulled Down; Friends for the Spiritual Journey; The Spiritual Foundation of Self-Esteem

Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, M.Div.

Reconciled by the Truth; Reconciled for the Truth; Distinguishing Between Pluralism: True & False

Week II: July 13th to 17th, 1992

Rev. Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R., Ed.D.

Religious Experience as a Tool for Appreciating One's Vocation as Brother in the Light of the Gospel and the Innate Needs of the Human Being for the Sacred

Rev. John Powell, S.J., S.T.D.

The Real Issue Under All the Life Issues; The Issue as it Affects the American Scene

Rev. Dermont Lane, S.T.D.

Reviewing our Images of God, The Peculiar Character of Religious Experience, The Challenge of Suffering to Belief in God, Making the Personal Act of Faith, the Need for New Stories and Paradigms.

Brother F. Edward Coughlin, OFM

Brothers: Men of God - Called to Life in Christ, Called to Adulthood, Called to Holiness as a Man, Called to Community, Called to Mission and Ministry, Called to Vowed Life in the Church.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: REV. MSGR. ANDREW CUSACK, PH.D., DIRECTOR, SETON HALL UNIVERSITY, SOUTH ORANGE, NEW JERSEY 07079 (201 761-9739 OR FAX (201) 761-9759.

HOME NUMBER CORRECTION

Brother James Newberry asked that Bits & Pieces inform the province that the phone number for him listed on page 25 of the Directory should be 239, NOT 233. A small child at the 233 number is tired of answering James' calls.

HOLY CROSS RETREAT

May 31 - June 5, 1992

Franciscan Renewal Center, Portland Oregon

Theme: Holy Cross Spirituality in the Writings of Basil Moreau

Conferences by Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC

Cost: \$215.00. Includes board, room and retreat.

If interested, fill out the registration form below and send it with an advance registration fee of \$50 by April 15th to Rev. James Connelly, CSC, History Department, University of Portland, Portland, OR 97203. Make check payable to "Holy Cross History".

RETREAT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Arrangements will be made to meet participants at the Portland railroad and bus stations as well as at Portland International Airport and to Portland University at the end of the retreat for those attending the Holy Cross History Conference, which begins June 5th with supper. If you require transportation on arrival, please send pertinent information to Rev. James Connelly, CSC at the above address: tel. (503) 283-7343 (off.), 285, 9259 (res.)
HOLY CROS

HOLY CROSS BROTHER HELPS REBUILD LIBERIA

By Paul R. Leingang, Catholic News Service

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (CNS) - After spending almost a year without electricity, Holy Cross Brother Thomas Dillman had to be reminded to turn on the lights for a recent interview at his sister's house in Evansville.

Brother Dillman 64, has worked as a missionary and math and science teacher in the West African nation of Liberia for 23 years. A native of Evansville, he shared his experiences during and after the country's recent civil war in an interview with **The Message**, Evansville diocesan newspaper.

The civil war began in late 1989 and Brother Dillman fled to Ghana for several months in 1990 when food and medical supply lines were cut off. When he returned in January 1991, the war was long over, with former President Samuel Doe dead and a West African multi-national peace-keeping force in place.

Despite these developments, however, rebel forces led by Charles Taylor still control much of the country, and travel between Monrovia, the Liberian capitol, and other parts of the country, is difficult. Families are still separated and some members are unaccounted for.

Brother Dillman lives and teaches at St. Patrick High School for boys in Monrovia. He also teaches at St. Theresa High School for girls in the capitol city.

During the war, shells and rockets intended for the presidential palace fell on the nearby school buildings. Brother Dillman said seven of the eight buildings in the school compound needed new roofing. During the rainy season, building interiors and some of the books in the library suffered further damage.

The human tragedy was greater. After his return, Brother Dillman said he searched for Johnny Weah, a shop worker at St. Patrick High School. It wasn't until last October that Weah's wife and three of their children learned that the man and three other children had starved to death in February 1991.

Brother Dillman admits he was scared at times during the war months in Monrovia. He "had been threatened a few times" and "could have been hit by a stray bullet," but "the Lord wanted me to be there."

He spent much of his first weeks back in Monrovia helping to distribute food from Catholic Relief Services and other sources. By April, he said, most people had enough food -- not to satisfy them, but to keep from starving.

By June 1991, emergency school programs were begun, mainly to help keep children off the streets and to provide them with one hot meal a day. School formally opened in September for the first time in a year and a half.

Brother Dillman said he knows that some of the boys who came back to school -- even 12-year olds -- were involved in the fighting and killing just a few months earlier. Putting down an AK-47 automatic rifle and picking up a school book is quite a challenge, he said.

But he sees education as a key element in the rebuilding of the country, since it "gives new meaning, purpose and direction to youth."

The boys are playing basketball and soccer again, as school teachers and staff try to bring back a normal life. Even high school sports programs were affected by the war, however, since all the athletic equipment was stolen.

Brother Dillman and several young men live in a residence at the school and have formed a kind of religious community. They rise each morning for common prayer. Since the war, their prayers have been by candlelight. (Taken from *Northwestern Kansas Register*, February 17, 1992.)

NEW RECTOR AT ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY

Rev. Robert Choquette, Provincial of the Canadian Province of Priests, has appointed Rev. Maurice Taillefer, who has just completed nine years as Provincial, Rector of St. Joseph's Oratory. Father Taillefer, who has spent most of his priestly life, except for his time as provincial and several years for studies, at the Oratory, returns to a place he has known so well for so many years. Father Taillefer has often said that St. Joseph's Oratory belongs as a heritage to the entire Congregation of Holy Cross, not a single province. He succeeds Father Marcel Lalonde who was rector for nearly thirty years.

SPECIAL DAYS

Set aside June 12 and 13 for our 150th anniversary celebration here at Notre Dame.

HISPANIC MINISTRY CONVOCATION

The CSC Hispanic Ministry Committee is sponsoring a convocation on the theme of evangelization at St. Mary's, Notre Dame, IN, on April 26 through April 29, 1992. All persons who would find this topic useful are invited. Please contact:

John Korcsmar, C.S.C.
Dolores Parish
1111 Montopolis Drive
Austin, TX 78741

for registration forms. Try to register by April 1.

UPDATE ON OUR ILL BROTHERS

Brother James Moroney has returned to his apartment but must report to the hospital at Indianapolis twice a week.

Brother Chester Freel is doing very well. He, too, has returned home.

Brother William Doherty had stomach surgery. He has returned to the house and is recuperating well.

Brother Ronald Lalonde spent several weeks at Dujarie House after having a toe amputated. He has now returned to Monroe.

Brother Waren Shea will be flown to South Bend this week. His condition remains critical. He will be at Dujarie House.