

## MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

*July-August 2000*

From July 20 to 23 some 400 men and women of Holy Cross gathered at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, to celebrate together the theme of Jubilee 2000.

Substantive and moving keynote talks were given by **Fr. Hugh Cleary**, superior general of the men's congregation, **Br. Joel Giallanza**, an expert in community history and Moreau spirituality, and **Sr. Mary Kay Kinberger, M.S.C.**, superior general of the Marianites.

Through formal discussions responding to the keynote speakers and in informal conversations throughout the weekend, which was inexplicably beautiful throughout, not usually a northern Indiana meteorological trait in July, the participants dealt with the challenges arising from our heritage and from the realities of today's Church and world.

A soiree was held each evening, that of Saturday being an ice cream social hosted by the brothers at Schubert Villa. Developments in health care, residences, the Village, and at Holy Cross College were the topic of many conversations that evening.

Participants departed after a festive liturgy Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> with renewed hope for further communication and collaboration toward closer union among the four congregations.

**Ms. Jean Merrill** is the new controller for the Midwest Province, replacing **Ms. Barbara Powlison**, who left as of June 30 for another position in the South Bend area.

Jean, a licensed CPA, is a native of South Bend, but was away from the city for 25 years, first in Michigan, then the last 12 years in Wooster, Ohio. She returned with her daughter, Lindsey, to South Bend this spring, and Jean signed up with a temporary employment organization, planning to spend the summer before looking for something permanent. Providentially, she says, the controller's position for the brothers was the first assignment she received, and she decided to remain with Holy Cross.

Lindsey will begin studies at Holy Cross College this coming semester, where a sister-in-law of Jean, Mary Merrill, is a teacher as well as at Notre Dame. Jean's aunt is Holy Cross Sister Carmel Marie, whom many of the brothers know from ministries in South Bend

Jean acknowledges she is assisted as controller by an excellent staff, all of whom "make a difference and are focused as a unit" on their mission in the business office. The staff consists of **Br. Michael Becker, Sherry Bernot, Br. Albert Kern, Donna Niezgodski, Jane Smith, Janet Teller**, and regular volunteer **Br. James Bluma**.

On July 18 **Br. Michael Amakyi**, West African district superior, and **Br. Daniel Dardoe**, assistant district superior, left Columba Hall to return to Ghana. They had been staying at Notre Dame since before chapter, and on weekends had been assisting **Br. Raymond Papenfuss**, mission promoter, in fulfilling mission appeal obligations in parishes in the Midwest area of the United States.

July 2 saw the District of West Africa celebrating the reception of five novices into the Blessed Brother Andre Novitiate at Brafuyaw. Two of the novices are from the

District of East Africa. The newly received group was made up of **Brs. Patrick Baah, Michael Effa-Kumi, and Ebenezer Andre Prah** of Ghana, **Br. David Eliaona** of Tanzania, and **Br. Ronald Kawooya** of Uganda. These five men join the five novices already at Brafuyaw preparing to petition for first profession of vows. Six young men professed their vows on July 1 in Uganda for the District of East Africa. **Br. Joseph Tsiquaye** is novice director, assisted by **Br. Richard Johnson**.

Congratulations to the newly received novices, who, together with their East African brothers, represent a new thrust in vocation promotion in Africa, a direction that promises much for the immediate future of both districts in Africa.

Congratulations too to the eleven young men in the United States who completed their canonical novitiate year at Cascade, Colorado, on July 29. Ten of these men will pronounce their vows and all will continue their post-canonical novitiate formation in various programs. **Fr. David Guffey (I)** is novice director, assisted by **Br. Thomas Moser**. Our best wishes and prayers go out to all these men.

**Br. Cornelius Corcoran (SW)** died at the age of 82 on June 26 at Dujarie House, arriving only weeks before from Austin, Texas, where he had been an extremely effective teacher at St. Edward's University for over 40 years. A memorial mass was celebrated at Dujarie on June 28, and the funeral was held in Austin, Texas, on July 3. **Fr. Allen Cormier, C.S.C. (S)**, died at the age of 81 on July 4 at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame, where he had been residing for some time. He was ordained in 1946. Prior to the funeral and burial in Austin, Texas, a memorial mass was celebrated in Baldwin, Louisiana, where Fr. Cormier was pastor for many years. Prayers are requested for their souls as well as that of **Fr. Philippe Payant, C.S.C. (IN)**, who died at the age of 82 on July 19 at the Anbu Ashram, Palani, India. An Indian citizen and a member of the Province of India, Fr. Payant was born in 1917 and ordained in 1944. He had been in India since the late 1950's and had spent over 25 years at the ashram, where he was its first guru. The funeral was held on July 20 with burial at the ashram. On July 25 in Northeast India, **Fr. Victor Crasta, C.S.C. (IN)**, was ambushed and shot to death for unknown reasons. He was ordained for the Province of India in 1989. His funeral was scheduled for July 27. **Fr. Paul Pudussery, C.S.C. (IN)**, was wounded in the same attack. Please keep both these men in your prayers, as well as the entire province, whose provincial is **Fr. Maurice D'Souza**, who studied for several years at Notre Dame in the mid-eighties, residing at Moreau Seminary.

In your prayers also remember **Br. Frank Meduri's** mother, **Mrs. Carmella Meduri**, who died July 24 and was buried in Ravenna, Ohio, July 27 with several brothers in attendance. Likewise, remember **Br. Stephen Carter's** sister who died recently, and **Br. Robert Fillmore's** mother, who is suffering from the late stages of leukemia, as well as **Br. James Rottenbacher's** sister, who recently underwent a successful operation and was recuperating at home as of July 12.

