

# Midwest . . . NEWS NOTES

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556

Vol. 10, No. 6

February 1977

Brother Claude Hartman died at Dujarie House on January 12. He came to South Bend from Monroe in mid-December for surgery at St. Joseph Hospital. Brother Claude joined Holy Cross in 1927 and in his fifty years in the community served quietly and steadily as a farmer and in recent years doing maintenance work. Over the years he lived and worked at St. Joseph Farm, the Rolling Prairie novitiate, Valatie; and since 1968 at Indianapolis and Monroe. Brother Claude rightfully enjoyed the respect of his brothers in Holy Cross, who knew him as an even-tempered, gentle man.

FROM HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL  
RIVER GROVE, ILLINOIS

Br. Harold Ruplinger and Mr. Thomas Susin will teach a course in painting on Monday evenings during the second semester to some thirty adults; in the fall semester the pair had forty adult students in their fundamentals of drawing course. \*\*\* Brs. Armand Amman, Walter Duda, and Paul Rosonke attended a prayer ministry workshop at Tolentine Center in Olympia Fields. The workshop was to acquaint the charismatic renewal leader with procedures and techniques for effective prayer-room meetings. \*\*\* Br. Roman Smith from the Blaine scholasticate spent ten days at the Grove helping in the business office. \*\*\* The basketball team, the Crusaders, are one of the top teams in Illinois and have a 14-2 record thus far. \*\*\* Br. Charles McBride contributed over fifty of his photographs to the book, The Era of Ara, by Tom Pagna and Bob Best. \*\*\* Br. Thomas Corcoran had minor surgery during the Christmas vacation. All is well and he's now back in the classroom.

FROM THE BROTHERS CENTER  
NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

On January 12, Br. Eymard Salzman gave a talk to fifty nurses from various places in Indiana on the aspects of aging. The group met at Indiana University in Gary. \*\*\* The province Reconciliation Board held its initial meeting at the Center on January 14-15. \*\*\* On January 28-29, forty-five students from Hoban in Akron stayed in James Hall; they attended the ND-Fordham basketball game on the 29th. \*\*\* That same weekend the province Apostolic Committee held a meeting at the Center. \*\*\* Thirty diocesan representatives from around the country stayed at James Hall while attending the Murphy Center Program on Liturgy at Notre Dame from January 30 to February 11. \*\*\* A new addition to the Center is the Alaskan huskie, Gretchen. She warmly greets all arrivals and departures at the kitchen door.

FROM BISHOP DAVID HIGH SCHOOL  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

After participating in two sessions of Genesis II, the multimedia program for adult education and spiritual growth, the brothers liked it so much they decided to expand their commitment to the program from a modified one of six sessions to all twenty sessions, probably over a two-year period. The local community felt Genesis II will help in reaching its goal of spiritual growth. \*\*\* Br. Joseph Ballard is acting as a resource person and is part of a team for a retreat for Parents Without Partners. He is also a member of the Priest and Religious Senate Committee dealing with ministry to divorced Catholics. His interest and involvement in this area was increased as

a result of a class last summer at Notre Dame in the Pastoral Institute for Social Ministry called "Ministry to the Socially Alienated." \*\*\* Br. Carroll Posey took part in a panel discussion on religious vocations, held at St. Edward High School in Jefferson Kentucky and sponsored by students. He is also on the planning committee at St. Thomas Center, formed to stimulate awareness in the diocese about the vocation of religious men and women. \*\*\* On January 22 the local community hosted a party for the Senate of Religious. For some it was their first contact with Holy Cross Brothers. \*\*\* On January 28 the local community made a retreat at Mt. St. Francis Seminary in Indiana. \*\*\* Bishop David and other schools in Louisville were closed for two full weeks after January 6 because of snow and ice.

FROM ST. EDWARD HIGH SCHOOL  
LAKEWOOD, OHIO

Omitted in the last issue of News Notes was a mention of Br. Kenneth Kane, who has a vital part in the school's caroling program. \*\*\* Br. Jerome Meyer, the local superior is a member of neighboring St. Luke Parish educational committee. \*\*\* Br. Lewis Brazil continues to direct students in "Project Concern," designed to assist the Lakewood elderly with home repair and painting, chores in the house and yard, and similar services. \*\*\* Br. Dennis Calsin conducted recent house meetings to reinvigorate the local vocations program. A reactivated program is now underway. Br. Christopher Dreyer, from the Blaine scholasticate, spent ten days at Eds participating in the community life and in the school program. His welcome presence was greatly enjoyed and appreciated. \*\*\* Br. Thomas Henning, principal, has arranged a day of renewal for the entire faculty at nearby St. Joseph Christian Life Center. "How to communicate spiritual values to our students through our day-to-day teaching and relationships" is the theme. \*\*\* The winter conditions record snowfalls and subzero temperatures, forced the closing of school for six days.

FROM GIBAULT SCHOOL  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Br. Thomas Balthazor, director, spoke at a parish breakfast in Syracuse, Indiana, on January 23. \*\*\* Instead of sending Christmas cards this year, the Gibault community sent money to the missions in Bangladesh. \*\*\* Since November, Fr. Ralph Fisher has been acting as chaplain at the United States Penitentiary at Terre Haute and also at the prison farm and the Terre Haute city jail.

