


Midwest News

January 2005

Provincial Council



The provincial council met on Saturday, January 22, 2005. The meeting began with a report from Jerome Kearns, director of the province development office, updating the council on the status of the province capital campaign (see article on page 2). He also informed the council that the September issue of the Brothers Newsletter will contain a report of donations received and a list of donors. Following this update, Steven Kastner, executive director of Holy Cross Village; Curtis Coffey, province controller; and Stephen Bardozi of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation, presented an update on the recent developments in the Holy Cross Village expansion project (see article on page 3).

Following the recommendations of diocesan authorities and of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, the provincial council asked Brother Robert Fillmore to set up an education program for all members of the province on the topic of sexual abuse, its ramifications, and necessary pastoral care for victims. The council further recommended that steps be taken to establish an independent review board to deal with any allegations of sexual abuse.

The 2006 provincial chapter will open on Sunday, June 18, 2006 and will close on Friday, June 23. The province jubilee celebration will take place on June 17, 2006.

The provincial council approved a request from Brother Donald Kuchenmeister of the Holy Cross District of Chile to make a donation of \$3,000 to the food distribution program of San Roque Parish in Santiago, Chile. The program provides nutritional meals for isolated ill and/or elderly persons lacking necessary resources to obtain essential food items to meet their needs. Brother Donald is the manager of this program.

Brothers interested in attending the Holy Cross gathering in Canada from August 6 - 10 honoring the legacy of faith and service of Blessed André Bessette are encouraged to include this in the budget plans for the coming year.

Father Hugh Cleary, superior general, has approved Brother Roberto Jimenez's request to transfer from the South West Province to Midwest Province. The transfer became effective January 1, 2005.

Brother Donald Stabrowski and Brother Joseph McTaggart represent the Midwest Province as members of the United States regional committee on congregational restructuring. Information about plans for the involvement of province members will be forthcoming.



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Midwest Province
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Capital Campaign: Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise

*(The article is a summary of the report given to the provincial council by Jerome Kearns,
Director of Province Development)*

Our capital campaign, *Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise*, continues to move forward albeit slowly. As of January 12th, 71 donors have pledged and/or contributed \$2,712,000. Over 280 personal visits with prospective donors have been made with only 31 individuals declining to participate. Reasons for not participating are varied but generally it is because prospective donors are "over extended" with other commitments, have chosen to support our sponsored schools or have other higher philanthropic priorities.

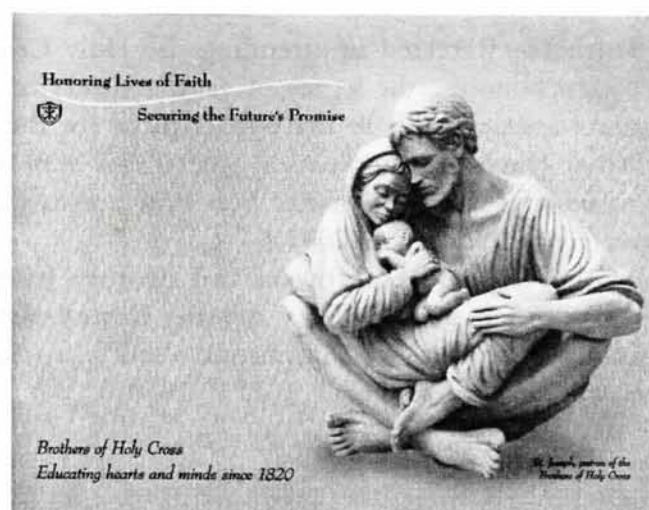
Additionally, there are 74 prospects that have been visited at least once. Based on their known capacity to give, we anticipate receiving an additional \$2 million from these individuals. Lastly, we have identified 583 other prospects from whom we project receiving approximately \$225,000.

If these projections materialize, we will realize slightly over \$4.9 million in Phase I of the campaign. Our goal was \$5 million so, with a lot of prayers and the grace of God, we may make it.

Phase II will concentrate primarily on "planned giving" which we will define as gifts from estates of deceased, life insurance proceeds and annuities. Historically, planned gifts are made by individuals who have been regular and consistent donors but not necessarily large gift donors. We have identified over 450 individuals who meet this criteria. Through the *Brothers* newsletter and other means of communication we will promote planned giving beginning this spring. Because of the awareness of our capital campaign, three individuals have indicated they will include us in their will. This is a very important component of our total fund raising efforts.

The slowness in achieving our campaign goals is attributable, in part, to the fact that we are asking for an a substantial amount of money and it takes time to educate prospective donors about our needs and to gain a prominent position in their philanthropy. Secondly, our needs are intangible rather than buildings and programs which traditionally receive the favor of major contributors. And lastly, prior long-term commitments and uncertain economic conditions have caused major donor prospects to delay their commitment to us.

Donors and prospects have been very encouraging and have expressed their deepest gratitude to the Brothers for all they have done and repeatedly ask that they and their families be remembered in the Brothers' daily prayers.



Holy Cross Village

Over the past several months there has been much development activity for Holy Cross Village. Brother John May and I have been working with the developers and architects on the construction plans for the Village. We have appointed the Troyer Group as the architect and Panzica Building Corporation of Cleveland and South Bend as the contractors. This a joint project between the two independent contracting firms. Also involved in these discussions have been Greystone Development and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation., who represent Holy Cross Village.

