

# Midwest News

November 2003

## Capital Campaign

### Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise

A Pledge to *empower the laity*  
A Promise to *stay the course*  
A Plan to *make it happen*

Dear Brother,



As we begin the Province's first major campaign, it brings to mind a story of a Holy Cross hero. Brother André had a vision - a vision of a great shrine on the mountaintop dedicated to St. Joseph.

His vision caused him to have differences with members of his community. Some confreres merely doubted. Others thought he was crazy. They said interest in such a grand future did not exist. They said resources were not available.

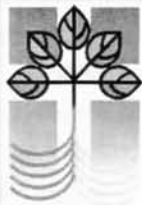
Brother André did not know how it would come together. But he went out on a limb. He took it on faith. He started. He planted a small medal in an empty place. St. Joseph's Oratory was born.

As the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** campaign begins, I am reminded - we are doing the same thing. We too have a vision - a vision for the future of the Brothers of Holy Cross. In our vision, members of our community are cared for in a dignified manner when they are not able to care for themselves. When Brothers become ill or elderly they remain a part of the religious community with the spiritual foundation that has sustained them throughout their lives. In our vision the next generation of Brothers and lay partners continue the ministry and heritage of Holy Cross.

This vision will challenge our community. Some may wonder if the resources will be available. We may not know how it will all come together. But we're going out on a limb. We're taking it on faith. We're starting.

Future issues of Midwest News will include a campaign update to keep you informed of progress. Please keep the campaign on your mind and in your prayers. Please participate in campaign activities. Only together, as a Brotherhood, can we successfully address the challenges facing our community.

Br. William Geenen, Chair



Brothers of Holy Cross  
Midwest Province  
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*"Our calling is to serve the Lord Jesus in mission not as independent individuals but in a brotherhood." - Constitution 4:33*

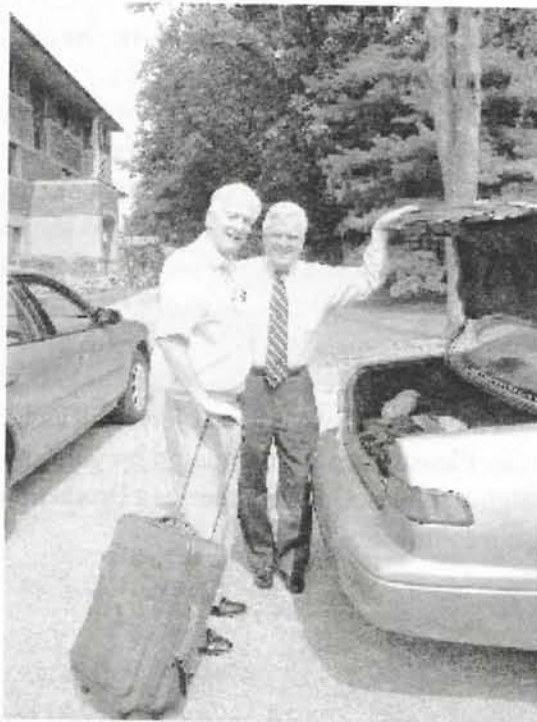
## Solicitation Begins!

As fall began, so did gift requests for our **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** campaign. Over the next year, members of our community will personally visit several hundred alumni, friends, family, and people who have been involved with our schools or other ministries to request their support of our efforts.

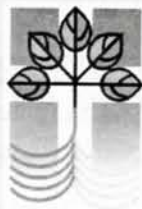
In most cases, a team of Brothers or our Development Director, Jerry Kearns, meets at least twice with each potential donor.

1. During the first visit:
  - old acquaintances with Brothers are renewed;
  - the challenges facing our community are discussed;
  - plans for addressing these challenges are presented; and
  - potential donors are encouraged to meet again so we may request their support.These "cultivation" meetings began this summer. To date, 64 cultivation visits have been conducted.
2. During a second visit, donors are asked to prayerfully consider a pledge to the Brothers of Holy Cross' campaign. So far, 17 solicitation meetings have taken place. Most prospective donors are now discussing their support with a family member or advisor and are considering their pledge.
3. In many cases, a third visit will be made to receive a donor's gift decision.

