

Midwest News

September 2004

General Chapter 2004

The 2004 general chapter of the congregation concluded in Rome, Italy, on Saturday, July 24, 2004. The chapter theme, drawn from our constitutions (C 2, 17), was "Crossing borders of every sort." The borders we are called to cross are not merely physical or geographical boundaries. They are often times the boundaries set for us by our society or the culture in which we live; at other times these borders are the limitations we place upon ourselves and on others in order to maintain our own sense of personal comfort and security. The general chapter challenges each one of us to go beyond these borders and limitations and to stand side by side with all people, "supporting men and women of grace and good will everywhere in their efforts to form communities of the coming kingdom" (C 2, 12).

The general chapter calls upon us to cross these borders in each declaration, recommendation and decree of the six chapter committees: religious life, mission, vocations and formation, structures, government and finances. The superior general will soon promulgate the legislation arising from the committees and you will learn how far reaching the call is to cross these borders of every sort.

As it is impossible within the scope of this article to comment on all the chapter legislation, I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the legislation arising from the Committee on Structures because I believe it will have a significant impact on the life of our province.

The Structures Committee set in motion a regional planning process for the future life and mission of Holy Cross. In its decree, the committee states: "the purpose of this process for planning for the future of Holy Cross will be to streamline and adapt the Congregation to emerging realities; increase our effectiveness for mission; and enhance our ability to use our human and financial resources in an effective and equitable fashion within the Congregation."



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The Salesianum,
site of the 2004
General Chapter



The decree calls for the establishment of Regional Planning Commissions whose members will be drawn from the broader Holy Cross membership in the different regions of the congregation.. These planning commissions will look for ways of communicating with and involving the membership in planning for the future of the congregation. It is hoped that through the efforts of the Regional Planning Commissions and our participation in the planning process that initial proposals can be surfaced for presentation at the next series of provincial and district chapters. Once these chapters have concluded, the Regional Planning Commissions will continue its work to refine a planning proposal with concrete steps to be approved by the 2008-2009 series of chapters. The results coming from these chapters will then be taken up at general chapter to be held in 2010.

According to the decree, the Regional Planning Commissions in the different sectors of the congregation are to focus on the following issues plus any particular issues or concerns of the specific region:

- How to best develop an understanding and acceptance of the planning assumptions by the membership;
- How best to realign the membership into provinces that are viable and dynamic, and that meet the existing criteria for province status;
- How to move effectively toward a situation where priests and brothers live and work together in mission;
- How to streamline and consolidate administrative offices and services in order to achieve an economy of scale and, through the elimination of duplication, free up resources for use in the broader Congregation;
- How to promote collaboration in the region in areas of formation and ministry;
- How to promote interdependence among the regions;
- How to insure, both now and in the future, those works which are an essential part of the Holy Cross patrimony in the region and in the Congregation;
- How to care for the needs of aging and infirm members while, at the same time, providing for initial and ongoing formation needs and the sustenance of members in mission and ministry; and,
- How to promote an ongoing process of renewal of our religious life in the ecclesial and cultural context of the region.

The United States' provincial superiors will meet with Father Cleary, superior general, and Brother John Paige, vicar, at Moreau Seminary on Monday and Tuesday, September 6th and 7th to begin discussions on the implementation of this decree and to begin steps that will lead to the setting up of a Regional Planning Commission for Holy Cross in the United States.

The same committee decreed the establishment of a Congregational Solidarity Commission and a Congregational Solidarity Fund. Realizing the changing demographics in the congregation and the fact that only 7% of our financial resources today are in Africa, Asia and Latin America, while 93% of our available funds are located in France and North America with no change projected for the future, the committee underscored the need "to share financial resources, and promote interdependence and common purpose among the members of the Congregation." For this reason, the committee called for a Congregational Solidarity Commission "to seek to create solidarity and to broaden understanding within and across regions, and set the stage for even more effective collaboration (e.g., networking, communication, human resource sharing, etc.)" There was general agreement that this is the most opportune time for beginning this initiative because provinces and districts who currently have the necessary assets to help may not be in a similar position by the next general chapter.