It was determined that the new independent living apartment building will consist of four stories. It will be located directly north of James Hall and will have an underground parking garage. Design concepts should be available in the near future. Brother James Greteman and Brother John Kuhn have been asked to represent the Village in working with the architect on the interior design of the new chapel to be built between Dujarie House and Schubert villa. You may recall that the current chapel will become a dementia unit.

A full fledged marketing campaign begins this month to promote membership in the CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community). Print media and community seminars are being planned. Initial indication shows a high interest in the concept. We are currently in the process setting up a sales office in Edison Lakes Office Park in Mishawaka.

At the same time as these activities have been in progress, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation has been working on an assimilation plan to integrate the management of Holy Cross Village into their system. As you are aware, Steve Kastner is now the executive director of both Holy Cross Village and Andre Residential Services and is an employee of the Franciscan Sisters Service Corporation. In the near future, we will be merging Andre Residential into Holy Cross Village. The change in management has gone well and is bringing strengths to our operation.

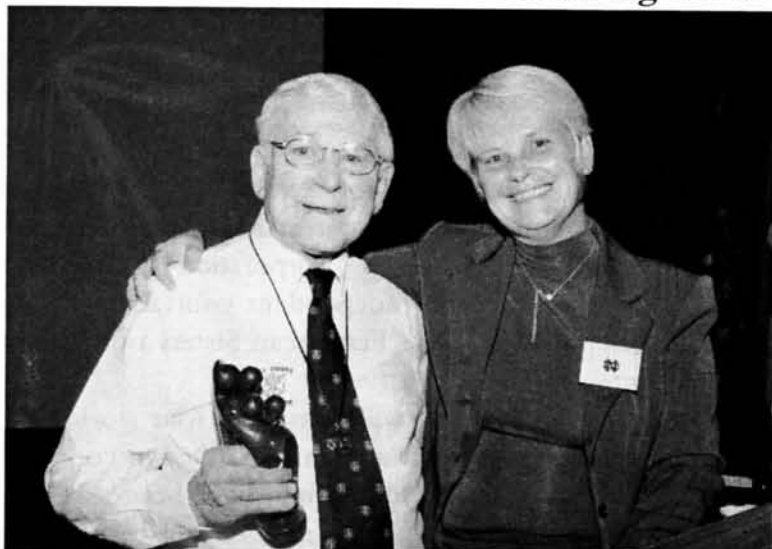
The Board of Directors of Holy Cross Village has had to meet frequently due to the legal motions that must be in preparation for Village expansion. Among these motions under study is the current corporate structure for the Village. At its last meeting, the Board acknowledged the service of Brother John May who served as the interim executive director. Brother John will remain on the board and will work with Brother Thomas Shaughnessy in the area of Village development; he has now turned over day to day operational responsibilities to Steve Kastner.

The Holy Cross Village Board is excited about the development of a ministry training program for the Brothers. The Provincial has contracted Dr. Richard Johnson, PhD from St. Louis to conduct this training. Brother John May will help coordinate the program. It will be important step as we prepare to minister on a larger scale.

Finally, the property tax appeal will be heard this month. As you know the villas in the Village were not granted non-taxable status. This appeal is important to not only the village but to other non-profit housing projects in the State of Indiana

Brother Thomas Shaughnessy

Outstanding Educator Award
Honoring Brother Joseph Chvala, C.S.C.



Kathleen Sullivan '82MA, '87PhD, director of Alumni Continuing Education, presents the 2004 Outstanding Educator Award to Brother Joseph Chvala, CSC, '54, '56MA.

"There was an undercurrent of tenderness in his teaching," wrote former student Geoffrey Johnston, a senior at Notre Dame, in his nomination of Brother Joseph for the Outstanding Teacher award. ". . . even during lectures I felt that he loved each of his students as a father loves his sons."

A stickler regarding decorum and command of English, his extra long vocabulary quizzes and grammar tests "caused squeals of panic." The "thorough preparation for collegiate writing has served me invaluable," Geoffrey says. But "there are more important lessons which I learned from his example. Brother Joseph demonstrates love, tenacity and humility . . . His students cannot help but notice his zeal for teaching, his love of life. His attitude in the face of adversity is a more profound lesson than any words could convey."

Now 80 years old, Brother Joseph's students saw him come back from a stroke 10 years ago that caused partial paralysis. Brother Joseph made a special intention to Brother Andre. "My hand was stiff; I couldn't move my fingers. I said, 'Brother Andre. What's going to happen?' and one of my fingers moved twice. Then I knew I was going to be able to walk."

"To know Brother Joseph is to love Brother Joseph," Geoffrey adds.

"You'd be amazed how much influence you have on kids," Brother Joseph told the teachers convened for the Excellence in Teaching conference. The skills of his own high school English teachers in Ludington, Michigan, affected his career choice. While home on break during his freshman year at the University of Michigan he confided in his parish priest about a desire to become a brother and teach. He took his pastor's advice to join the Holy Cross Brothers at Notre Dame. Prior to St. Ed's, he taught for 14 years at other Holy Cross Brothers' schools: Cathedral in Indianapolis, and Archbishop Hoban in Akron, Ohio. His mother's reverence for the devotion of teachers also influenced Brother Joseph.