Please pray that those who have been touched by the Brothers of Holy Cross will find it in their hearts to help us care for ill and elderly members of our community and to help us prepare for continuing service in the heritage of Holy Cross.



Brother Robert Fillmore, Provincial, and Jerry Kearns, Development Director, set off to Evansville on the campaign's first solicitation trip.





## The Brothers of Holy Cross: Our Community Faces Great Challenges

Dear Brother,

Since 1820, we Brothers of Holy Cross have been sent to far corners of the globe. We have worked in many ministries and touched hundreds of thousands of lives. We may joyfully celebrate our glorious past.

We must also look to our future. We can make preparations today to assure the needs of our own members are met, and to assure our community continues serving God, his church and his people.

To build this future, there are hard questions we must ask, including:

- How will we provide quality care for Brothers who are ill and elderly as health care expenses are increasing exponentially and both our earned income and cash reserves are being reduced?
- How will we continue our ministry in the years to come? What will be the future of the institutions and programs we serve?

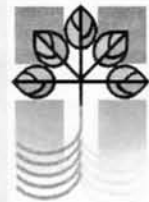
These are serious and critical issues that can be addressed with funding provided through the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** Campaign. While a campaign goal will not be set until early in the new year, our Province has \$30 million in needs:

- \$20 million for care of Brothers. Our existing Life Development Trust is no longer sufficient to pay for health and care-related expenses. We are already spending the corpus (principle) of the trust, and without additional funding, our resources are projected to be depleted in less than ten years.
- \$ 7 million for appropriate housing for Brothers in the South Bend area.
- \$ 3 million to prepare the next generation of Brothers and lay partners to continue service in the tradition and heritage of Holy Cross. This includes enhanced vocations efforts, possible opportunities for young people to spend several years in volunteer service with the Brothers of Holy Cross, increased opportunities for lay Associates, additional training for lay partners in our institutions, and planning for the future of Holy Cross sponsorship in our schools.



Although our current needs may seem extraordinary, this campaign is not merely about avoiding a bleak scenario. It is also about creating a future with promise. We are heirs to a strong 180-year tradition of the Brothers of Holy Cross. Our community has faced and overcome many serious challenges in the past. *"The footsteps of those men who called us to walk in their company left deep prints, as of men carrying heavy burdens. But they did not trudge; they strode. For they had the hope."* Constitution 8:122. (continued on pg. 4)

Brothers Robert Fillmore, Raymond Papenfuss and Carlos Parrilla visit the Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand, IN, to discuss vocation recruitment strategies.



It is now up to us to continue the tradition of the thousands who continued it before us. As they overcome the challenges of their times, we can accept and succeed in addressing the challenges of our own. For we are men with hope to bring. Together, as a Brotherhood, and together with our lay partners we can build a future where the Brothers of Holy Cross not only survive but thrive. We can build a future where Brothers 20 and 30 years from now can say: "Since 1820, we Brothers of Holy Cross have been sent to the far corners of the globe. We have worked in many ministries and touched hundreds of thousands of lives. We may joyfully celebrate our glorious past."

*Bro. Robert Fillmore, C.S.C.*

Brother Robert Fillmore, C.S.C.  
Provincial

## Cabinet of Brothers Leading "Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise" Campaign

Special thanks to those who have agreed to take leadership roles in our campaign by serving on the Campaign Cabinet of Brothers:

William Geenen, Chair  
Philip Armstrong  
Francis Boylan  
Robert Fillmore  
Joseph Fox

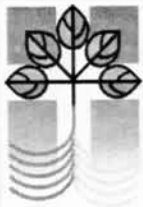
Richard Gilman  
James Greteman  
Kenneth Haders  
Kenneth Kane  
Paul Kelly

Robert Kelly  
David Martin  
Joseph McTaggart  
Raymond Papenfuss  
Roy Smith

The Campaign Cabinet met for the first time in late summer. They received orientations to what the campaign will entail and how it will be carried out. These Brothers helped develop the case for support and campaign materials to share with prospective donors. Members of the Cabinet recently accepted their first assignments to contact friends and supporters of the Brothers of Holy Cross on behalf of the campaign. Please include their work in your prayers.

