

Midwest News

October 2004



Provincial Council

The provincial council met on Saturday, October 9th, in the Administrative Center. During the meeting, the council approved the sale of the house and property located at 6102 Saddlebow Lane, San Antonio, TX. The house and property will be sold to David Fitzgerald.

The council also approved the establishment of a house of discernment for men seeking to discern their vocation in life. The house of discernment will be located in Columba Hall's East Annex. Brother Philip Smith and Brother Edward Fox will be the directors.

With the consent of the provincial council, Brother Robert Fillmore appointed Brother Chester Freel director of the local community residing on the Boysville campus of Holy Cross Children's Services in Macon, Michigan.

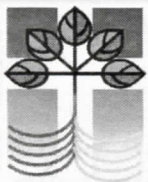
The provincial council accepted the annual audit report of Brothers of Holy Cross, Inc., and the Life Development Trust, Inc., as prepared by Kerber, Eck and Braeckel, L.L.P., auditors.

Students Discuss Future of the Mission of Holy Cross

Students from St. Edward High School, Gilmour Academy and Archbishop Hoban High School met on September 30th to learn more about mission of Holy Cross and to discuss ways to strengthen the Holy Cross network. The day included an opening prayer service in the Gilmour chapel; viewing and discussing a video about the history of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and analyzing yearbooks from the past to see how the mission has been lived out in the schools throughout the years. They also identified the elements of the school crests and their meaning to the school communities and discussed ways to further implement the Holy Cross mission of "the competence to see and the courage to act for the Kingdom of God" in their individual school communities.

Faculty members from the three schools led the sessions. One such session focused on identifying examples of mission in the history of each of the schools. The faculty members also had an opportunity to share ideas about further developing the mission with the schools. One example was the "Holy Cross Unit" that each freshman at St. Edward High School studies during the course of his Christian Identity class.

One of the more invigorating moments of the day was when students from the three schools pointed out that a significant change that has happened in all three schools is the decline in the number of Holy Cross Brothers and priests teaching at these institutions. However, it was quickly pointed out by the students that despite this challenge, the Holy Cross mission is continuing to be furthered by the students, faculty, administration and other members of the school communities. The students cited examples of classroom activities, community service projects, and even the benefits that athletics and the arts offer to local communities as ways of continuing to live out the mission of building the Kingdom of God.



Brothers of Holy
Cross
Midwest Province
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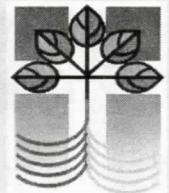
- 4) No person, group of persons, or nation may have a surplus of goods if others lack the basic necessities.
- 5) We are obliged, morally, to come to the aid of those in need. In giving such aid, we are not doing charity, but serving justice. Helping the poor is not an issue of personal virtue and generosity, but something that is demanded by justice itself
- 6) The laws of supply and demand, free enterprise, unbridled competition, the profit motive, and private ownership of the means of production may not be seen as morally inviolate and must, when the common good or justice demand, be balanced off by other principles.
- 7) Physical nature, too, has inherent rights, namely, rights that are intrinsic to itself and not simply given to it because of its relationship to humanity. The earth is not just a stage for human beings to play on, but is a creature of God with its own rights which humans may not violate.
- 8) The present situation within the world where some individuals and nations have excess while others lack the basic necessities, is immoral, goes against the teachings of Christ, and must be redressed.
- 9) The condemnation of injustice is part of the church's essential ministry of preaching and is an essential aspect of the church's prophetic role.
- 10) Movement towards the poor is a privileged route towards God and towards spiritual health. There can be no spiritual health, individually and communally, when there is no real involvement with the struggles of the poor. Conversely, riches of all kinds are dangerous.

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Please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of Brother Eligius Ruscik, Brother Edgar Plas, Brother Lewis Morrow (EP), Brother Peter Goodman (EB), Brother John Donoghue (EB), Frère Pierre Georgeault (F), Rev. William Schreiner (I), Rev. Frederick Barr (I), Ellen Wilson, sister of Br. Kenneth Kane and Norman Keller, brother of Br. Richard Keller.

