

## MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

January 1998

In mid-December **David Naples** signed his acceptance of the indult of departure he had requested from Pope John Paul II through the provincial and general councils. In recent years Dave has been teaching math and physics at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. He spent many years teaching physics in Ghana and Liberia, and was for a term president of Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.

Dave's dedication and loyalty to community, institution and duty are well known, and his meticulous attention to organization and detail is as appreciated as it is habitual. He contributed much to communication between Africa and Notre Dame through his operation, under the tutelage of **Br. Donard Steffes**, of a ham radio station.

Dave spent thirty-four years in Holy Cross as a professed religious, each of them enriched by his good humor, his extraordinary talents and his professionalism. It is with gratitude and our blessing that we wish him well in his life at this time and into the future, and it is with hope that we anticipate his remaining always close to us through communication and personal contact.

From Asia has come word of the deaths of two Holy Cross religious. **Fr. Charles Houser (I)**, died unexpectedly on December 21 at the scholasticate in Rampura, a suburb of Dhaka, where he had only recently become spiritual director. He was the brother of the late **Br. Anthony Houser** and **Fr. Joseph Houser**, who died only last June, and cousin of **Br. Simon Murren**, who died in November. Surviving are Fr. Charles's sisters, **Srs. Rita and Rose Anita, C.S.C.**, of Rosary Convent, St. Mary's.

**Br. Deevan Rao (CF)**, of the brothers' District of India, died on December 22 unexpectedly, though he suffered from a heart condition. Deevan made his first profession in 1990.

Please remember as well these deceased persons in your prayers: **Ann Kwasny**, aunt of **Br. Donald Stabrowski**, who died in Mishawaka, Indiana, on December 21; **Br. William Doherty's** sister, **Catherine Leick**, who died December 5; **Br. Thomas Dillman's** sister Marian, who died in Evansville of cancer on December 30; and former brother **David Averill's** mother, who died from burns suffered in a house fire in Akron on December 18.

**Br. William Geenen**, provincial, suggests that province members wishing to bring any matters to the attention of the Midwest delegates to the general chapter of 1998, submit their proposals to one or more of the delegates or to the provincial office in time to be included in the agenda of the meeting of delegates set for *April 26-27* at the provincial house. The delegates are: **Brs. Kenneth Haders, Donald Gibbs, Michael Amakyi, Thomas Maddix, Richard Gilman, Joseph Fox, and John Tryon.** Br. William is a member *ex officio*.

One delegate change has been noted. Originally elected a delegate, **Br. Douglas Roach** requested of the superior general that his name be deleted from the list of delegates. The request was approved. Taking Doug's place is **Br. John Tryon**, elected first alternate delegate at the provincial chapter.

On December 30 **Br. Douglas** underwent several hours of surgery at Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's in Chicago on the left side of his face to counter the effects of a melanoma that had developed. The operation went smoothly and Doug did well. He was released on January 1 to recuperate at the brothers' residence at River Grove. Remember Doug in your prayers that his healing may be quick and complete.

On December 19, **Thomas J. Quinn** of Cleveland's *The Plain Dealer* profiled **Br. Vincentius Balog** under the heading, "Brother attends to art, the poor."

The article highlights not only the artwork **Br. Vinny** continues to produce, but more especially the charity and volunteer work in which he engages, as well as the contact he retains with Gilmour Academy, where he spent so many years as such an effective teacher and landscape artist, among numerous other contributions of his time, energy, and boundless talent.

**Br. Donald Johnroe** of Ft. Lauderdale sent the following: On Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998, the Feast of the Epiphany, a statue of **Blessed Br. Andre** was blessed at the 9:30 Mass. **Fr. Jack Birkmeyer, C.S.C., (S)** was the celebrant. The following Holy Cross men and women religious were present for the occasion: **Frs. Marc Presume (CP, Haiti), Charles Mehu (CP, Haiti), John Donato (I), Srs. Joan Carusillo, Barbara Gress, Yvonne Arcand, and Brs. Timothy O'Connell and Donald Johnroe.**

In this same mailing **Br. Donald Gibbs** is including new forms on which information regarding family relationships (next of kin, living and deceased) and province assignments are to be updated for the province files. The cover letter explains.

Also due for review and updating later on are the "Durable Power of Attorney" forms required by hospitals when patients register, and the "Last Will and Testament" forms that are a canonical and constitutional part of every individual's file from the time of first profession. Some of us may not have updated our wills since that time, and it is likely that the particulars specified then are not wholly applicable any longer, if at all, a fact contributing to legal complications for family and community when the need arises to consult or invoke the will.

Please cooperate by reworking the accompanying documents as necessary and returning them as soon as possible to the provincial office. *Later you will receive the Durable Power of Attorney and Last Will forms for action.* Thank you.

#### Midwest Directory Changes

- p. 26 (Omit) Residence/Ministry for David Naples
- p. 28 (Residence change) Br. Edgar Plas, Helen D. Schubert Villa, P.O. Box 1020, Notre Dame IN 46556.
- p. 28 (Residence change) Br. Bernard Platte, Columba Hall, Notre Dame IN 46556.