

MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

June 2000

Br. John Tryon for the past four years has served as province Vocation Promoter. He will step down from that position shortly after the completion of the 2000 provincial chapter, but hopes to continue his contacts with the Holy Cross Associates program in Chicago.

The province is very much in Br. John's debt for making himself available for the position and for his creative and enthusiastic work on behalf of vocations.

A successor to Br. John has not yet been named.

Congratulations to **Br. Robi Purification (SJ)**, who completed his Masters of Science in Administration degree at Notre Dame in May. While at Notre Dame, Robi has been a welcome member of the local community at Columba Hall.

Another loss to Columba Hall is that of **Fr. Patrick Sullivan, C.S.C. (EP)**, long time sociology professor at Notre Dame, who has resided at Columba Hall for the past few year and is returning to the East. His presence and service to the community on campus have been very much appreciated.

The weekly Ghanaian Catholic newspaper, *The Standard*, carried in its April 2 edition a photograph of a presentation by the Associates of Holy Cross of basketball uniforms to the youth of St. Kizito's Parish in Accra. The Associates, under the patronage of **Br. Michael Amakyi**, district superior, undertook the project as part of their program of charitable activities.

Fr. Ferdinand Brown, C.S.C. (I), died at the age of 83 on May 14 at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame, after a long illness. Fr. Brown had ministered his entire life at Notre Dame in roles as a popular and extremely effective teacher, administrator and Corby Hall local superior. He made first profession of vows in 1935 and was ordained in 1942. Please keep Fr. Brown in your prayers.

Prayers are also requested for **Robert Chagnovich**, husband of of **Br. Thomas Cunningham's** sister, **Cathy Chagnovich**. Bob died of cancer at the age of 63 on May 9 in San Pietro, California. **Br. Joseph Annan's** mother, **Madam Agnes Appiah**, whose death was announced in the last *News Items*, was buried in Gomoa Tarkwa, Ghana, May 20 with all Holy Cross religious in West Africa present plus many diocesan priests and Holy Cross Associates. Only the day before, word was received that **Madam Akua Nyamekye**, mother of novice **Br. Patrick Osei-Bonsu**, had died on May 19 at Akim Swedru. She was buried on June 3, again with the entire Holy Cross community in attendance. **Br. Leo Geiger's** brother, **Bernard Geiger**, died May 26 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and was buried there on May 31. **Br. Julian Przybyla's** mother, **Mrs. Anna Przybyla**, died May 29 in Rogers City, Michigan, and was buried there on June 2. **Br. Don Gibbs** represented the province at the wake and funeral.

At commencement ceremonies recently, **Br. Richard Gilman**, President of Holy Cross College, made the presentation of the Midwest Province's *Cross of Hope Award* to **Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hammes**. The award is bestowed on benefactors "who have offered faithful service, donations of time, resources or specialized talents to the mission of the Brothers of Holy Cross." Jerry has been a trustee of the College since 1990 and just completed his fourth year as chairman of the board. It was coincidental that **Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C. (I)**, President Emeritus of Notre Dame, being awarded the first honorary degree bestowed by Holy Cross College, had officiated at the wedding of Doreen and Jerry Hammes in 1954.

At the May 15 *Awards Night Program* held at St. Edward High School, **Br. James Spooner**, president, honored several brothers and a long-time lay employee. **Br. David Martin** has marked 25 years at St. Edward, and **Br. Robert Berthiaume** was acknowledged for well over 30 years there. **Mr. Jim Nieberding** has taught government very effectively for 45 years. **Br. Bennet Nettleton** steps down this year from active teaching after 47 years, having seen every class graduate at St. Edward except the first one in 1953. He will remain as curator of the history museum his classroom gradually evolved into over the years, and will retain an active interest in the athletic and fine arts programs of the school. **Br. Donald Morgan** was honored for 5 years of service at the end-of-year faculty party.

Present a few days earlier at the groundbreaking for a new wing were **Br. Barry Lambour**, second principal (1955-1961), and former staff members **Brs. Donald Allen, Robert Kelly, James Kumba, Eduardo Michalik, and Thomas Scheurer**. And at the Spring Band Concert on May 21 **Brs. Kenneth Kane and Lewis Brazil**, former directors, were invited to play along with the band on a couple of numbers.

Topping the list of the amazing, word received from **Br. Roland Driscoll** in Knoxville reveals that he was finally awarded his high school diploma during graduation ceremonies this spring, and so is now listed as a graduate, Class of 2000, from Knoxville Catholic High School. He marched across the stage in cap and gown as his name was called. Years ago he had left before graduating to join Holy Cross and to finish studies at Watertown. He had never received a diploma from Sacred Heart Juniorate. Now he has not only the B.S. and M.S. from Notre Dame, but an honest-to-goodness high school diploma. Congratulations, Br. Roland!