Please remember also our brothers who are in poor health, especially Brother Leo Kowalski and Brother Flavius Ellison.





BLESSED BROTHER ANDRE, C.S.C.: A LEGACY OF FAITH AND SERVICE

A Gathering of Holy Cross Men and
Women Religious and Associates

AUGUST 6-10, 2005

NAV Canada Conference Centre
Cornwall, Ontario

As a follow-up to the successful Jubilee 2000 at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN, the Family of Holy Cross Committee invites you to take part in a three day celebration of the life and vision of Blessed Brother Andre and the family of Holy Cross. The highlight of the celebration will be the 100th anniversary liturgy on August 9th at the Oratory of St. Joseph.

The gathering will include presentations on the history of Holy Cross in Canada, the spirituality and life of Blessed Brother Andre, and the mission of the Oratory. There will also be opportunities to discuss and share our current international life and mission as Holy Cross religious in the world today.

The conference center is located on a 75-acre park-like setting on the banks of the picturesque St. Lawrence Seaway in Cornwall, Ontario. Both single and double hotel quality rooms are available. Full conference and dining facilities are also available, including a fitness center and indoor swimming pool.

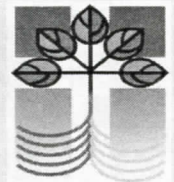
Cost includes room, meals, airport transfer, translation, and transportation to the Oratory for the dinner and celebration.

Single occupancy:	\$500 USD	\$620 CAN
Double occupancy suites:	\$385 USD	\$475 CAN
Commuter fee:		\$150 CAN
(The commuter fee includes conference fees, lunch, and dinner.)		

\$100 non-refundable deposit due with registration by April 15, 2005
Balance due July 6, 2005.

Registration forms will be available in January, 2005.

For further information,
contact Br. Edward Dailey
at edailey@hcc-nd.edu.



Capital Campaign

As part of the *Honoring Lives of Faith – Securing the Future's Promise* \$30 million capital campaign, receptions for alumni, family and friends of our various schools are being held.

On April 13th, Bill Mulligan, a 1972 graduate of Gilmour Academy and a partner with Primus Venture Partners, hosted a reception at the Cleveland Skating Club. Over 40 prospective donors together with 20 Brothers attended. Bishop Anthony Pilla was present and spoke very warmly of the Brothers and our contributions to the Cleveland Diocese. He also gave a very strong and passionate endorsement of our campaign. Brothers Robert Fillmore, William Geenen and Robert Lavelle spoke about the campaign, it's purpose and asked for the support of those present. A 13-minute video of the Brothers' work at Gilmour was shown and included requests for support by Brothers Francis Englert and Frederick McGlynn.

Bill Considine, a 1965 graduate of Archbishop Hoban High School and now CEO of Children's Hospital in Akron, hosted a reception for 56 prospective donors and 16 Brothers on September 23rd at the Portage Country Club. In addition to Mr. Considine's very strong endorsement of our campaign, Brothers Robert Fillmore and Kenneth Haders explained the province's financial needs and the importance of the attendees' support of those needs. Bill Aylward, a former Hoban parent and strong supporter, spoke in praise of the presence of the Congregation of Holy Cross during World War II. He told of the great comfort the Holy Cross religious brought to the troops through their spiritual direction and friendship.

A reception is planned for Wednesday, Oct. 20th, at the Monroe Country Club in Monroe, Michigan. It is being hosted by Tom Russow and Jack Ready, both attorneys, and by the former Judge Paul Braunlich. Mr. Ready is also a former member of the Midwest Province. To date we have 55 acceptances. The same format will be followed as with

Gilmour Academy and Archbishop Hoban High School.

On Oct. 28th a reception will be held at the Governor's Mansion in Indianapolis for Cathedral alumni, family and friends. Governor Joe Kernan, a graduate of St. Joseph High School, South Bend, has enormous respect for the Brothers. In addition to the Governor, George Maley, a 1949 Cathedral graduate, and Michael Browning, a former Cathedral parent, will be the hosts for the reception. So far, over 50 have accepted our invitation.