"I love words. I love student writing," he says. Brother Joseph has also held speech, spelling and writing competitions for students from some 35 elementary and middle schools in the Cleveland area. "You can't tell another teacher how to teach." But he does offer bits of advice. "Make them memorize something." And "never raise your voice." *Justin Shaddock '04* recalls Brother Joseph's infamous tactic of whispering. "Whenever our 10th grade honors English group would become talkative during class, Brother Joseph would start to lecture in a barely audible whisper. Of course, this forced all of the students to become absolutely silent in order to hear the needed information."

Christopher Manley '04, another St. Ed's and ND grad, says that Brother Joseph "conveys to all his students his sense of accomplished professionalism. While in his presence, we all felt we were better men."

(Article and photograph are courtesy of the Notre Dame Alumni Association)

Bessette House

There has been a lot of fuss and ado going on in the Annex attached to Columba Hall here at the University of Notre Dame. Built in 1847 and the third oldest building on the campus, the Annex, now Bessette House, is the home to six young men who are in discernment and two brothers.



Front row, l – r: Nick Strom, Franco Veteramo, Neuman Jones Back row, l – r: Ben Modlin, Sean McGowan, Dave Barnes, Br. William Mewes

The new community is living in the midst of ongoing renovations. The house has been completely repainted. New carpeting has been installed throughout. The second floor bathroom has been augmented with new toilets and a second shower. On the first floor, there are two suites for the two staff members. What was once the kitchen for those on retreat is now the recreation room. Off of this room is the chapel. What was once a private apartment is now the site of the kitchen and dining room. Brothers Thomas Shaughnessy and Donald Morrison are to be thanked for assisting with the day-to-day demands of directing the several contractors.

The members of the house include four students from Holy Cross College, one from The University of Notre Dame and one at Indiana University at South Bend. **David Barnes**, 25, hailing from Mason, Ohio, is the oldest member and is enrolled at Holy Cross College. **Ben Modlin**, 19, a Misawaka High School grad, **Neumann Jones**, 19, a Marian High School grad, and **Franco Verteramo**, 19, a St. Joseph High School grad are all enrolled as second semester freshmen at Holy Cross College. **Nick Strom**, 19, a St. Joseph High School grad, is attending Indiana University as a second semester freshman. **Sean McGowan**, 20, an Akron Hoban grad is a second semester sophomore at the University of Notre Dame. Brother Philip Smith and Brother William Mewes make the community eight.

As members of a discernment house, these men are not candidates for the Brothers' Society. Each has felt some call to more deeply respond to God and the Church. They are now exploring privately and as a group that call as it might be related to the consecrated religious life of a Brother in Holy Cross. Because all are serious students, achieving a balance among their many pushes and pulls from school, Bessette House, work, friends and family will be a constant challenge.

The community gathers for prayer each day and eats a common dinner as many times as possible. There is a community night when the entire community prays and eats together. There is then information and discussion about discernment, religious life, the vows, private and community prayer and information about CSC and its various worldwide ministries. Many individuals will make these presentations on these topics throughout the year.

Bessette House is open to men who have graduated from high school. If you know of someone who has shown an interest in discernment, please have him contact Brother Philip Smith at either psmith@hcc-nd.edu or 574-631-2703. And by all means keep the men in this community in your prayers.

Brother Philip Smith





Frederick H. Evans, III

Cathedral High School

Class of 1961

St. Thomas Aquinas Grade School

Fisk University

B.A. Business Administration and Economics, Class of 1969

Eli Lilly and Company, retired

I entered Cathedral High School along with about 85% of my male St. Thomas Aquinas classmates. During the month prior to the start of the school year, I practiced with the incoming Freshman Football Team at the old CYO field on West 16th Street, so when school began, I entered with much less trepidation because of these old friends and the new ones from whom I drew support. Additionally, my parents prepared me well for my new environment. I was well grounded in my faith, had great respect for my elders, had a healthy amount of self-respect, and was helped by their example in the development of my work ethic. Two qualities that struck me about Cathedral were the diversity of her student body and her faculty, Brothers of Holy Cross. There were students from every parish in Indianapolis – some were Black, some were of European descent, and some were poor, while others were from middle income to wealthy families. We all had the same objective: to get a good Catholic education. Of course, that goal is how the Brothers of Holy Cross made their mark on us. They were wonderful men of education, and they taught us with necessary discipline. They taught us not to follow the crowd and reminded us that just because something was written did not necessarily mean it was true. One of the early books we studied was *The Art of Thinking*. Our teachers helped us all to understand logical thought. Throughout every class, the Brothers helped us understand self discipline, respect for others, and loyalty to those close to us. The athletic department offered us many opportunities for fun and hard work – with emphasis on hard work. The coaches and faculty members helped instill in us that marvelous school spirit I still see in today's Cathedral students.