The Congregational Solidarity Commission is to consist of nine religious of the congregation to be appointed by the superior general with the consent of his council. The appointees are to



have the necessary expertise and commitment to the development of Holy Cross in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

One of the tasks of this commission is to assume responsibility for the Congregational Solidarity Fund. The commission will develop policies for its operation and insure accountability for any disbursement of funds. In addition, the commission will study and evaluate proposals from the provinces and districts of Africa, Asia and Latin America. The commission will then make recommendations to the superior general who will act on these recommendations with the consent of his council.

In order to establish the Congregational Solidarity Fund, a special assessment will be levied on each province and district to be paid in annual installments over a five-year period. The expectation is that this will create a capital base of approximately \$13,700,000 by 2009. The assessment for the Midwest Province is \$1,659,884 to be paid in yearly installments of \$331,977.

Finally, the Structures Committee decreed a new composition for the general council, namely, that while maintaining parity, the superior general is to be assisted by four or six general assistants. Two general assistants, one brother and one priest, are to be elected by the general chapter capitulants. After consultation with these two elected general assistants, the superior general will appoint two or four additional assistants from a list of candidates developed by the two societies of Holy Cross during the course of the general chapter. As a result of this decree, the present general council consists of three brothers and three priests, two of whom are full time members residing at the generalate in Rome and four who are part time members maintaining their present places of residence. The two full time council members are Brother John Paige of the Eastern Brothers' Province, who is also the vicar, and Rev. Mario Lachapelle of the Canadian Priests' Province. The four part time council members are: Brother Joseph Tsiquaye (Midwest Province), Rev. Fritz Louis (Province of Haiti), Brother Bijoy Rodrigues (St. Joseph Province in Bangladesh) and Rev. Richard Warner (Indiana Province).

Brother Robert Fillmore, C.S.C.



General Chapter Participants



PAPAL AUDIENCE

The general chapter participants attended the weekly audience held by Pope John Paul in the Paul VI Audience Hall on Wednesday, July 21. At the conclusion of the audience, the chapter participants were given the opportunity to greet the Pope and to have photographs taken. It was at this time that Pope John Paul gave a letter to Father Hugh Cleary, superior general, which expressed his greetings and wishes for the general chapter. The text of the letter is below.



To the Reverend Hugh Cleary, CSC
Superior General
and to all the Participants of the General Chapter of the
Congregation of Holy Cross

It gives me great pleasure to greet you affectionately in the Lord on the occasion of your General Chapter. I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and enlighten you during these days of prayer and reflection, as you examine your identity as consecrated Religious and consider how best to preserve and adapt your spiritual patrimony to the changing historical and cultural situations of today (cf. *Vita Consecrata*, 42).

In 1837, your founder, the Venerable Basil Anthony Mary Moreau, responded generously and wisely to the needs of the turbulent times in which he lived, dedicating himself and his spiritual sons to the task of renewing and strengthening French society through preaching the gospel, education, and assistance to those in need. Beginning from a place providentially called "Holy Cross," the Congregation rapidly spread abroad, establishing missions and educational institutions across the globe.

The theme of the present Chapter is "Crossing borders of every sort." These words, taken from your own Congregation's Constitution, express the desire to capture anew that initial spirit of your founder and they demand, in the first place, a personal commitment from every member of the Congregation to a life of holiness and joy in the vocation which the Lord in his goodness has given. In a world obsessed with material possessions and personal gratification, your witness of evangelical poverty, chastity, and obedience will shine for others, showing them what it means to follow Christ completely and unreservedly. Consequently, I invite you to set out boldly "into the deep." The more fervently you join yourselves to Christ by this gift of your whole self, "the fuller does the Church's life become and the more vigorous and fruitful her apostolate" (*Perfectae Caritatis*, 1). I am confident that your faithful witness to Christ's invitation to "come and see" (*Jn* 1:39) will inspire others to do the same.