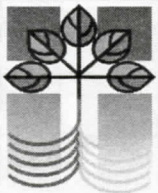
Receptions are also being planned for alumni, family and friends of St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio. In October, 2001, a dinner was hosted for friends of Reitz Memorial High School, Evansville, IN. That dinner resulted in over \$300,000 being pledged and was the impetus for our current campaign.

Invitations are extended to all Brothers who served at the schools whose alumni are hosting the receptions.

News Briefs

Brother Charles McBride will be presented with the Annual President's Medallion at the 2004 General Assembly of the Catholic Academy for Communication Arts Professionals on October 23 at the Hyatt West Hotel, Hollywood, CA. This award recognizes lifetime achievement and service to Catholic communications by a member or former member of UNDA-USA and now the Catholic Academy. Brother Charles is the 18th member to receive this award since 1988.

Brother Charles retired this past June after 23 years as Communications Director for the Archdiocese of Anchorage, Alaska. During his 25 years in Anchorage he served in youth ministry two years, Director of Communications for 23 years, Director of Project Advance, the archdiocesan annual appeal for seven years, official archdiocesan photographer, archivist, editor of the Catholic Community newspaper of the archdiocese for 17 years, and founder and director of the CREDO ecumenical religion cable channel of GCI Cable for 23 years. He



has been a member of UNDA-USA since 1981, a Region XII representative and board member for 12 years, and treasurer for a term.

Brother William Dygert and **Brother Paul Kelly** have been appointed to a third term as members of the board for the Life Development Trust Fund. The other members are Brother Lawrence skitzki, Brother James Leik and Brother Peter Graham

It is like having St. Ed's in Colorado. This is what Kevin Quinn thinks about having four other St. Edward High School graduates at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. The other cadets are Sean Carney, Adam Swift, Chris Szabolcs and Matthew McDiarmid. Last June, while presenting Chris and Matthew with their appointments, Lt. Col. Christopher Kenny, of the United States Air Force said: "St. Edward High School is one of the academy's major feeder schools from this area." Matt McDiarmid said: "St. Ed's prepared us exceptionally well for the academy. In addition to excellent academics and athletics, St. Ed's challenged us to become leaders of character and integrity."

**Congregational Day
of Fast and Prayer**
September 13, 2004

Thanks to all who contributed in the way of alms to the Congregational Day of Fast and Prayer for Peace and Justice, a total of \$1,038.00 was collected and sent to the general administration in Rome to assist Holy Cross religious of the Province of Haiti in their relief efforts in this extremely poor country recently devastated by the hurricane.

Provincial Schedule

October 20

Monroe, Michigan
Monroe Catholic Central High School
Development Reception

October 28

Indianapolis, Indiana
Governor's Mansion
Development Reception

October 30

Lakewood, Ohio
St. Edward High School
Fund Raising Event

November 2 – 14

Provincial Visit in Bangladesh

November 17

Lakewood, Ohio
St. Edward High School
Board Meeting

November 18

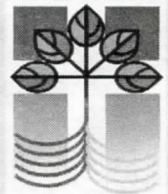
Akron, Ohio
Archbishop Hoban High School
Board Meeting

November 20

Notre Dame, Indiana
Provincial Council Meeting

November 25-26

Provincial Office Closed
Thanksgiving Holiday



The Churches and the Social Gospel

Rev. Ronald Rohlheiser, O.M.I.

It's fashionable today to bash the churches, not just in terms of the scandals within them that hit the newspapers, but, more importantly, in terms of making them out to be enemies of the poor. There's a popular myth that would have us believe that the churches are rich, self-interested, and too corrupt to have much concern and compassion for the poor. The secular media is now, more and more, seen as the champion of the poor, as the moral voice within the culture that speaks for justice, and as a voice that warns the unsuspecting of the greed and self-interest of the churches.

Don't get me wrong. The media is not a villain and its critique of the churches, while sometimes biased and inflated, is rendering an important service, not least to the churches themselves who, except for this kind of criticism, too easily ignore parts of the gospel.

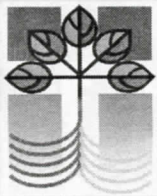
With that being admitted, something else also needs to be said: The argument that the media and not the churches are the real guardian of the poor is based upon selective evidence and a very bad memory. One needs only to look back into history, or just look around today, to see another picture. The churches have been, and still are, at those places with the poor where nobody else wants to be.

