

## MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

*April 1999*

**Br. Joseph Ballard**, principal at Sacred Heart School in Floresville, Texas, reports that the school has been the recipient of a *Kenedy Memorial Foundation* grant in the amount of nearly forty thousand dollars.

The grant money is to be used to enhance computer technology and an accelerated reading program throughout the school. The funds will enable Sacred Heart to have new computers in the lab, classrooms and administration offices, and will help the students acquire and use computer skills they will need in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Shortly after the appearance in the March issue of the *News Items* of statistics concerning the newly designated Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Joseph provinces in Bangladesh, the St. Joseph Province *News Notes* for February arrived with complete numbers for all Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters in Bangladesh.

There are 4 Bangladeshi Holy Cross priests who have been ordained bishops and are presently serving the Church in Bangladesh.

Among perpetually professed priests there are 24 Bangladeshis and 12 expatriates. There are 22 temporarily professed clerics, 6 novices and 35 candidates for the clerical society.

Among perpetually professed brothers there are 23 Bangladeshis and 10 expatriates. There are 21 temporarily professed brothers, 2 novices and 63 candidates.

Among perpetually professed sisters, there are 23 Bangladeshis and 10 expatriates. There are 21 temporarily professed sisters, 2 novices and 10 candidates.

The total number of Holy Cross priests and brothers in Bangladesh, including the temporarily professed, is 102.

The total number of Holy Cross sisters is 54.

The number of sisters, brothers and priests of Holy Cross in Bangladesh, including temporarily professed, is 156. The three societies have a total of 10 novices and 108 candidates.

Together with the province and the two districts of India, plus the district in Haiti, there is a clear pattern of significant growth in vocations to the congregation in these areas of the world where Holy Cross is present.

**Br. Remigius Bullinger** of Casa Santa Cruz in Phoenix had a poem entitled *Quiet Persistence* published by the *National Catholic Reporter* in its March 5, 1999, edition.

The poem's theme is Easter-oriented, reminding the reader in colorful, imaginative language of the power of God as shown in the weaker elements of creation, bringing new life to them and to the world.

As usual, Br. Remigius has crafted a poetic salutation to the 1999 jubilarians, calling them "God's precious stones—diamonds, pearls, emeralds, all jewels." And St. Paddy's Day did not escape without a typical bow from Br. Remigius to the great evangelizer.

In your prayers, please remember **Br. John Harris**, who has recently had medical tests in Mountain View, California, where he volunteers in the school library.

**Rev. Fred Bergman, C.S.C. (SHJ)** died in Bangladesh on March 24 at the age of 86. He

had been active in missionary work in Bangladesh, previously Bengal (while part of India) and E. Pakistan, for 60 years, and was well known for his genial nature and apostolic determination, especially in his later years even as his eyesight gradually failed.

The apartment building constructed overlooking the St. Joseph River just south of the Schubert Villa in the Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame received its first resident brothers beginning during Holy Week. Of the twenty-five making the move from the Faculty House (province business office building), Columba Hall, dwellings in town or other Holy Cross houses elsewhere, about half a dozen moved in before Easter, and the week following found many of the others making the transition. **Br. John May** coordinated the opening of the building, which is still in need of finishing touches by the builders, especially landscaping, and **Br. Joseph Fox** handled the details of moving on the basis of each individual's requirements. Those taking up residence in the apartment building are: **Brs. Thomas Balthazor, Michael Becker, Robert Dierker, Charles Drevon, Chris Dreyer, Raymond Dufresne, Edward Foken, Richard Gilson, Fr. Kenneth Grabner, Brs. Charles Gregg, John and Raymond Harrington, John Kuhn, James Leik, Robert Livernois, Donald Martin, Francis Meduri, James Moroney, Isaac Jogues Motz, Raymond Papenfuss, Thomas Rock, Harold Ruplinger, Thomas Shaughnessy, Henry Skitzki and Larry Unfried.** The post office address is P.O. Box 716, Notre Dame IN, 46556-0716.

The preparation of infrastructure for the new entrance off State Road 933 North and for residence units at the Holy Cross Village continued through much of the winter and is approaching completion. At least three residence buildings, including a duplex and a fourplex, are expected to be begun in June with an eye toward their being ready for occupancy by mid-winter.

Holy Trinity High School held its annual *One Hope* (Spes Unica) award dinner on March 24 in Chicago. **Br. Philip Smith**, president, announced that the award is given each year to a person perceived as having figured significantly in the betterment of education in either public or private schools.

This year's award was given to **Rev. Edward (Monk) Malloy, C.S.C.**, president of the University of Notre Dame. In his acceptance speech, Fr. Malloy noted the tremendous contribution of the Brothers of Holy Cross to education, especially in traditionally responding to the needs of those less able to provide for their own quality education.

The late **Br. Godfrey Vassallo**, a Midwest Province member who taught engineering at the University of Portland until his death several years ago, began in 1945 to plan for the establishment of a school of engineering at the university. The dream was realized in 1949, so this year the university is celebrating the engineering school's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Br. Donald Stabrowski**, Academic Vice President at Portland, reports that the April 9-10 weekend saw an open house, a reception and a dinner marking the anniversary.

A footnote in the press release for the occasion notes Portland's affiliation with the Congregation of Holy Cross, and says that "*U.S. News and World Report* ranks the institution as one of the top regional universities in the American West." The engineering school is the only such accredited program in the state of Oregon.