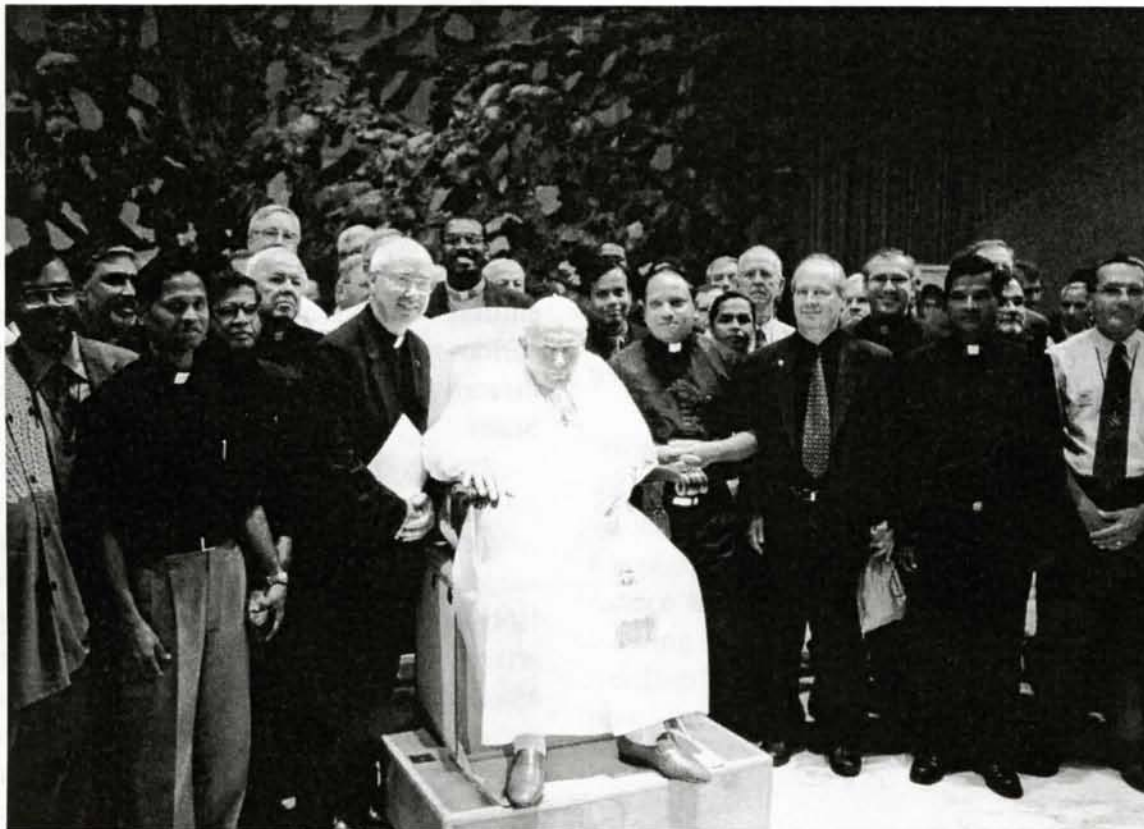
The recent establishment of the Congregation's new provinces in Haiti and North East India is a clear sign of the fruitfulness of your apostolate for the life of the Church, demonstrating that the Gospel has taken firm root there. As the Second Vatican Council so wisely teaches, "Missionary activity extends the saving faith of the Church, it expands and perfects her catholic unity . . . and bears witness to her sanctity" (*Ad Gentes*, 6). As you consolidate your presence in these and other territories, you contribute to the growth of the Church, you enkindle the flame of hope in the hearts of God's children, and you carry out the Lord's injunction to "go out to the whole world and proclaim the good news" (*Mk* 16:15).



I pray that the Blessed Virgin Mary, model of consecrated life, will continue to inspire and sustain you with her example and her powerful intercession. May she help you to live your religious vocation with increasing gratitude and joy in the knowledge that the consecrated life is a precious and necessary gift for the Church, "an intimate part of her life, her holiness and her mission" (*Vita Consecrata*, 3). As a pledge of grace and peace in the Lord, I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing to all the members of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

From Castel Gandolfo, 21 July 2004

Joannes Paulus II



CONGREGATIONAL DAY OF FAST AND PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

Monday, September 13, is the date for the annual Congregational Day of Fast and Prayer for Justice and Peace. This is special day established by the 1998 General Chapter is one in which we remember the members of the Congregation who have died as victims of violence or who have given their lives in the pursuit of justice and peace. The Committee on Mission of the 2004 General Chapter recommends that we continue the tradition of

declaring this annual day of fasting, prayer, almsgiving and education for justice and peace in the Congregation. The committee further recommends "To insure a commonality throughout the Congregation, themes for this day, educational resources and prayer services are to be developed by the province, district or ministry highlighted."

