MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

August 1998

Br. Paschal Tomaszewski died on July 30 at Dujarie House at age 77 of diabetic and coronary complications. He had undergone minor surgery on one foot a week or so before, and, when he died, had just been scheduled for some fairly major surgery. The funeral was held at the Brothers Center on Sunday, August 2, with many of his relatives from the Gary area present along with community members. Br. Paschal spent well over thirty years at St. Joseph High School, South Bend. Several former students and faculty members were able to be on hand, including past principals Brs. James Linscott and Francis Rotsaert and the current principal, Mrs. Barbara Jamielity.

The 1998 General Chapter concluded on July 29, 1998, in Rome, Italy, with the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. At that time the administration of Fr. Claude Grou handed over to that of newly elected Superior General, Fr. Hugh Cleary (EP). Chosen to assist Fr. Cleary are Br. John Gleason (EB), First Assistant and Vicar; Fr. Robert Morin (CP), reelected as Second Assistant; Br. Donald Blauvelt (SW), Third Assistant; and Fr. Arulraj Gali (IN), Fourth Assistant.

Before the elections, Fr. Cleary was provincial of the Eastern Province of Priests and Brothers; Br. John was provincial of the Eastern Province of Brothers; Fr. Morin was a member of Fr. Grou's last general council; Br. Donald taught in Beaumont, Texas, after completing nine years as provincial of the South-West Province in 1997; and Fr. Arulraj was novice director for both the Province and District of India (priests and brothers).

Representing the Midwest Province at the chapter were Br. William Geenen, provincial, and Brs. Donald Gibbs, Kenneth Haders, Richard Gilman, Thomas Maddix, Michael Amakyi, Joseph Fox and John Tryon.

Brs. William and Don returned on July 31 with the report that Fr. Cleary is preparing a letter for the membership to accompany the legislation and other documentation that came out of the chapter. Topics considered were the mission of Holy Cross, our religious life, administrative issues, further planning in the congregation and possibilities regarding restructuring, vocations and formation, and finances.

One formal act decreed by the chapter was to change the constitutions in order to do away with the designation of "vice province." As a result, the two former vice provinces of Bangladesh are accorded full province status. **Br. Bijoy Rodrigues**, therefore, becomes the provincial of the St. Joseph Province in Bangladesh, and **Fr. Stephen Gomes** the provincial of the Sacred Heart Province. Because the change was constitutional rather than statutory, formal approval must yet be given by the Congregation for Religious Institutes and Societies of Apostolic Life. All references to vice provinces in the constitutions and statutes will be dropped. More will be said about this change after the chapter documents have been promulgated.

Br. Edward Dailey, secretary to the general council, suffered a fracture of the fibula in a fall early in the chapter and was hobbling about in a foot-to-thigh cast, which he hopes will be removed near mid-August.

The Provincial Business Office has been notified by the Notre Dame Post Office that all mail addressed to Columba Hall must include P.O. Box N on it or risk not being delivered (the specific four-digit code added to the zip code does not substitute). The post office also asks that, in addition to the five-digit zip code for Notre Dame, the four-digit specification code be added as follows:

 Columba Hall
 46556-0776

 Dujarie House
 46556-0706

Faculty House 46556-0716 (former provincial residence wing)

Provincial Bus. Off. 46556-0460 Schubert Villa 46556-1020

Please note these changes in your province directory. The next edition of the directory will include these requirements.

Besides for Br. Paschal, your prayers are requested for the following deceased individuals. Fr. Philip Kelly (EP) died on July 12 at Cocoa Beach not long before his 85th birthday. Br. John William (Ewald) Lyons (SW) of Rancho San Antonio, Chatsworth, died on July 21 at Northridge, California, at the age of 84. Br. James Greteman's sister-in-law, Norma Greteman, died on June 29 in Carroll, Iowa. Br. Raymond Trottman's brother, William Trottman, died on July 8 in Chicago. Late word was also received that former brother John Emminger died of cancer at St. Malachy's Hospice in Cleveland on July 27.

Br. Thomas Sisung requests special prayers from province members for the full restoration of his health.

Br. Paul Mensah sent word that Br. Vincent Gross had been injured in an automobile accident on July 27 near Cape Coast in Ghana. Br. Vincent was taken to the hospital, where several stitches were needed to close a head wound. He was subsequently sent to the archdiocesan Fosu Clinic for observation and recuperation. Updates on July 30 and August 3 indicated the injuries were minor, and Br. Vincent was expected back at Brafu Yaw on August 3. Please keep his full recovery in your prayers.

A lengthy, well written article describing the concept and development of The Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame appeared on the front page of the Local section of the South Bend Tribune on June 26. Ms. Margaret Fosmoe, Tribune staff reporter, authored the article, which she based on a long conversation with Brs. William Geenen, John May and Philip Armstrong and a tour of the property. Two color photos accompanied the article.

Resulting from the publication of the article was an immediate incursion of interested persons by car or bicycle and on foot to inspect the developing Village and to ask questions. Many requested their name be placed on the mailing list for further information when available late this summer. The Information Center, staffed by Mr. Frank Macknick and others, will be open and operating by Labor Day.

The September issue of *Midwest Province News Items* will be a bit late because the editor is scheduled for vacation until after Labor Day. However, fear not, for it will by all means appear!