Over the next year, many Brothers will have the opportunity to become involved in the campaign. It is hoped that each Brother will work on the effort to the fullest extent of his ability. You may:

- attend a campaign event in a city where you lived or taught;
- write a letter to a friend to thank them for considering a pledge;
- make a phone call to encourage a former student to meet with another Brother about the campaign if you cannot travel to personally visit them; or
- meet with a prospective donor to explain the challenges facing our community, our plans to address them, and to request their support.



*"All of us are involved in the mission: ...those in the fullness of their strength and those held back by sickness or by age....All of us as a single brotherhood are joined in one communal response to the Lord's mission." – Constitution 2:18*





## Father Theodore Hesburgh is Honorary Campaign Chair

When asked if he would serve as Honorary Chair of the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** Campaign, Father Theodore Hesburgh quickly agreed, then added "I would stand on my head for the Brothers."

Although he does not travel much anymore, Father Hesburgh has agreed to make phone calls and write letters on behalf of the Brothers of Holy Cross campaign. He is willing to contact select prospective donors to open the door to a campaign request and to encourage a significant gift.

A quote from him is included in campaign materials: "In large part, The University of Notre Dame owes its founding to the Brothers of Holy Cross....we're very aware of their great importance to the University. The heritage of the Brothers on campus is forever present. Through the years, the Brothers have rarely asked for financial support, and we at Notre Dame have asked often. I can think of no better purpose now for the charitable gifts of friends of the Brothers than the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** campaign."

Father Hesburgh also sends a message to the Brothers: "My basic principle is that you don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they are popular; you make them because they are right. This campaign is the right thing for the Brothers of Holy Cross to do."

## Brothers Attend Campaign "Insider's Orientations"

The Provincial, Brother Robert Fillmore, and Campaign Director, Debbie Emrick, went on the road to visit with as many Brothers in person as possible. Eight orientations were held in communities where groups of Brothers live, and 119 attended. Brother Bob and Debbie presented an introduction to the campaign, including what to expect and how Brothers can get involved right away. A summary of their presentation is included with this newsletter. Sincere thanks to all who attended these sessions.

*No one can predict to what height you can soar. Even you will not know until you spread your wings.*



## Frequently Asked Questions About the Campaign

### *I hear about "The Feasibility Study." What was it?*

Before beginning a campaign, we wanted to assure that, as a Province, we could be successful. We hired a campaign consulting firm, Community Counselling Service Co., Inc., to conduct personal meetings with nearly 100 of our supporters and friends. **Sincere thanks** to all the Brothers who submitted names as potential study participants. During the interviews, participants were asked questions regarding:

- their past experiences and **feelings toward the Brothers of Holy Cross** to determine if our potential supporters were likely to welcome a significant request from us;
- their thoughts on the projects we hoped to fund to determine if all portions of our **case** were appealing for donor support;
- who they thought were likely **prospects** for our campaign, those with both the ability and inclination to support our effort; and
- if our **goal** for funding was achievable.

### *Were any adjustments made based on results of the feasibility study?*

Yes. During the study, it became evident that some portions of the case were more supportable than others. For example, scholarships for students was widely seen as the responsibility of individual schools, and was dropped. While Ghana was seen as a positive future for the Brothers, it was also seen as a distraction to supporting elderly Brothers in the United States. Funding for Ghana will continue as a high priority, but outside the campaign.

One important addition was made to the campaign - funding to plan for the future of our community. Our supporters nearly unanimously asked us to take steps to continue our service. The campaign will fund an enhanced vocations effort for vowed religious and training for our lay partners to continue the tradition of Holy Cross in our institutions.

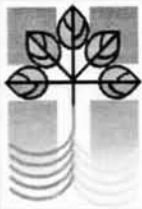
Also according to study recommendations, a campaign goal will be set only after results of the first 10 major gift requests are determined. Finally, the active involvement of Brothers in fund raising was seen as essential. We will begin the campaign with Brother solicitors and then involve lay campaign leaders during the second half of the campaign.