Cathedral prepared me very well for college by helping me pursue life with an abundance of confidence and intellectual tools that helped me deal with the many challenges I faced in college and in my 30-year career with Eli Lilly and Company. My continued good feeling towards Cathedral has prompted me to join other alums in the formation of the Cathedral High School Black Alumni Council. Several of us who graduated during the early 1960's came together a few years ago with the cooperation and best wishes of the administration in the person of Chancellor Father Pat Kelly and President Steve Helmich. Our goals are to endow a grant for Black students in the name of William Violet, Cathedral's first African-American graduate in 1930, to help our school recruit Black students, to assist the administration in recruiting Black faculty and staff, to participate in tutoring and mentoring Black students, and to support the overall mission of Cathedral High School diversity. My alma mater has done much for me and my desire is to give back as a way of saying thank you.

(Re-printed with permission from *The Criterion*, Indianapolis archdiocesan newspaper, Friday, December 3, 2004)

News Briefs

Father Hugh Cleary, superior general, has approved **Brother Roberto Jimenez's** request to transfer his membership from the South-West Province to the Midwest Province. The transfer became effective on January 1, 2005. Brother Roberto teaches at Holy Trinity High School and lives with the Brothers' community in River Grove.

Six men made their first profession of vows in the Congregation of Holy Cross in Peru, on the feast day of Blessed Brother Andre, January 6, 2005. Three of the men are from the District of Peru and three are from the Holy Cross priests' district in Brazil. On the same day **eight men entered the novitiate**. These eight men represent the Southern Province (Mexico), the District of Peru, the District of Chile and the Holy Cross priests' district in Brazil.

The **Holy Cross community in Ghana** gathered in Sekondi on December 27th to celebrate the patronal feast of St. John's School. This day also marked the 37th anniversary of the establishment of the District of West Africa. Special prayers of thanksgiving were offered for all the members of Holy Cross who played a role in the establishment of Holy Cross in Ghana and who worked to help St. John's School reach this moment in its history.

The Board of Directors of the Holy Cross Institute at St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas, has chosen **Brother Stephen Walsh** of the South-West Province to serve as Executive Director. The three Brothers' provinces and St. Edward's University are represented on the board. All the sponsored schools of the three provinces are members of the Institute and are eligible for participation in its programs and for receiving its services.

It was reported in the October issue of this newsletter that \$1,038 was collected in the way of alms for relief in Haiti in observance of the **Congregational Day of Fast and Prayer** on September 13 last year. Since then province institutions raised an additional \$1,385 to help the relief efforts in that country.

Directory Changes

Brother Edward Fox has taken a position as a child care counselor at Holy Cross Children's Services, Boysville Campus. His residence address is: Brothers of Holy Cross, 8744 Clinton-Macon Road, Clinton, MI

49236-9569. He can be reached by telephone at (517) 423-2233

Brother Charles McBride has moved to the Riverside Place Apartments in Holy Cross Village. His address is P.O. Box 839, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0839. His telephone number is 574-251-3276.

The **Notre Dame Post Office** has assigned new post office box numbers for some community houses in the Notre Dame area. The changes are as follows:

Columba Hall	P.O. Box 776 Zip 46556-0776
Schubert Villa	P.O. Box 706 Zip 46556-0706 (same as Dujarie House)
Riverside Pl. Apts.	P.O. Box 839 Zip 46556-0839 (same as Holy Cross Village)

Brother Paul Kelly's telephone extension at Holy Cross High School is ext. 128.

Snow Bird Migration

In order to escape the bone chilling cold of the northern Indiana winter, **Brother Edward Wauchter** has taken up temporary residence with the Holy Cross community in Cocoa Beach, Florida. His address is Christopher Lodge, 325 Arthur Avenue, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-4065. The telephone number is 321-799-8383. Brother Edward expects to return after the spring thaw.

Congratulations to **Brother Richard Shea** on taking first place in the St. Joseph County Library's annual *Michiana Exhibit*. Brother Richard's photograph, entitled *Gone Fishing*, was judged best among hundreds of pictures submitted for the event. The photograph, taken at the height of the autumn season at Notre Dame, shows a father and son fishing off the bank of St. Joseph's Lake behind Columba Hall. Brother Richard said that this is the third year he has participated in the exhibit and the first time he has received an award.

(Continued on page 14)

Eulogy
Brother Evan Schmid, C.S.C.
1920 - 2004



Many stories will be told of Evan today, tomorrow, in the days ahead. This is one of them, only one.

It is a daunting task to ever try and capture the sum of a man's life in words, in a story, a single memory, a eulogy. How can anyone ever capture the life's experience, effect, or witness that one has on another? There is mystery to people's lives. And, a life is surely more than born on...died on... and more than served here at this date and there at that date. So when summing up, one need tread lightly when approaching such a task.

Nonetheless, that is what the community is called upon to do in some halting, inadequate, imperfect way in our ritual today. The church, indeed the very hearts of friends and loved ones, craves some kind of reflection, good word, or memory of note. Each of us today and in the days to come will remember Evan Schmid stories as we reflect on his affect on us, on those he served, the community he loved, and most importantly on the faith he manifested. It won't be complete. We will not capture much, but that is the way of the human community.

I come to you then, as just one, an imperfect one, who begins a process that you will complete in our gathering afterwards and in the days ahead. We speak of— Evan Robert Schmid.