The churches, for all their faults and infidelities, ultimately were the key moral ingredient in the abolition of slavery, the founding and legitimizing of labor unions, the push for government health care, the rise of feminism, the push for the equality of races, and the ecological movement because, historically, they were the major moral instrument in shaping of the conscience of secularity itself. The Enlightenment has its roots in the Judeo-Christianity.

Our culture, now so critical of the church, should take a look at where its own roots come from in terms of moral principle. More than one historian will tell it that it takes its roots in the biblical and moral traditions of Judeo-Christianity. A certain honesty might, ideally, flow from that. Long before most secular groups became interested in serving the poor and working for social justice, the churches were already there, on the streets and in the academy of ideas, serving the poor and trying to shape the conscience of society.

Let me here, for critics and faithful alike, list, in caption form, some of the main tenets of that long tradition. With little difference among the various churches, Christian spirituality teaches, and has taught for a long time, these moral truths:

- 1) All people in the world have equal dignity and should enjoy equal rights in terms of respect, access to resources, and access to opportunity.
- 2) God intended the earth for all persons equally. Thus the riches of this world should flow equally and fairly to all. All other rights, including the right to private property and the accumulation of riches that are fairly earned, must be subordinated to this more primary principle.
- 3) The right to private property and accumulation of wealth is not an absolute one. It must be subordinated to the common good, to the fact that the goods of the earth are intended equally for all. No one has the moral right to keep as much as he or she can earn without concern for the common good (even is he or she is a celebrity).



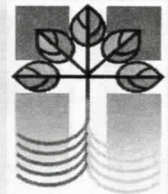
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Book Review

A BOOK OF HOURS

by John Reeves

William Eerdmans Publ. Co.,
Grand Rapids MI, 2001, 68 pages

Once more, we have in hand a “devotional” book, thin, almost square (cir. 6" x 7"), artistically and tastefully designed and produced. It is by John Reeves, an author, composer and radio producer/broadcaster in Toronto, Canada.

You guessed it: this book is a short and easy read. Reeves focuses on certain themes springing from the life of Jesus as related in the gospels and “invites readers into a rich but neglected devotional tradition.” The publisher has employed an artistic design for the book, symbolic of the great illuminated texts of the medieval period when art forms were used to compensate for the illiteracy widespread among the “ordinary” reader and worker. That approach remains valid even in a largely literate Church today.

Reeves uses his own free-flowing poetry to gather the reader around five divisions in the book, each provoking reflection on some part of Jesus’s life on earth: *Concerning the Incarnation*, *Concerning the Ministry*, *Concerning the Passion*, *Concerning the Resurrection*, and *Concerning the Ascension*. Each section offers a modern-day meditation on a given highlight in Jesus’s life. The use of the flowing King James translation of the Bible is intentional. Reeves wishes the reader to draw together the poetic expressions of today and its challenges, but to do so in the rich context of the incomparable King James expression of the life and times of Jesus. Reeves writes in a preface, “I would not dream of tampering with the quality of the Bible our forefathers knew and loved and learnt from.” If you have felt chained to the Douay-Rheims translation until recent years, you may have denied yourself the riches of the translation that could contribute to the growth of your personal relationship with your Creator.

Sidebar expressions, for the most part taken from scripture, help the reader to correlate Reeves’s very brief poetic reflections with their sources.

The title of the book is indicative of Reeves’s efforts to “evoke a kinship with his medieval predecessors” as well as with more modern authors of substance such as John Donne, George Herbert, Gerard Manly Hopkins, T.S. Eliot, and W.H. Auden.

The text of this beautifully produced book calls the reader to relax meditatively and be open to the inspiration sure to come as much from a style of expression used in medieval prayer books called *Books of Hours* as from the topic at hand. An ancient prayer book thus speaks directly to life in the modern world in which Christianity is “a current reality, not just a legacy from the past.”

Though substantive, the contents of this short work comprise a brief and reader-friendly work for at least part of your meditation.

Br. Philip Armstrong, C.S.C.