This year the general administration proposes that in the light of the recent strife and suffering experienced by the people and our confreres living and ministering in Haiti, Holy Cross in Haiti be the beneficiary of our fasting,



prayer and almsgiving. This small Caribbean country is very rich in people, talent and hope. Yet at the same time, Haiti is so desperately economically poor, completely devoid of infrastructure, with 80% unemployment, devastating pollution and deforestation. Its schools and clinics are extremely limited in resources. Because of the great political conflict and unrest, there is a very unfortunate culture of violence pervading the island. By connecting with our Holy Cross confreres in Haiti on Monday, September 13, we as a Congregation can speak a collective yes to our mission priority of the option for the poor.

The alms received as a result of through funds saved by fasting or donations received will be sent to the provincial superior of the Province of Notre-Dame du Perpetuel Secours in Port-au-Prince so that he and his council can direct them to people in great need and to projects that will directly alleviate the suffering of the poor.

Please send your donations for the Congregational Day of Fast and Prayer for Social Justice to the Provincial Office by Monday, September 30th. The funds collected through money saved by fasting or by donations will then be forwarded to the general administration. Please indicate clearly that these are alms for this special day of solidarity with our confreres in Haiti.

HOLY CROSS HISTORY CONFERENCE

On Thursday evening, June 10th, Brother Joseph Fox, C.S.C., president of the Holy Cross History Association, welcomed forty-nine participants to the 23rd annual Conference on the History of the Congregations of Holy Cross, "A Pilgrimage to the Past," at the Sarto Retreat House in Evansville, Indiana. Local author, John McMullen, offered background information on Catholics in Evansville and Vanderburgh County, Indiana, and Bro. Joseph led the group in a Litany of Remembrance, praising the seven Holy Cross missionaries who were the first to come to America. This year's conference followed an



Brothers Joseph Fox, John Kuhn and Robert Fillmore at the grave of Brother Anselm (Pierre) Cailllot in Madison, Indiana.

entirely new format consisting of bus trips to various sites in southern Indiana that figured in the early history of the community in the United States.

On Friday, June 11th, the conference-goers were bussed to Vincennes, Indiana, where they gathered in the Old Cathedral and sang the Te Deum just as the first contingent of Holy Cross missionaries had done when they arrived in Vincennes in October 1841. After Mass, Richard Patrick Day, whose family has been members of the Old Cathedral parish since 1760, spoke to the group on the cathedral and the early bishops of Vincennes. There was a tour of the museum and the former bishop's house, now the rectory, where Bishop Celestine de la Hailandiere welcomed the seven men from France. Father John Schipp, the pastor, led the tour.

From Vincennes the participants traveled on to Terre Haute and St. Mary of the Woods College where the Sisters of Providence, founded by Jacques Dujarlé, opened their first house in North America under Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin. Two Sisters of Providence, Sr. Eileen Kelley and Sr. Mary Roger Madden, read papers on the early foundations of their community in Indiana and on the French school of spirituality, which had influenced both Fathers Dujarié and Moreau.



There followed an elegant banquet and the business meeting of the Holy Cross History Association.

On Saturday, June 12th, everyone boarded an early bus for Madison, Indiana, on the Ohio River where Brother Anselm (Pierre) Caillot, one of the original band and only sixteen years old when he came to Indiana, taught the parish school. Brother Anselm drowned while swimming in the river in 1845 and the high point of the weekend was a visit to his grave in the Springdale Cemetery in Madison and the dedication of a marker at his grave provided by the Holy Cross History Association. The inscription on the marker is as follows:

*BROTHER ANSELM, C.S.C.
PIERRE CAILLOT
19 MARCH 1825 - 12 JULY 1845
ONE OF SIX BROTHERS OF HOLY
CROSS (ORIGINALLY BROTHERS OF
SAINT JOSEPH) WHO CAME FROM
FRANCE IN 1841, ACCOMPANIED BY
FATHER EDWARD SORIN, C.S.C.
WHEN SEVEN BROTHERS AND
FATHER SORIN WENT
NORTH TO FOUND THE UNIVERSITY
OF NOTRE DAME NEAR
SOUTH BEND, BROTHER ANSELM
REMAINED IN SOUTHERN
INDIANA TO TEACH LOCAL
CHILDREN.
HE DROWNED WHILE SWIMMING IN
THE OHIO RIVER.
HOLY CROSS WAS THE FIRST
TEACHING COMMUNITY OF
BROTHERS IN THE UNITED STATES*

The exact location of the gravesite was discovered only two years ago by Robert Newland of Indianapolis and his wife. Newland spoke, describing how he had found Anselm's grave, and John Galvin of Historic Madison Foundation spoke about the history of St. Michael's Church in Madison where Anselm lived and kept school in the undercroft of the church. Madison mayor, Al Huntington, addressed the group at the cemetery and Brother Gerald Muller, C.S.C., gave an organ

recital in the church, now an historic landmark.

