

Midwest . . . NEWS NOTES

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556

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FEBRUARY 15, 1982

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation announced on January 27th that the beatification of Brother Andre would take place in Rome on May 23, 1982, a Sunday.

This information appeared in the news letter of the English Canadian Province and a telephone call from our provincial office confirmed the source of the information and the date.

The Oratory has also confirmed the date. The official Holy Cross celebration of the beatification will occur in Montreal at a date yet to be announced, but it will probably be the 6th of June.

Our provincial office will attempt to keep all of you informed, but information has been sketchy at best till now.

Guidelines from the General Administration for the Celebration of Brother Andre's Beatification:

(1) The celebration at Saint Joseph's Oratory should be considered the principal celebration of this event. It is there at the shrine which Brother Andre erected, where he spent most of his life and carried on most of his ministry and where he is buried, that the largest number of people for whom he is important will be able to participate. It is there too, I trust, that the greatest number of Holy Cross religious will participate.

(2) The celebration in Rome is, of course, very important too. All the provinces and districts should be somehow represented there, though I do not see the need to insist that all the respective provincial superiors be present and do see the need to remind all of us that we must not lose sight of the demands of our religious poverty.

(In this regard, it goes without saying that the Oratory itself and the two Canadian Provinces are in a different situation from that of the rest of the congregation. Their situation is very special since the Oratory was Brother Andre's work and he was a member of the Canadian Province.)

(3) The celebrations in Montreal, Rome and elsewhere should be regarded first and foremost as celebrations of God's people rather than that of Holy Cross. A beatification is, after all, first and foremost for the Church. We have a very special responsibility to see that these celebrations are such and to take part in them. I hope that the sisters will appreciate that Brother Andre is just as much theirs as he is the brothers' and the priests'. I urge that, where two or all



Bro Andre's...

three of the societies are present, there be a collaborative planning of the celebration that this planning be done, as far as possible, in collaboration with the local church (bishop, clergy, laity, institutions...), and that whatever material is furnished by the Oratory for press releases, etc., be made available in a form adapted to the local circumstances (for example, by indicating that Brother Andre was a member of the congregation teaching in such and such a school in the area, that Brother Andre once travelled through the area, that people from the area regularly go on pilgrimage to the Oratory, etc.). The religious might also best participate in celebrations in Montreal or Rome by participating in (and organizing) pilgrimages from their parishes, dioceses or areas.

(4) Since Brother Andre was the apostle of Saint Joseph, I trust that everyone appreciates the importance of making sure that celebrations of the beatification capitalize on this point. They might well be as much a celebration of the head of the Holy Family as they are of Brother Andre himself.

OLDEST PROVINCE MEMBER DIES

Brother Omer Bielawski died peacefully in his sleep late Monday afternoon, February 8, at Dujarie House. Had he lived another week he would have completed his ninety-sixth year.

Brother Omer, affectionately called "Uncle John" by many of the Dujarie Staff, came to the Infirmary in early spring of 1979 from Columba Hall. Until last May he got around the house pretty much as he wanted and without assistance. An accidental fall, though not serious, helped him accept a wheel chair. While he was usually less than successful communicating vocally the last two years, there was little doubt about what he wanted (or did not want) or about what pleased him and it was pretty clear that he understood what was said to him. The last words to fail him were his "Good morning to you." The Dujarie Staff certainly became very fond of him in the three years he lived with us.

His longest period of continuous service at one place was fourteen years at the Community Infirmary beginning in 1937. He was at St. Joseph Farm three different times, one period lasting nine years. He also served in New Orleans, at the Ave Maria Press and at Holy Cross High School in River Grove when it opened in 1961.

Brother Omer was born in Bejsagola, Lithuania and was very proud of his Lithuanian heritage. He came to Holy Cross in 1923 from eastern Pennsylvania. He is survived by several nieces and nephews in Illinois, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Brother Joseph McTaggart gave the eulogy at the wake service and Father Bill Simmons offered the Mass of the Resurrection and preached the homily.

(Pedro Haering, C.S.C.)