Come, follow me. It was the Lord calling us. We heard a summons to give over our lives in a more explicit way. It was a call to serve all people, believers and unbelievers alike. It was a call that came to us from without, but also one that rose up within us, as from His Spirit. This man of 84 years, fifty-three of them lived in Holy Cross, began in the bosom of faith, in that of his mother and father who passed on from their parents and the parents before them the life of faith which in the final analysis is all that really matters. In Oshkosh, Wisconsin, this journey of faith began for Evan. And this element of faith well lived is really the sum and total of Evan's life, a man of faith and practice, a man of commitment and service. That says it all. The rest is commentary.

We in the community know well his keen intellect, his love of knowledge and his commitment to engaging the world of ideas and theology, experience and wisdom. *If one of you is wise and understands, let him show this in practice through humility filled with good sense. But also...Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we shall go to such and such a town, spend a year there, trade and come off with a profit!" You have no idea what kind of life will be yours tomorrow. You are a vapor that appears briefly and vanishes. You should say, "If the Lord wills it, we shall live to do this or that."*

Evan graduated from Notre Dame as an undergraduate and then shortly afterwards he earned his masters degree there as well. The cross, the central notion of his new-found community entered his religious life very early on, in a very significant way. Tuberculosis, excision of a lung, and two years of recuperation, the whole time spent at Healthwin here in town, would surely shape an internal wrestling with the "justice of God." Yet ... *where were you when I set the world on its course and flung the stars in their orbit? ... and ... after you have done all you must then say I am but an unworthy servant.* Evan could well have befriended Job.

Evan's active religious life spanned five decades. He taught well as one might imagine, knowing his wit and insight, and accumulated a well-gleaned knowledge from literature, professional journals, essays and lectures. George Klawitter, another excellent and talented teacher in the province, said that when he was a student and Evan entered his life as a teacher, it changed his whole perspective. George credits Evan as turning his life around, providing significant witness, and deepening his commitment to excellence in the art and ministry of teaching. Yet, Evan's opportunity to continue excellent teaching was cut short, way too short. Illness struck. Evan adjusted. And moved on

His power would be within and without, rescuing us from the injustice we suffer and also from the injustice we inflict ... his rule would be no earthly regime... Another aspect of Evan's professional life so many of us would comment on is the amazing speed and accuracy of his typing, and yet in typical style when, being complimented, Evan would complain, dismiss the accolade, and question you for having focused on such a simple thing. Simple thing for sure! The provincials he served as secretary definitely prized this "simple thing," his skills and ability to turn a poorly worded phrase into a polished, coherent thought, his accuracy, proficiency, and speed in turning things around. To be limited to such task oriented work would seem demeaning to many, considering his abilities. Yet beyond the mechanical skills and literary talent came a remarkable professionalism in his commitment to confidentiality. I dare say there is no one in this chapel, in this community who could ever quote Evan in anything he had heard, scribed, or experienced in those sometimes significant responsibilities of being "privy to" the most sensitive and confidential community discussions and decisions.

And when you get older, they will gird your loins and lead you where you don't want to go. Significantly challenged and radically limited in options, this quiet and diffident man had to tap into his bedrock, his childhood faith, his religious commitment and steely resolve; he had to develop it, cling to it strongly, and eventually wrench purpose from a dream and future dashed to pieces because of failing health. Performance throughout the path of his religious life would come not in major chords but in minor keys foisted upon him—clearly not chosen and not of his own making. A growing sense of a sadistic god with a sad sense of humor would understandably loom large in the hearts of many, given Evan's circumstances.

Yet, brothers and extended family, what an example we get in Evan's life lived in the context of community. That community has many needs, many works, many tasks needing completion with excellence and professional skill. Many roles need to be filled, and many obligations need completion and all that with a spiritual perspective and a mission mandate. One needs operate from a spiritual perspective in all that is done because one is a religious pledged to work things through regardless of what befalls you.

Whether it be unfair treatment, fatigue or frustration at work, a lapse of health, tasks beyond talents, seasons of loneliness, bleakness in prayer, the aloofness or friends or whether it be the sadness of having inflicted any of this on others ... there will be dying to do on the way to the Father. ...but we do not grieve as men without hope. We must be men with hope to bring. Evan was a private man and a man steeped in his childhood faith. Faith carried him through. The crustiness on top was merely that, a bit worn, a bit troubled yet steady and solid beneath. Evan was faithful regardless of the circumstance, a man of class.

Hillary Clinton's book, speaking of the wisdom of African Culture, recently made popular the notion that it takes a village to raise a child. Surely we know—we who proclaim that we are *educators in the faith*—that it also takes all kinds of talent, personalities, quirks and skills to make a community run. And there can be no hierarchy here. The PhD. and the mechanic—neither has a hallowed position in our community life. The administrator and mothers' club moderator—each has his role, one that is necessary and essential. We strive to keep this in mind in all we do, for it, too, is model of the larger Christian community and of the Mystical Body of Christ. No ear speaks to the eye here in superlative tones nor do communal roosters take credit for the rising sun.

The last shall be first and the first shall be last. This widow's mite is worth far more than all the gold of the rich man. We who live in community need a constant call to these values. Evan offers us a prime example. Evan served powerfully as a witness to having on so many times in his life taken the supposed last seat at table due to circumstances certainly beyond his control and certainly not in line with his desire, yet in his dignity and professionalism, the consummate, faithful servant remained throughout, witnessing to steadfastness, faithfulness, and commitment in good times and in bad. This man was consistent.

Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. Many know well Evan's frustrations. I mentioned to one of his nurses on a recent trip to the hospital that he strongly resisted but later, like most things in his life, complied. Says I to her, "He may be a grumpy man at times but never a mean man."

Evan wrestled with many challenges, not the least of which was his failing eyesight. This man of letters, reduced in effect to seeing as if through waxed paper or ice cubes grew more and more blind. Like

any of us he treasured his independence and made due as long as he possibly could. Yet when the tire hit the pavement and he had to conform, he would, dignity intact, step up to the plate and live the life given him, play the cards dealt him, accept the will of God.

Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one of the road. Dying and rising with him in baptism, his followers are sent to continue his mission, to hasten along the kingdom. Educators in the Faith are challenged to learn from each other as well. Learning is the constant in life, indeed, right up to the very end. Regardless of how much or how long we are privileged to teach, educate, work, produce we will continually have to learn that *My grace is sufficient for you.*

Because Evan was called upon to adjust so often in his life, to move to another drummer, go down a different path, tread where one doesn't want to go, he served us so well in community as shining example to the passing of all things, save the essential. *All is grass. This too shall pass.*

One is reminded of a similar message, especially in considering the specifics of Evan's life from, of all people, Thomas Aquinas, scholar and theologian, Doctor of the Church. All St. Thomas' work, all his erudition, all his conceptualization and framing of the important issues in the world of theology took us, as the National Catholic Reporter recently stated in their section on Spirituality, only so far on the magic carpet of reason before landing us slowly and softly, but squarely, in the courtyard of faith.

It was Evan's faith in carrying out the givens of his life, which, I propose, speak the loudest. It was his faith from his parental formed days in Oshkosh to the sick bed days of Dujarie, which remains, and it is his life of faith that speaks the loudest.

Thomas Aquinas shows the way. He, himself, in the end declared his life's work, all his writings, including the *Summa Theologia* to be mere "straw." It is not the accomplishment in the eyes of men that matters in the eyes of God. It is not the obvious outer life of anyone before us in community which necessarily inspires the most. It is not, after all, the outer that really matters anyway. It is faith, and faith made manifest. Evan spoke his most powerful message in what was not seen—his adjustment, his compliance. *Not as I will, but as you will, O God.*

Yet none of this heavy stuff is without humor. We know that Rob, Uncle Rob, always enjoyed a brew or two; that he played for weddings and typed error-less dissertations. And it's none of your *** business what he did with the money.

I related with Evan mainly by caricature. And he did too with many people. His "you liberals," snidely said, to my mocking of his conservative heroes, Rush Limbaugh, George Bush, Bill O'Reilly, and the like was delivered with a sneer and uppity-flair. He was the consummate loyal opposition. Yet, this so-called "liberal" learned from him. I learned to see the other side, the blindness of my own narrow and singular ways. I learned from this man's inner stature during my brief time with him in his later years. His rapidly approaching physical blindness introduced me to my own conceptual blindness.

How hard it must have been for him to spend so many hours, so many days without the printed word, without fingering and beholding and reading his beloved books and periodicals, without seeing much except blurs and shadows, not seeing even his own food before him as he tried to eat.

I make up in my body what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ. Evan would never ascribe that to himself. Much, much too arrogant and self-serving...yet what a witness he was to the rest of us.

And finally there is his beloved music, the music which brought him, perhaps closest to his God; his music, which drew him into the inarticulate, wordless power and solace of harmony and discord, polyphony and melody...especially when he could no longer see. Evan played the organ for the community, for our liturgical services. We welcomed his addition, of late, at Columba Hall to our sparse voicing of song and worship. His accompaniment added to our praising God in song and chant. He loved his music. Evan played the organ for the funeral liturgy of his twin brother, who himself had also been parish organist in that very church. Music carried Evan to places and worlds he could never go. He loved Bach, Handel, Baroque renderings with their recurring themes. Music provided access to beauty, entrance to a transcendence which brought him to his God. He listened to it, played it, and he cherished it as prayer.

Rest in peace, Evan, from your brothers in Holy Cross, the Schmid family, and all gathered here. As an educator in the faith, you taught us much. Still waters run deep, very deep.

Brother Joseph McTaggart, C.S.C.

Eulogy
Brother Sigismund Danielski, C.S.C.
1913-2004



I would like to express the sympathy of the Holy Cross Brothers to all the members of Brother Sigismund's family, as well as to his friends and co-workers, and to the Brothers at Dujarie House with whom Sidge spent his last years.

We do not really belong to ourselves; we belong to the One who redeemed us. Our will should always depend upon his. These words come from the 19th Epistle of a long forgotten seventh century bishop, Saint Braulio. If any skein ran continuously through the religious life of Brother Sigismund, it would be *Thy will be done – in earth as it is in heaven.* And those words come from the most common and universal prayer we say several to many times each day.