### *Why is our community conducting a campaign when some schools also have fund raising needs?*

Some of our schools will always have fund raising needs. We wish each the greatest success in their campaigns, and hope we will continue to be able to provide qualified Brothers to lead and assist their efforts.

The reality is, we cannot wait any longer to address our own future and overcome our own challenges. As a Province, we approved a campaign at our year 2000 chapter. We provided three years so schools could complete existing campaigns. We have an ever-increasing percentage of Brothers in unpaid positions and needing daily care. We have few Brothers in training to replace them in service and in salaries to our community. We have a narrow window of opportunity to address our challenges. Each month we spend future reserves to pay current expenses.

Many religious orders began fund raising 20 and 30 years ago. We do not have decades of donor cultivation behind us. Each month further separates us from our alumni and other past friends. And each month another Brother no longer has the ability to maintain his contacts and friendship with potential supporters. For us Brothers, only immediate action on our part will lead to a future with promise for our community and a continued Holy Cross presence in our institutions.







**Campaign Prayer**  
**Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise**

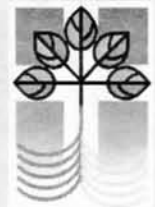
Father, we trust in you to fulfill the dream of Father Moreau,  
But understand we, the Brothers of Holy Cross, have to implement it.  
Our community faces significant challenges,  
Grant us the competence to see and the courage to act.

Only by planning ahead  
can we meet the needs of the people we serve.

Help us develop the will, the zeal,  
the unity, the time, and the skills needed  
to care for our confreres and honor their lives of faith.  
Help us create a future with promise for our community.

God, we ask that you guide our efforts  
as we seek the resources necessary  
to continue in your service as educators in the faith.

These things we ask, through the intercession of St. Joseph and Blessed Brother Andre,  
and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, forever.  
Amen



## Suggested Petitions for Intercessory Prayer

### *MONDAY*

For Brothers who are and Brothers who will become ill or elderly, may they receive the best of care. For success in our **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** Campaign to continue to make quality care possible.

### *TUESDAY*

That we may come together as a Brotherhood to address the challenges facing our community – caring for our elderly and planning for our future service in Holy Cross. May we have the competence to see and the courage to act.

### *WEDNESDAY*

For the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** Campaign; that our effort may be well received and our benefactors may be generous with their blessings.

### *THURSDAY*

For the Brothers and lay partners working on our campaign; may they have zeal as they request support on behalf of the Brothers of Holy Cross.

### *FRIDAY*

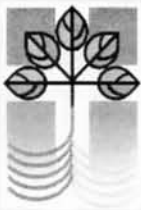
For our benefactors who support the campaign; may they and their loved ones be blessed.

### *SATURDAY*

For the future of our community; may we Brothers and our lay partners continue service in the heritage of Holy Cross.

### *SUNDAY*

That we may learn from Blessed Brother André as we begin the **Honoring Lives of Faith - Securing the Future's Promise** Campaign. Like his founding of St. Joseph's Oratory, we do not yet know the results of our efforts, but we'll go out on a limb and take it on faith.





Dear Brother Robert,

Just a word of encouragement as you make preparations for that big fishing trip. Some of the apostles were fishermen too. They fished for food and not for money - except that day when they found themselves financially strapped and short of cash.

It was then that Jesus came to their assistance by telling them to go fishing and they would find a silver coin in the mouth of a fish they caught - money to pay their temple tax and to give to Caesar the things that were Caesar's.

Robert, I think you are responding beautifully to the promptings of the Holy Spirit who is telling you to go on this fishing trip. How many silver coins you will get I do not know. There is always that risk that the fish won't bite. However, that is a risk that you must take.

Robert, I think you are responding beautifully to the promptings of the Holy Spirit who is telling you to go on this fishing trip. How many silver coins you will get I do not know. There is always that risk that the fish won't bite. However, that is a risk that you must take.