In our prayers:

- Brother Philip Armstrong's brother, John, died of cancer at the age 52, in Sherman Oaks, California.
- Brother Paschal Tomaszewski's sister, Ann, died of cancer on January 28 in Hobart, Indiana.
- Mr. Henry Quella, father of Brother Jerome Quella, died on February 7 in Appleton, Wisconsin.
- Rita Herman, sister of Brother Armand Amman died. The funeral was in Flint, Michigan on February 11.



BITS and PIECES from HERE and THERE

In a joint statement (January 6) the Boards of Trustees of Gilmour Academy and Glen Oak School announced plans to combine into one Catholic coeducational independent school, effective in September, 1982....Gilmour presently enrolls 350 boys and Glen Oak enrolls 120 girls....Brother Robert Lavelle will continue as Headmaster; Sister Claudia Klyn, O.S.U., present Director of Glen Oak, will join the administration and assist in combining the two schools.

Brother Chester Caster was an honorary pall bearer at the funeral of Dr. Ross H. Wilson, Principal of Coalfield High School and Superintendent of Schools of Morgan County. Dr. Wilson was instrumental in establishing the new clinic which Brother Caster heads.

Brother Celestis Mueller will be returning to M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston on February 25th for a complete check-up. He will again be a guest of the priests at St. Thomas More rectory for four days. He requests our prayers.

As our deadline arrived we learned that Brother Charles Pinto has been selected principal of Holy Trinity in Chicago effective next school year. No other details available to us. We certainly send our prayers and best wishes along with Charles as he undertakes a most worthy but financially difficult apostolate. At the same time we wish to thank and commend Brother John Benesh for the fine work he has done the last three years at Holy Trinity.

The Steering Committee for the 1982 Provincial Chapter had its first meeting on Saturday afternoon, February 6, at the Provincial House. Members of the Committee include Brothers Philip Armstrong, Thomas Shaughnessy, James Moroney, Walter Davenport, Paul Kelly, Pedro Haering, and Charles Pinto.

Brother Kieran Ryan underwent surgery again in St. Joseph Medical Center (South Bend) on February 11th, his third operation in less than a year in a continuing bout with bladder infections.

VOCATION OFFICE UPDATE

- Since July 1, 1981 I have been in contact with 117 men who have requested information about the Brothers of Holy Cross. Of these, 43 were students from the CSC schools.
- The weekend of November 13-15 there was a college retreat at Columba Hall entitled DISCERNING GOD'S CALL. Sixteen students from eight colleges participated. A similar retreat will be given again the weekend of February 26-28. I am expecting 12 to 15 students.
- On the weekend of January 29-31 a retreat for high school students was held at the Brothers' Center. Thirty students and twelve Brothers participated.
- On March 5-6 at Columba Hall there will be a weekend for junior and senior high school students considering Religious Life as a Brother: ON BEING A BROTHER-A WEEKEND TO EXPLORE.
- As a member of the Campus Renewal Team for the colleges in Indiana I participated in four days of workshops at Purdue University and Indiana University at Bloomington. Team members preached at the Sunday Masses on the topic of vocations in the Church and conducted a series of workshops on full-time ministry in the Church as a priest, Brother or Sister.
- Brother Martinus Bombardier and I have put together a slide presentation on the various ministries of the Holy Cross Brothers. If you have some slides that capture our life and work, please send them to me because I need some to complete the picture. The slides can be duplicated and returned to you. I use this material in class presentations.
- This year one of the goals of the National Assembly of Brothers is to make the Brothers' vocation better known. A task force has been set up and is in the process of producing and designing both printed and audio-visual materials to create a better understanding of the life of Brothers. Recently published is a 32 page booklet called TO BROTHER. It includes the following topics: Call, Lifestyle, Ministry, the Washington Statement on Brotherhood, and individual Brothers writing about their

lives. Brother Joel Giallanza, C.S.C. wrote the section on Lifestyle. It is a good publication.

- ** The new phone number for the vocation office is (219) 239-7830.
- I ask your continued prayers and active involvement in our shared vocation ministry.