My first lasting remembrance of Brother Sigismund (whom we will usually call "Sidge" for the remainder of these words) came in 1959 when I was told by the Provincial to take over the administration of Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio. It was late July before I could go there and although I had made an appointment with the out-going principal, he was nowhere to be found when I arrived. But Sidge was there – so we talked about the school as he took me on a quick tour. One of the first things I had to do was to choose an Assistant Principal and Assistant Superior, perhaps the same person, perhaps not. It was a time when we still had many brothers in some of our schools. At Hoban we had about twenty-five. Sidge told me the strengths of several men on the faculty, indicating why they would be good assistants. After thinking about it overnight I decided that since Sidge was aware of the qualities of an assistant should have, he should be the Assistant Principal and Assistant Superior. He did such a good job that he stayed in that office for two more years after I had been assigned elsewhere. *Thy will be done.*

In Akron, Sidge became a life-long friend with a student, Tom Hull. Tom subsequently became a teacher and, so far as I know, he still is. Occasionally Tom and Sidge would go on vacation together but Sidge wanted it understood that Tom would be his Superior on the trip because Sidge was quite reluctant to make decisions. *Thy will be done.*

Sidge was a voracious reader. Even as late as this present year he kept a close eye on all the books that were published and he obtained those he thought would be good reading. After he finished a book he would give it to someone else, often to a nurse, Mary Bikowski, with whom he has a warm relationship. He even gave one to me last year!

He was very sensitive to and appreciative of the nurses and other staff members in Dujarie House. Up until, and including, the day before he entered the hospital for the last time, he read the Epistle at Mass and sang the Alleluia before the Gospel.

Sidge was always cold, in terms of Fahrenheit temperature. I first learned this when we were together in Akron and one night I went to his room a bout eight o'clock in the evening to ask his advice on some matter. I knocked on his door, knocked again; then I heard him say "coming". It turned out that he had already retired and when he opened the door he had a stocking cap stretched down over his ears, a huge overcoat on with a scarf around his neck, and the Lord knows how many sweaters and pajamas were under the overcoat. I tried to excuse myself politely; I told him I was sorry to have bothered him and he should return to bed. But he said he was up now and he insisted that I talk a bout whatever brought me there in the first place. *Thy will be done – no matter how or whom the Lord uses to inform me of His will.*

The Provincial had almost to beg Sidge to take part in the ceremony honoring the 70th anniversary of his first vows. He agreed but commented, "This will be my second to the last viewing." *Thy will be done.*

I believe I learned best from Sidge to find God's will in the things I am asked to do. We are all God's

people and He uses us as His representatives on earth. Sidge was obviously aware of this. *Thy will be done.*

Sidge was very sensitive to the men at Dujarie who suffer from Alzheimer's disease. He commented on how sad he felt especially for Brothers Thomas O'Malley and Raymond Kelly. I am sure he thanked God that at 90 and 91 years he was yet able to be sensitive towards others. *Thy will be done.*

Sidge was a quiet man. He was a private person. Strict discipline in the classroom or in his library was a hallmark. Sometimes some people interpreted this negatively, thinking him to be aloof. But aloofness was not part of his mentality. He chaired or worked with many committees in the 1950's when our Brothers worked to produce a common English syllabus for all Holy Cross schools in the United States. Provincial appointments recognized his talents in the fields of English and library science. Again, *Thy will be done – in earth as it is in Heaven.*

To close, let me repeat the opening quotation from Saint Braulio: *We do not really belong to ourselves; we belong to the One who redeemed us. Our will should always depend upon His.*

Brother Pedro Haering, C.S.C.

Eulogy
Brother Thomas Balaz, C.S.C.
1932-2005



On behalf of the Congregation of Holy Cross; I want to extend our sympathy and prayerful support to Brother Thomas Balaz's family and friends and to his nieces and nephews who have joined us and particularly to his sister Hattie and his brother Steve who because of health cannot be with us today. As we speak of family, I offer our special prayers for the Brothers of Columba Hall who have been Tom's family for the past 42 years. This is a phenomenon that doesn't happen often in our province — a person who has lived in the same community all of his religious life. Tom was one of our anchors and is one of the Brothers who will be genuinely missed by his Columba Hall community and by the broader community who anticipated talking with him as they visited Columba Hall. Tom was always there. I know Tom would want me to express his prayerful thanks and gratitude to Brother Donald Morrison who made it possible for him to travel to his family and to Brother James Bluma who journeyed with Tom throughout his illness.

It is with great humility, that I approach this honor of saying a few words to recall the life of Brother Thomas Balaz, a true, humble and faithful servant of Christ. His life is well summed up in the passage from John he had underlined in his Bible: *You did not choose me, I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And the father will give you whatever you ask of Him in my name. This, then is what I command you: love one another.*

We can read the back of the obituary card and recognize the ministry Tom performed for our community and for the University of Notre Dame and we can learn something about Tom. We can reflect on his upbringing in a faith-filled Catholic family in a small Pennsylvania town, where Tom was the youngest of six children. We can recall how he served in the army during the Korean War and worked for Republic Steel in Cleveland prior to joining the Brothers of Holy Cross. These are facts and they tell us something about Tom Balaz but he is not going to be remembered for just these facts or the ministries he performed for us. He is going to be remembered for the person he was. For he was a sterling example of the Lord's command to love one another.

Love was what Tom was about: love of God, love of his family, love of his community, love of his friends. His love was demonstrated in his ability to relate to others in a warm, understanding, and accepting

manner that was always positive and empathetic. People's lives were richer because they knew him. It was these relationships, based on love, that produced the enduring fruit of Christian love.