FROM WEST AFRICA

The communities from Ghana and Liberia joined in Monrovia over the Christmas holidays for a retreat given by Fr. Thomas Stransky, superior general of the Paulists. \*\*\* The brothers from Ghana needed a new car and bought one in Monrovia. Wrote Br. Fred McGlynn: "Br. David Naples and I drove the car to Ghana. We were mighty tired and dirty after the 1200-mile trip. For the most part the roads were poor. Besides Liberia and Ghana, we had to drive across Ivory Coast. Most of the way we were about 200 miles from the coast, much of it through rain forest. It was a tiring but enjoyable trip."

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Br. John Benesh, director of student activities and rector of Alumni Hall at Notre Dame, has been appointed a member of the Cleveland Diocese Task Force on Education. \*\*\* Br. Celestis Mueller is now working as a sales clerk for Central Typewriter Exchange, 219 W. Washington St., Chicago. He still resides with the Holy Trinity High School community. \*\*\* After forty-three years in the classroom Br. Liguori Denier retired from the formal education scene in January. He now devotes all his time as a volunteer in the Pastoral Care Department of St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital in Chicago. He is also co-director of the prayer group at St. Genevieve's Parish.

News Notes Extra

WORKSHOPS:

February 18-20

Justice Education Workshop  
Brothers Center  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Contact:

Br. Bruce Lescher CSC  
Justice & Peace Center  
136 S. Chapin St.  
South Bend, IN 46625

At Weber Center, Adrian, Michigan:

February 18-20

"The New Law"

Barbara Thomas, SCN

March 11-13

"Religious Development of Teens and Other  
Humans"

Michael Warren, CFX

March 18-20

"Faith and Prayer Experience"

Bob Perry, OP

March 7-11

"Conference on Lifestyles"

Morton T. Kelsey

Anthony Padovano

John J. Egan

Anthony Flynn, FSC

Write to:

Tolentine Center  
20300 Governors Highway  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461

April 1-3

"Human Sexuality Seminar"

Donald J. Ruedinger, MD

Write to: Weber Center

1257 E. Siena Heights Drive

Adrian, Michigan 49221

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June 19-26

"The Vowed Life Today"

Thomas Clarke, SJ

Donald Goergen, OP

Write to:

Gonzaga

The Jesuit Center for Renewal

Monroe, New York 10950

April 11-14

NCEA Convention

San Francisco

Theme: "Many Peoples-Shared Faith"

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RECOMMENDED ARTICLES:

"Sand Traps for Renewal Programs," by Francis Blassin, Review for Religious,  
January 1977.

Brother Blossin, a former provincial, discusses the tensions and frustrations in renewal efforts under such headings as conversion of heart, interiorization of religious values, the success ethic, psychological factors, and fragmentation. He also includes a series of topics posed as questions which might serve well for discussion at house meetings.

"The Creative Life: Contemplation in Action," by Sharon Burns, Cross and Crown, December 1976. (See reverse side for an excerpt from pp. 348-349.)

"Ordinary experiences of everyday life, consciously lived, provide the material for much of our prayer. This necessary remote preparation is constituted by our attitude toward life and all its disappointments, drudgeries, and pleasant surprises. The best kind of remote preparation for prayer amounts to a reversal of our general attitude toward prayer: rather than praying in order to have a good day, we try to have a good day--a day lived deliberately with openness to what it brings--in order to pray. A day lived fully is the best remote preparation, while prayer is the power behind the day's activity.

Proximate preparation consists of specific techniques we choose in order to pull ourselves together and center down for explicit prayer. Essential to centering down is being still, calming the senses in order that the small voice within may be heard. Beautiful music and meditative reading can serve as proximate preparation for explicit prayer: music as different as Ravel's "Daphnis and Chloe" and Cat Stevens's "Morning Has Broken"; reading as diverse as Paul's Letter to the Romans, Michener's The Source, St. Exupery's Little Prince; films like Bergman's "Cries and Whispers"; the poems of Eliot, Cummings, Unomuno; plays and TV productions like O'Neill's "Moon for the Misbegotten" or Bronowski's "Ascent of Man" can all be excellent preparations for contemplative prayer. A deep and loving awareness of God's presence is contemplative prayer; everything else can be preparation.

Such preparation will often include inharmonious elements of the self and of our lives, such as nervous tension, fatigue, exhausting work, bitter disappointment--suffering in its many forms. In a very real sense, these difficult periods may be our 'dark nights of the spirit' of which John of the Cross has written. Besides our inability to meditate or pray, or to find God anywhere in the darkness, our feelings of futility or desperation, our seeming inability to hope at times, may constitute our darkest night. And yet, as spiritual authors tell us, and as we have all at one time or another experienced, such suffering and darkness are precursors of the dawn, of a life more deep in love and compassion. A contemplative attitude in our active lives will help us not only to find courage in difficult or desperate moments but can bring about a real conversion of heart; our life's responsibilities will be seen as a vocation, not a burden. . . ."