FORMATION EVALUATION

At the Formation Council meeting last March Brother Bruce asked for an evaluation of himself as Director of Formation. Brothers James Moroney, Joe McTaggart and David Baltrinic were asked to conduct the evaluation. This was begun in September. An evaluation instrument commonly used by religious communities was selected and sent to the people involved in the evaluation process: past and present candidates, Brothers in formation, and members of the Formation Team, Provincial Council and Formation Council. The written reports and interviews have been completed and the evaluation will be completed shortly.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Brother Paul Mattingly's new address:
 St. Joseph Hospital
 1100 West Stewart Drive
 Orange, California 92668
 (714) 633-9111, Ext. 7385

Boysville, Brothers' Residence:
 (517) 423-2233

Vocations Office at Columba Hall:
 (219) 239-7830

Brother Terence Muehlenkamp at
 LaCasa de Amistad, Inc.
 (219) 233-2120
 -2121



CHAPTER COMMITTEE MEETS

Despite eight inches of snow on Friday and sub-zero temperatures on Saturday, the Provincial Chapter Committee on Life Planning and Renewal held its scheduled meeting at the Brothers' Center on February 17. Nearly all members were present.

It was decided to hold six regional meetings in March to gather as much material as possible from the Province at large. Northern Indiana will have two meetings (Columba Hall and Brothers' Center) - other meetings will be at St. Edward in Lakewood, Catholic Central in Monroe, Holy Cross in River Grove, and Bishop David in Louisville. The meetings will be held on one or another of the last three Saturdays in March. Facilitators for the meetings will be Brothers Walter Davenport, Bruce Lescher, Thomas Addix, and Robert Fillmore. Additional information concerning the sessions will be forthcoming from the Committee Chairman and Secretary, Brothers Walter Davenport and Raymond Harrington.

The primary areas of concern of this committee, and of the various regional meetings are: personal renewal, community life, and formation/vocations. The next committee meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., April 17, at the Brothers' Center.

FROM THE SOLITUDE OF ST. JOSEPH

Each Sunday evening at 7:15 the Solitude Community hosts a vigil for Chapter delegates and other Brothers interested in praying for the Community and the Provincial Chapter(s) of 1982. Sister Karen VanDeWalle, of the Tipton Sisters of St. Joseph, and a former art instructor at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, has moved into the Solitude this semester. Besides taking classes in theology and art, Karen is using the time to prepare herself for opening a place like the Solitude in the Indianapolis area.

FROM BANGLADESH

Brother Joachim Gomes made his first Profession on January 20; Brother Daniel

Rozario journeyed to Barisal to receive the vows.

- Three new members have arrived at Mathis House, Holy Cross Scholasticate: Brothers Bikash Rozario and Subol Rozario will study in the B. Com. course at Tejgaon College while Brother Robi Purification will join the B. Sc. course at Subwardy College.
- Eight new boys have joined the Juniorate at Nagari, making a total of twenty-two aspirants....Plans are being made for wiring the building as "electricity comes near."
- Recently a biography of Brother Hobart Pieper, disguised as fiction, was shown on TV; there are plans for a re-run. Rumor has it that Hobart will ask for royalties.
- A YCS Youth Camp, held at Holy Cross H.S. in Bandura drew more than ninety participants.
- Brothers Benoy Gomes and Bikash Rozario worked as polling officials during the Presidential Election.

FROM FLORIDA

Brother Donald Johnroe writes from Ft. Lauderdale:

- Father Tom Barrosse visited for a day - plus shortly before Christmas. During the time they drove to Boca Raton to see Father Bob Lochner....
- Donald is presently teaching juniors in ecclesiastical history and sophomores in sacramental and moral theology. He is also coach of the Debate at St. Thomas Aquinas High School.
- The school has just completed a new wing, which will permit accommodation of about 1,400 students. The present faculty numbers seventy-two.
- Donald has recently moved - his new address is 220 S.W. 38th Ave. - Apt. #301, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.
- He entertained Brothers Carl Shonk and Thomas Balthazor for dinner and a prayer service on February 6.