Tom was really invested in the mission work of Holy Cross, especially the ministry of the Brothers in Bangladesh and the work of the Hogar Santa Cruz, a home for children in Chile. He had a real concern for the poor and gave what he could to support efforts to aid the poor both here and abroad. One of his final deeds was to distribute monetary Christmas gifts he received to the missions.

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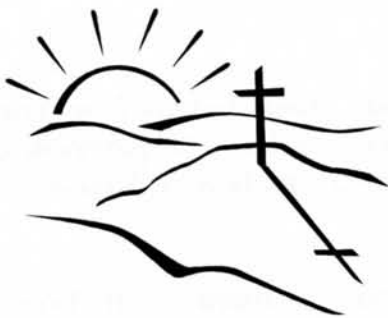
Tom Balaz was a faith-filled, prayerful, humble Brother of Holy Cross. A great measure of a person's faith is not only how they live but also how they die. Brother James Bluma and I had the privilege of being with Tom when he announced his decision not to seek intensive treatment of his leukemia. He asked Dr. Garcia and us to pray with him. He then reflected on how he prayed the night before and was now resigned to place his life in God's hands. When he finished he told us, he would not seek extraordinary treatment. He had faith in God's plan for him and he was willing to accept his impending death. As the community watched this illness progress we were overwhelmed with his peaceful, prayerful and joyful resignation.

Tom went about putting things in order both spiritually and personally and he said goodbye to friends and family. He wanted particularly to see his brother Steve, who was in ill health in Cleveland. He also wanted to see his older sister in Florida. It was a month ago today that Tom was able to visit with Hattie, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday, and with her family.

It became evident after returning from Florida that Tom was very weak and his time was short. He hoped to get through Christmas and into the New Year, which he did. He was ready and he was joyful. I believe the verse he chose from Luke's gospel for his Christmas greeting reflected well his life and his hope and his prayer for us. *The Angel said to them do not be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all his people. This very day in David's town your Savior was born, Christ the Lord.*

Although we all feel a deep personal loss, it is really a time for us to be joyful! In this joyous Christmas season we thank our Lord for taking Brother Thomas to his eternal reward and ask Tom to continue to love and intercede for us. May he rest in the glory of his Savior!!

Brother Thomas Shaughnessy, C.S.C



Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: Brother Paul Rahaim of the Eastern Province of Brothers, Anita Fix, mother of Brother Edward Fox; Denis Tryon, brother of Brother John Tryon; and James Martin, brother of Brother David Martin.

Please remember also Brother Francis Meduri who is critically ill with leukemia.

News Briefs (continued from page 7)

A **Lenten Reflection Series** will be held each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7:00 P.M. in the Dujarie House Lounge, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame. The program and speakers for this year are:

February 9 *Brother Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C.* **WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? To Live a Life of Love as Jesus Did.** Brother Raymond takes a biblical approach to how, in 2005, does one do this – live a life of love as Jesus did.

February 16 *Brother Philip Smith, C.S.C.* **RADICAL WORDS OR RADICAL ACTIVITY.** Br. Philip asks about and suggests how the nature and depth of our participation in the newer, more radical forms of self-discipline we impose on ourselves can be spiritually beneficial during the Lenten season

February 23 *Brother William Mewes, C.S.C.* **STEPS ON THE STAIRWAY TO PARADISE.** Where do you find yourself on the long climb up the stairway of this life that leads to the threshold over which we step into the next life? Br. William will help you find a satisfactory answer.

March 2 *Brother Philip Armstrong, C.S.C.* **INSIDE HOLY CROSS: You asked for it.** Brother Philip takes an introductory look at the history, heritage and spirituality that have defined the congregation's mission and ministries, with an emphasis on the Midwest Province.

March 9 *Ms. Montel Menting* **BE AGLOW WITH THE SPIRIT** (Romans 12:11) In one sense, the Acts of the Apostles is the most important book of the New Testament. In another sense, we see communities involved with food and lodging, with entertainment and travel so relevant in today's world. This scripture passage invites us to pray and to reach out as the early followers of Jesus did.

March 16 *Fr. Kenneth Grabner, C.S.C.* **THE EUCHARIST: How It Transforms Our Minds and Affects Our Lives.** In his inimitable way, Fr. Ken will take a refreshing look at the Mass, focusing on how it can be for us an opportunity for ongoing conversion helping us to make conscious efforts to welcome its powerful aid and the positive perspective of love of God and neighbor it provides in our daily lives.

Brother Richard Johnson continues to update the province webpage. You can visit this webpage at www.brothersofholycross.com. The general administration now has its own webpage: www.gen.cscroma.org.

Reminders:

The **Province Gathering** will be held at Saint Mary's College Notre Dame, Indiana from **Tuesday, June 14 to Friday, June 17**. Information on the gathering will be forthcoming from the provincial office. The province jubilee celebration will take place on Saturday, June 18 at 2:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Basilica on the Notre Dame campus.

The **Holy Cross Family Group** has sent out information and application forms for the Holy Cross gathering to held in Canada from August 6-10. Brothers interested in attending this celebration of the Legacy of Faith and Service of Blessed Brother André Bessette are asked to send their completed registration form and deposit to Sr. Suellen Tennyson, M.S.C., 4115 State Street Drive, New Orleans, LA 70125. Additional forms are available through the provincial office.