The June 2000 edition of the National Association of Religious Brothers newsletter, *Brothers' Voice*, had an extensive cover article entitled "Values and Growth at Boysville," written for the publication by **Br. Frank Boylan**, director of Boysville. In the article he highlights the contributions of **Brs. Charles Hill, Chester Freel, Albin Kuzminski and Thomas Scheurer** to the program over many years. Br. Charles is featured in two photos showing him counseling youngsters at the school, a role at which he is an acknowledged expert.

The article focused on the educational ministry of the brothers, and through the testimony of several Boysville clients illustrated the effectiveness of that ministry.

Br. William Mewes sent another NARB news brief noting that the organization added its official voice in opposition to the death penalty. In a survey of members taken recently, 91% of

those voting endorsed the resolution to support Church leaders from Pope John Paul II down in their objection to the death penalty.

The *News Notes* published by the St. Joseph Province in Dhaka, Bangladesh, reveal that "When **President Clinton** visited Bangladesh, **Br. Ronald Drahozal** was able to get an invitation to the banquet held at the Governor's House. He shook hands with Clinton and met **Sheikh Hasina**, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh." Br. Ronald was there in his role as founder and director of APON, a very effective and respected drug rehabilitation center in Dhaka.

Br. Thomas More Beere "is working on a process for putting all the accounts and office records on the computer" for St. Joseph Trade School, Narinda, where Br. Thomas lives and ministers.

And from West Africa, the district publication, *Holy Cross Today-Ghana*, capably edited by **Br. Richard Johnson**, highlights in its March 2000 edition some of the recent developments in that area of the Holy Cross world.

The Skills Training Centre has moved from its original location at Ketan, near Sekondi, into its new facilities at the site of the St. Joseph the Worker Farm on the outskirts of Takoradi, a distance of a few miles on the bypass road. The structure is not yet fully completed but, because the users are the builders, the programs can continue while work proceeds.

At the blessing of the new site, **Bishop J. Martin Darko** of Sekondi-Takoradi thanked Holy Cross for its direct service to the poor through this facility. **Br. Jerome Kroetsch**, principal, and **Br. Daniel Dardoe**, vice principal and assistant district superior, thanked benefactors and announced plans for even further expansion that would allow girls to participate. **Br. Emmanuel Mino** is in charge of carpentry at the school. **Br. Kenneth Kunditani**, another staff member, is presently engaged in further technical studies in Ghana.

Informative columns on the Pre-Candidate and Candidate programs and the Associates of Holy Cross were also included in the publication. **Br. Sylvester Quaye** directs the programs for candidates at St. Joseph Hall on the St. John's School campus, Sekondi, assisted by **Brs. William Gates** and **Joseph Annan**. The Associates article elaborates on the basketball program noted earlier in this publication, relating how important it has become for the St. Kizito youth in that deprived and drug prone area to have a healthy outlet for their energies that can help guide them toward being responsible young men.

Boysville has been awarded the *2000 State Child Placing Agency of the Year* by the National Foster Parent Association. Presented to **Br. Frank Boylan** on April 14 in Minneapolis, the award is granted annually to "an agency providing exemplary foster care services on a statewide basis." Boysville was also recognized as the *State Agency of the Year* earlier in April by the Michigan Foster and Adoptive Parent Association in Grand Rapids.

The nomination for the latter award read in part, "Boysville has been around for more than 50 years. They are long overdue to be recognized for the spiritual, moral, emotional and intellectual growth they give to every child and family they serve."

The NFPA award was one of several given by the organization. Among others honored this year were **Hillary Rodham Clinton**, **Oprah Winfrey** and **Rosie O'Donnell** in "recognition

of their deep concern and demonstrated commitment to improving the lives of foster parents and children in care.”

Also noted in *Interlink*, a Boysville publication, was the ordination to the diaconate of **Gene Hausmann**, director of pastoral services, by **Bishop Carl Mengeling** at St. Thomas Church in East Lansing. Gene, a former brother, has been with Boysville 20 years. He and his wife **Jean** have been foster parents to 15 children through Boysville.

And on June 3 Gene received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Ecumenical Theology Seminary in Detroit. His dissertation was on the impact of chaplain contact on Boysville treatment outcomes.

Congratulations to Br. Frank Boylan and to Boysville as a whole, and to Gene in particular, for these achievements and recognition!

Directory Changes

Br. James Everett has taken up residence at St. Edward High School, Lakewood. His e-mail address is jamesaeverett@hotmail.com.

Br. Joseph McTaggart has moved his residence to 5344 Circle Dr., #29, Sherman Oaks CA 91401-5645.

Br. Robert Mosher now lives at 12610 Jupiter Rd., #18, Dallas TX 75238-3954.

Br. Frederick Raehsler resides at Riverside Place, P.O. Box 716, Notre Dame IN 46556-0716.