FROM THE JUSTICE and PEACE OFFICE

- Brother William Mewes has been appointed to the executive committee of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign. Locally, Bill is chairman of the 3rd U.S. Congressional District Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign and is on the steering committee of the State Campaign.
- Conclusions of both discussions (at Columba and the Brothers' Center) on Bishop McManus' pastoral letter, "Peace Be With You," on the moral perspectives of nuclear weapons and disarmament, were that we need both action and prayer. Specifically, the action we need is informing our U.S. Congressmen that we are opposed to the nuclear arms race and want it stopped. There will be a holy hour for peace at 7:30 p.m. on February 17 at the Brothers' Center. This is the time and place of the regular monthly holy hour for vocations. Vocations will be an additional intention. Special thanks to Brother David Baltrinic for this opportunity.

FROM MONROE

- The Brothers were invited to a "recognition" evening on January 16th at St. Patrick's Church, Carleton. During the Mass, Father Charles Fontana (Pastor) expressed gratitude for the service of the Brothers to the youth of their parish and county. Cocktails and dinner followed in the Rectory. Despite near-blizzard conditions a large number of students and alumni were present, including former member of the Province, Richard Genord, who is now a parish sexton.
- An elderly member of the parish has given his collection of orchids and equipment to Brother James Rottenbacher. Several orchids are presently blooming....Also, James' very productive finches have had their offspring distributed through a local pet shop. The surplus banties have all found homes out in the country. The peacocks had to be "cooped" when they discovered the "pickings" were pretty good at the local Big Boy and began wandering over to beg for handouts, stopping traffic on Monroe Street. ...Brother James' band is preparing for a tour of Austria this summer.

-Brother Leonard Siwierka is again teaching an eight-week course in cooking for the boys at St. Mary's grade school. The big attraction is that they get to put their product to immediate test - in their stomachs.

FROM HOBAN IN AKRON

Brother Joseph Fox and the Appalachia Six (Hoban students) spent an extended weekend with the Brothers at the Tennessee apostolate. Arriving Saturday, January 23, the team was kept busy with activities hosted by Brother Donald McIntyre until their departure on Wednesday, January 27. Their experiences included stops at several area locations where Holy Cross religious are presently involved.

The purpose of the visit was to see the mission work of the religious and gather information about the area. The Religious Studies Department planned the trip and sponsored the activity as the base for this year's Lenten Program.

The visitors will give their report at a student assembly on Ash Wednesday. Projects will be introduced leading toward helping the needy of the Appalachia region. Student programs of prayer, fasting and almsgiving will be directed toward this project. Included will be a clothing drive and a "hunger meal."



FROM HOLY CROSS, RIVER GROVE

"Alumni Night" has been re-established by Brother Quentin Hegarty. Any alumnus who wishes to do so may use the facilities of the gym on alternating Monday evenings.... Brother Quentin is also in the process of organizing the reunion of the Class of 1972. For the past two years a "NEEDS LETTER" has been mailed to alumni. The purpose is to suggest that alumni send donations for specific items that are needed in the school (in addition to regularly budgeted items.) Amounts received last school year totalled nearly four thousand dollars, nearly double that received in the first year.

The Brothers will make (or made) their annual "retreat en masse" at the Franciscan Retreat House in Oak Brook, February 11th through the 14th. This gives the entire house an opportunity to get away for prayer, reflection, and relaxation for a few days. The custom, in vogue for seven years, is a popular one for the Brothers.

Prestidigitation is not dead among young people. In mid-January the Fathers' Club was treated to an evening of magic performed by three young men, lead by Jim Krenz, a senior at Holy Cross. Jim is a member of the American Magicians and the Mazda Mystic Ring.

The Ladies Guild featured a Pot Luck dinner at their February 10th meeting. The evening's entertainment was Progressive Lunco!

Inquiries have been received from coast to coast (California to Delaware) concerning the GIVING CALENDAR. The original idea had been used by a Chicago south side high school for two years prior to its introduction at Holy Cross. The fund raising project is under the direction of Mr.

Ernie Vessini, Director of Development. While Ernie is not inclined to "broadcast" the inner workings of the project, he will be happy to share details with C.S.C. family members. The Giving Calendar has been the largest single fund raising drive in the school's history.