**Br. Thomas Corcoran** reports that in June on the occasion of his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of graduation from Notre Dame he received from **Fr. Edward Malloy, C.S.C.**, president, a papal blessing and a special citation. Br. Thomas also indicated that he continues to

tutor at three different locations during the year: Ivy Tech State College, the Charles Martin Youth Center, and Holy Cross College. And for this summer he was asked again to tutor at the Chapin St. Clinic in South Bend. Br. Thomas regards these opportunities as blessings that help him keep in touch with teaching, and, more importantly, with people who have made a difference in his life.

The May 2000 *News Notes* from the St. Joseph Province in Dhaka reveal that **Br. Ronald Drahozal** received a special award from the Rotary Club for his social work at APON with recovering addicts.

**Br. Donald Fleischhacker** reports from Holy Cross High School in River Grove that on June 24, **Francis Cardinal George**, Archbishop of Chicago, celebrated a Millennium Mass in honor of the Body and Blood of Christ at rainy Soldiers Field for a crowd estimated at approximated 30,000. For the occasion the field was renamed, "Field of Faith." Besides Br. Donald, **Br. Julian Przybyla** attended the function.

**Br. Joseph Ballard** sent details of his recent move of both ministry and address. He is now principal at The Atonement Academy, 15415 Red Robin Road, San Antonio, Texas, 78225. The telephone number there is (210) 695-2240, and the fax number is (210) 695-9679. His residence is at 201 Gladiola Lane, San Antonio, Texas, 78213, and his home phone is (210) 366-2241.

Other address changes are these: **Br. Robert Fillmore** is now available at P.O. 460, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0460. His phone is (219) 251-2220, and his e-mail address is [rfillmore@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:rfillmore@hcc-nd.edu). **Br. Michael Becker** will be living at Columba Hall as of August 1. **Br. Thomas O'Malley** will make also his residence at Columba Hall as of mid-August. Temporarily, **Br. Donald Johnroe** can likewise be contacted at Columba Hall.

A cookout sendoff hosted by **Br. Robert Livernois** of Holy Cross College, assisted by **Br. Chris Dreyer**, was held in the lounge on the third floor of Riverside Place at the Holy Cross Village for a dozen young men and women from Holy Cross College and Notre Dame who departed on July 19 for a two-week visit to Ghana to undergo an experience of Holy Cross in its overseas missions. They were led by **Mr. Robert Kloska**, campus minister at Holy Cross College. Present at the sendoff were many brothers from the area who had served in Ghana, including Holy Cross president **Br. Richard Gilman**, and **Brs. Michael Amakyi, Daniel Dardoe, and Anthony Dadzie**. The students underwent briefings and preparations for several days on campus before a final evening session at Columba Hall on July 18 at which they were given the opportunity to listen to and question brothers who had served in Ghana about their experiences of life there.

**Br. Roland Driscoll** wrote from Knoxville remarking on the recent deaths of two individuals closely related to Holy Cross. The first was former brother **George Kovatch**, who taught at Cathedral when Br. Roland was principal there. George's wife, Louise, wrote from their home in Lady Lake, Florida, that George had succumbed to the last of a series of heart attacks on June 20. The other death was that of **Joe Dezelan**, long time

coach at Cathedral who retired in 1970 after 26 football seasons with a record of 182-60-8, 13 city titles and a 1952 state championship. A fixture at Cathedral, Joe had continued at the school as athletic director and then in alumni relations and development until his death at the age of 86, capping a loyal and dedicated relationship of some 56 years. **Mrs. Joe Dezelan** survives and lives at 6752 Coatbridge Circle, Indianapolis IN 46254.

Here are some dates to put on your 2001 calendar now and keep handy for planning your schedule.

**Br. Donald Gibbs**, Provincial, announces *a province retreat*, the location of which is to be announced shortly. The retreat will begin with **arrival** on *Monday, June 11, 2001*. The retreat itself will occupy three full days, *Tuesday, June 12, Wednesday, June 13, and Thursday, June 14*. After the retreat, on *Friday, June 15*, there will be a presentation and discussion on the vow of chastity, then in the evening a Missioning Ceremony followed by a social. *Saturday, June 16*, the jubilee celebrations will be held. **Departure** is *Sunday, June 17*.

As many as can plan to be present for the whole week's province activities are encouraged to do so.

The collaborative mission of the three U.S. Brothers' Provinces is in need of a brother to assume the duties of Pastoral Associate at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish in Lakeland, Georgia. The parish has a mission church in Adel, Georgia, and one in Nashville, Georgia, and serves about 100 families. **Br. Walter Gluhm** currently ministers in this capacity and has been the Pastoral Associate since 1993. Br. Walter, one of the original group to go to Georgia in 1991, has decided to move on from the Georgia mission.

Possible starting dates for this position are negotiable and could be fall 2000, January 2001, or June 2001.

Any brother interested in the position, or in investigating other possible ministry opportunities in South Georgia, is encouraged to do so. For preliminary information, any of the brothers at Adel (**Brs. Walter Gluhm, Mark Knightly** (EB), or **Jon Beebe** (EB)), can be contacted, or arrangements can be made for a visit to Adel. Midwest brothers may write, e-mail or phone **Br. Robert Fillmore**, Assistant Provincial, for a job description of the position noted above.

There are many opportunities for ministry in the area, including volunteer service for brothers who are retired from full time active ministry or who are contemplating retirement from full time apostolic work.

The next issue of the *Midwest Province News Items* will be published in September. Material submitted for inclusion should be sent to **Br. Edward Dailey** at P.O. Box 460. **Br. Donald Gibbs**, Provincial, in the name of the province membership, extends his gratitude to **Br. Philip Armstrong** for editing these *News Items* for the past five years.