But there is also that other side that goes with a successful fishing trip: great enthusiasm, great confidence and an unwavering trust that the Holy Spirit (who arranged the trip in the first place) will tell you where the good fishing grounds are.

So, the best of luck! My prayers go with you and may your nets not break under the weight of the great catch.

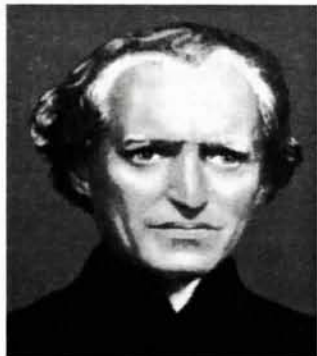
And may God who is mighty continue to do great things for the Congregation of Holy Cross. Therefore, we continue to give thanks to the Lord!

Sincerely in Holy Cross,

Bro. Eligius Ruscik, C.S.C.

P.S. - I think it is important that we walk into our potential donor's office confidently - like a beaming salesman who knows he has a good product. Our donor should be told we came to his office to exchange gifts. It is true the potential donor has something we don't. God gave him the gift of making money - and that is a great blessing. He should be made aware of that great blessing. But it is equally true that we have something the donor does not. We are religious and God gave us the gift of prayer. That, too, is a great blessing. Hence, an exchange of gifts. Each party shares what he has with the other in the measure he has received. The meeting should end with both parties being enriched, for they now have something they did not have before.

**180 years of service in Holy Cross.  
We must maintain our heritage**





## In Brief

**Fr. Stephen Gomes** was re-elected provincial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Province in Bangladesh at the provincial chapter held in October. Frs. Ponen Paul Kubi and Frank Quinlivan were the elected council members.

At the conclusion of its annual conference in October in Washington, D.C., **Br. Philip Armstrong** completed a six-year term as a board member of the Africa Faith and Justice Network. During his tenure, Br. Philip collaborated in the creation of a new mission statement for the organization and in the reworking of the bylaws. He also wrote the rationale for the annual Faith and Justice Award begun five years ago and the policy handbook for the office staff. Each year he was a member of the program committee that planned the Africa Faith and Justice Network's annual conference.

In a letter written on behalf of the Africa Faith and Justice Network, the board chair, Fr. Philip Reed, M. Afr., wrote "Words seem so inadequate to express that gratitude because you have done and been so very much for the organization during that period... We know that there are many, many other things that you did in your six years on the Board, not all of them of which the newcomers amongst us are aware. The personnel handbook, however, is a piece of work that we know you shepherded through the Board after doing much research on what a handbook should include. It will assist us for many years to come... So, in numerous ways you really haven't left us... We will not forget you and your generosity as we look backward and move forward."

**Br. John McMuldren** was one of the recipients of the 2003 Hope Award given by the East Texas Crisis Center in Tyler, Texas on October 9<sup>th</sup>. As Director of Guidance and Counseling at Bishop Thomas K. Gorman Catholic School, Br. John was recognized for his "acuity, caring and dedication to his students' well-being." The citation goes on to say: "In his capacity as a counselor, Brother John has

repeatedly advocated for those who cannot advocate for themselves – students, children. Brother John understands the implications of domestic violence and the impact it has on all family members. His sensitivity and warmth have engendered trust from his students and because of that they confide in him. Violence in the home is not something people talk about – it is the 'elephant in the middle of the room' that everyone ignores. However, because of Brother John's compassion and empathy possible tragedy has been averted on several occasions and timely intervention has been affected in a young troubled life. Brother John, thank you for giving students hope."

**Br. George Klawitter** has published a biography of Brother Gatian (Urbain Monsimer). The book, entitled *After Holy Cross, Only Notre Dame*, is available through the Writers Press Club ([www.iuniverse.com](http://www.iuniverse.com)) for \$18.50 plus \$5.50 for shipping and handling. It can also be ordered through Amazon ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)) and Barnes and Noble ([www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com)).

## Directory Update

**Brother Thomas O'Malley**  
Dujarie House, P.O. Box 706,  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0706,  
Telephone 574-287-1838.