FROM DUJARIE HOUSE

- Brother Robert Siegel, snowbound at Notre Dame for the second time in three weeks, took several turns in the kitchen January 31 and February 1 as our cook, Mr. Ron Ori, suffered a gall bladder attack.
- Brother Damian Daele is recovering from a recent operation. The only artery which services his foot was repaired and partially replaced. Recovery is progressing well and Damian hopes to return to the Center in several weeks.
- Several nurses were snowbound here over three of the last four weekends of January. We are blessed when nurses are snowed IN rather than snowed OUT. The hectic January weather prevented our chaplains' coming over for Mass only twice (both times on Sunday!)
- In early January our night nurse, Mr. Robert Browne, conducted two Cardio-Pulmonary-Resuscitation classes. Nearly all of the full-time staff members took the classes and received their "CPR Badges," good for one year. Brother Frederick Choquette made 100% on the test.
- Two birthdays come this month: on the 25th Brother Anselm Tatro will be 91 and on the 27th Brother Luke will be 86. In addition, Brother Damian will be 81 on March 6.

EDITOR'S PAGE

Note: There was less material than usual this month so I invite you to share the thoughts below -- which became a bit more lengthy than I anticipated. The Editor.)

I remember being told in high school that the material or physical makeup of our bodies is constantly changing. I was surprised to learn that over a period of seven years the material in my body had been completely replaced. I once read of this argument's being used in a court of law in an attempt to prove someone was not the same person he had been seven years ago and hence was no longer responsible for what

"he" had done that long ago.

But we don't have to consider the physical to realize we are not the same person we were six, four, or even one year ago. In the musical tragedy, "Lost in the Stars," the minister, Stephen Kumalo, and his wife are lamenting that they have not seen nor heard from their son since he left home to work in the South African diamond mines several years before. The mother says, "We do not know him anymore."

How many close friends have we practically forgotten because we lost contact over the years and now we "don't know them anymore?" I have gone home, or gone to other cities, where there were people who, for periods in my life I spent much of my time with, and yet I had no real motivation to get in touch with them. When I returned to Indianapolis in 1975, after an absence of sixteen years, I occasionally met persons who had been close friends in the 'fifties. With few exceptions our meetings would end with a casual "you'll have to come out sometime," roughly equivalent to "don't call me, I'll call you." We had moved into different worlds. Sometimes only a year or two is enough to catapult friends into worlds so far apart that they no longer "know each other." In "The Little Prince" Saint-Exupery laments "to forget a friend is sad."

Near the end of his recent circular letter Father Barrosse writes, "I wonder how many of us have maintained over the last few years a lively devotion to the saints and, in particular, to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph... Can we really be serious about (our profession) if none of these friends of God who have preceded us are among our friends?" A few paragraphs later he adds, "It seems to me that we are naive... if we feel that we can cultivate a deep friendship with Christ without some particular practices."

What these practices are, of course, is a highly personal matter and the ritual of one may bear little resemblance to the ritual of another. Nevertheless, there must be ritual. If I can no longer find mine than I have some repairs to make. Of consequence is the fact that so many of us have discontinued so many older practices that perhaps we should wonder if Christ and his friends any longer "know us," unless we have filled the void with something else.

Something which becomes rote, or habit, does not therefore lose its value unless we permit it to do so. Would that we were all blessed with such good responses which had become "second nature" to us that they took over at those (many) times that we "don't have time to think."

In "Called to Be Friends" (Ave Maria Press, 1980) a Franciscan nun, Paula Ripple, observes: "For most of us, our earliest ways of learning to pray were related to our reciting words we had committed to memory. We (said) prayers with some words we could scarcely pronounce and certainly did not understand. The example of Jesus validates this way of praying. We need to remember this in an age where we sometimes receive the impression that only "spontaneous prayer" is from the heart. Throughout the life of Jesus we see him using the words of the Hebrew scriptures when he prays. He recites words he learned as a child. Nowhere is this more dramatically revealed than... on the cross. The final words of Jesus are direct quotations from the Hebrew scriptures."

As Father Barrosse suggests, perhaps a very important meaning for us of the coming beatification of Brother Andre is: here is one of our brothers who was a friend of Christ. Perhaps this will urge us to try to deepen our own friendship with Christ.