On the bus rides, the travelers saw several videos: Rev. Marvin O'Connell on "The Magnificent Six," the six Holy Cross Brothers who came from France in 1841; Mother Guerin and St. Mary of the Woods College; and the history of Madison, once the largest town in Indiana. As always, the conference was a time for renewing friendships among members of the four Holy Cross communities, all of whom were represented, as well as with lay friends who joined this year's "pilgrimage." At the conclusion of the conference, Father Chris Kuhn, C.S.C., took over as president of the Holy Cross History Association for 2004-2005 and announced that next year's conference will be held in Chicago and will celebrate among other things the fiftieth anniversary of Notre Dame High School in Niles, Illinois. Sister Suzanne Payette, C.S.C., of Goffstown, New Hampshire, and Brother Richard Kelly, C.S.C., of New Orleans, were elected to two-year terms on the council. Father James Connelly, C.S.C., was elected vice-president and Father Richard Gribble, C.S.C., and Sister Dorothy Reppen, C.S.C., were re-elected secretary and treasurer, respectively.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

At the end of June, an Interim Final Report on our Capital Campaign, "Honoring Lives of Faith: Securing the Future's Promise," was presented by the Community Counseling Service. The report emphasized the encouraging progress made during the first year while pointing out in the form of recommendations the work that needs to be done in the coming year and beyond. Among the recommendations it was suggested that the province continues the cultivation and solicitations begun this year, to begin to clearly define a Planned Giving Program, to host local receptions for friends and alumni to continue seeking assistance from Brothers through the Capital Campaign Cabinet Board. Five such receptions are planned for this purpose. The first reception will take place on September 23 at Archbishop Hoban High School, Akron.



Other receptions will be held at St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, in Monroe, Michigan, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Debbie Emrick, of Community Counseling Service, will assist in the organization of these receptions. The province development office is also initiating plans for a Planned Giving Program.

To date 2.5 million dollars has been raised and there is a clear expectation that another 2.5 million can be raised through efforts next year.

It was understood at the beginning of the Capital Campaign that the one-year contract with Community Counseling Service would provide the foundation and needed tools to continue the campaign through in-house efforts. At the completion of this period of service, it was obvious that the foundations for future efforts were well laid and by re-directing our efforts the campaign can be successful. In large part this is due to the generous and professional work of Jerry Kearns, Development Director, Paula Jones, secretary and Debbie Emerick, Community Counseling Service's on-site representative.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

The provincial council approved a proposal to expand Holy Cross Village into a **Continuing Care Retirement Community** (CCRC). The proposed expansion is an outgrowth of Holy Cross Village's mission statement to create "an interdependent community associating with and reaching out in service to one another and to others while at the same time sensitively respecting each individual's dignity and right to privacy."

The CCRC will provide independent living, assisted living and intermediate care to residents while at the same time offering services and opportunities for social, physical and spiritual support. The CCRC will consist of 93 independent apartment units, the addition of 30 assisted living suites to Schubert Villa and the addition of a 12-bed dementia unit and the licensing of four skilled care beds at Dujarie House.

Because of the size and scope of the CCRC. The Franciscan Sisters Service Corporation of Chicago will develop and manage the project. The Franciscan Sisters Service Corporation has a solid background and a strong experience record in nursing care and in the operation of similar retirement communities. In addition, the corporation's philosophy and mission are very similar to that of the Brothers of Holy Cross and of Holy Cross Village.

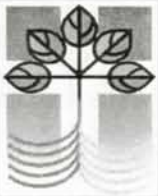
A **province workshop** is scheduled from June 14th to June 17th, 2005. The workshop will replace the annual province retreat this year. Dr. Richard P. Johnson, Ph.D, known author and lecturer, will facilitate the sessions that will focus on individual and community mission. Dr. Johnson is the author of *12 Keys to Spiritual Vitality, Body, Mind and Spirit*, and *Creating a Successful Retirement: Finding Peace and Purpose*. Details concerning the workshop and registration information will come at a later date.