**Brother Carl Sternberg**  
Residence telephone: 760-836-0438

**Brother William Mewes**  
E-mail: [wmewes@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:wmewes@hcc-nd.edu)

**Brothers' residence**  
Sherman Oaks, CA  
Telephone: 818-501-4487





## Book Review

### **EARTH'S ECHO: Sacred Encounters with Nature**

by Robert M. Hamma

(Sorin Books, Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame IN, 2002, 190 pages, paperback, endnotes)

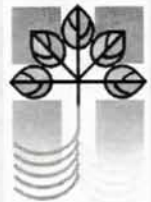
In this small but engaging book, Bob Hamma, author and editorial director of the Ave Maria Press, captures a number of convincing echoes of God's presence on earth. In his introduction he writes, "... I am discovering that the experiences of awe, beauty and harmony that are so much a part of my appreciation of nature are spiritual in their own right. I'm learning to appreciate that nature is not simply the setting in which the presence of God is encountered, it is, in itself, a form of divine presence."

In chapters following from the general heading, "Reading the Book of Nature," and titled, "The Shore," "The Forest," "The Desert," "The River," and "The Mountain," Hamma uses vivid excerpts from influential naturalists, theologians, writers and others, to splash picturesque images onto the imagination of the reader. He reflects, then, in something of a poetic response of his own, and closes with a brief quotation suggested by what has preceded it. For each excerpt, Hamma divides this process into sections he terms, "paying attention," "pondering," "responding" and surrendering. "

The collection of excerpts and shorter quotations reveals Hamma's broad knowledge of sources, his reflections illustrate his inclination toward contemplation, a tendency nicely balanced by his practical spirituality. He leads the reader on a literary hike through aspects and experiences of nature, both personal and vicarious, toward a more effective discovery of God and one's own inner self in the everyday ambient we inhabit. He means to help us "raise our attention to another level," using the reflections of others so that "their considerations give rise to thoughts of our own." Then, recognizing "our heart's desire in response to the 'word'" we have encountered, we "express it in a personal way" and seal it with "an aphorism ... that speaks to each passage and provides a thought to carry us through the day."

At a time when cosmology, ecology, teleology and ontology-among other geocentric disciplines gaining wider currency-are beginning to focus so appropriately on the relationship between the natural and the supernatural, between nature's exhibition of God's presence and humanity's enthusiastic and expanding awareness of the connection, an increasing number of theologians and spiritual writers are seizing the opportunity to urge us to take a fresh look at our inner and outer surroundings and find within them what has always been there that we have largely missed because it never struck us that the apparently pedantic and mundane could reveal so richly such evidence of the divine. We may still have been entertaining remnants of a theology that questions whether matter *per se* can be considered anything other than an impediment that hinders humanity's journey toward God. We may have walked timorously and with misguided selectivity through God's garden of delights in search of its Creator, all the while blind to God's obvious presence in the natural wealth about us.

Hamma cites excerpts from significant individuals such as Carlo Carretto, Rachel Carson, Herman Hesse, Tony Hillerman, T.E. Lawrence, Anne Morrow Lindberg, Henry David Thoreau and Walt Whitman, but garners challenging thoughts as well from lesser known authors. His own "pondering" and "responding" show his habitual openness to the lessons and blessings of nature, and his lifelong and widely varied investment in the experiences of it. The value of the book for the reader lies, I believe, in its not-so-subtle invitation to "come and see" how the God who calls each of us situates us lovingly in the womb-like context of the munificent and magnificent gifts our world provides, enabling us to read the trail-blazing markers that lead us unfailingly to the Creator, who



becomes more and more accessible to us as we learn to discern the Presence all about us.

I recommend *Earth's Echo*, and suggest it be read unhurriedly and reflectively so as to gain maximum benefit from Bob Hamma's "sacred and awe-inspiring book," as Annie Dillard describes it. If we have up till now paid little attention to nature's potential to enhance our spiritual perspective, this little book just might be the jump start we need to initiate a deeper investigation of a fascinating way to grow a bit more in the knowledge and experience of our God.

Br. Philip Armstrong, C.S.C.