HOLY CROSS ASSOCIATES

At their bi-annual assembly held at Fatima Retreat Center, Notre Dame, Indiana, from June 18th to June 20th, thirty members of the Holy Cross Associates from the United States and Ghana shared their research on various aspects of Holy Cross history and their efforts to unify the orientation, formation and recruitment of the Associates.

The time together proved to be a graced moment as the rich and inspiring history presentations came alive and captured the attention of everyone present. A new pamphlet describing the Holy Cross Associate program created by Brother John Tryon was presented and a handbook outlining the formation program and the format for conducting meetings. Participants also viewed a newly produced DVD entitled, *Pilgrimage to Holy Cross*, created by Brother Carl Sternberg and Father Steve Gibson.

Ed and Mary Schenk of Chicago continue to serve as the lay coordinators for the Holy Cross Associates. They are assisted



by Brother Carl Sternberg who continues as a resource person and Brother Richard Johnson, the media and data coordinator.

During the assembly a clear plan for inviting new members was drawn up and the Holy Cross Associates look forward to initiating five new chapters during the coming year.

For more information, log onto
<http://hcc-nd.edu/mwp/associates/>

NEWS BRIEFS

David Fitzgerald received a dispensation from his vows as a Brother of Holy Cross. He will continue to teach at St. Mary's University and reside in San Antonio, Texas. The members of the province express their gratitude and appreciation to David for his contributions to the community over the past years. At the same time, we assure him of our prayers as he begins a new stage in his life. David's address is 6102 Saddlebow Lane, San Antonio, TX 78704-6221.

Brother Edward Fox will make his perpetual profession of vows on Saturday, October 16 at 2:00 P.M. in St. Joseph Chapel, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame. Brother Edward is the assistant director for new membership for the province and resides in Riverside Place, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.

Divorce and Beyond, co-written by **Brother James Greteman**, Leon Haverkamp and Elsie Radtke, originally printed in 1993, continues to sell over 3,000 copies per year. A revised edition of the book appeared this summer. The book is available from Barnes and Noble, Borders and ACTA Publications. It is also available in Spanish from the Family Ministries Office in Chicago, IL.

Throughout the summer months a great deal of effort has been put into making the necessary transition after the closing of **Holy Cross High School**, River Grove, Illinois. A large number of Holy Cross students have

transferred to the newly formed co-educational Guerin Academic Prep High School. The Sisters of Providence have taken the courageous decision to maintain Catholic education as an option on the corner of Belmont and 80th Avenue. Sister Nancy Nolan, S.P., president of Guerin Academic Prep High School, is directing the new effort.

The former Holy Cross High School gymnasium and playing fields are being leased by Guerin Academic Prep High School. The remainder of the building belonging to Holy Cross High School will be leased to outside groups in an effort to retire a debt accumulated by Holy Cross High School. Brother Paul Kelly, with his usual generous spirit, has accepted responsibility for managing and leasing the building. The present residence will continue to be owned and used by the Brothers for as long as needed.

Calendar Items

Provincial Council Meetings

October 1 - 2, 2004
November 19 - 20, 2005
January 21 - 22, 2005
March 18 - 19, 2005
May 20 - 21, 2005

Congregational Day of Fast & Prayer

September 13, 2004

Province Workshop

June 14, 15, 16, 17, 2005
(details to be announced later)

Province Jubilee Celebration

June 18, 2005



Please remember in your prayers

Recently deceased members of the congregation:

Brother Walter Davenport, Brother Jerome Quella, Brother John William Donoghue (EB), Rev. Joseph Roguz (I), Rev. Philip Sopke (I), Rev. Henry Bourgeois (EP);

Deceased relatives of province members:

Rita Allen, mother of Brother Kenneth Allen; James Shaughnessy, brother of Brother Thomas Shaughnessy; William Foken, father of Brother Edward Foken and brother of Brother Walter Foken; Sister M. Ernestine, O.P., sister of Brother Frederick Choquette; James Courneyer, brother-in-law of Brother Francis Meduri; and Agnes Drevon, mother of Brother Charles Drevon.

Province members who are ill or recovering from surgery, especially

Brother Thomas Balaz, Brother Francis Meduri, Brother Edgar Plas, Brother Donald Johnroe, Brother Camillus Kirsch, and Brother Vincent Gross.

