

MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

May 1999

Br. James Caley died unexpectedly on the evening of April 6 in his room at Schubert Villa at the Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame at the age of 60. Although he had suffered many years from diabetes and had undergone amputations on both legs, he remained active in his counseling ministry when his health permitted. At the time of his death, he was making preparations to return to Archbishop Hoban High School to resume his counseling there.

Br. James had served in all three Midwest Province child care institutions over the years—Boysville, Gibault and St. Charles—as well as in schools in Bangladesh. After earning a masters in social work at Tulane University, he specialized in marriage counseling, at which he was particularly effective.

A Mass of the Resurrection and the burial were held on April 10 with a large crowd in attendance. Br. James's cousin, **Br. Robert Lavelle**, headmaster at Gilmour Academy, led the intercessory prayers, and **Br. Kenneth Haders**, president of Archbishop Hoban High School, gave the homily.

At the request of the Academic Dean, effective August first **Br. Frank Rotsaert** will become coordinator of the English Program at Siena Heights University, Adrian, Michigan. The role is equivalent to that of Chairman of the English Department.

Br. Anthony Dadzie, presently a student at Indiana University-South Bend, received his Associate of Arts degree from Holy Cross College at commencement exercises on Saturday, May 8, from **Br. Richard Gilman**, President.

Other honors were bestowed on **Br. Richard Weber** and **Br. Francis Boylan**. Br. Richard's came on April 24 at a banquet in Elkhart when he was given an award by the organization to which he belongs that builds and flies lighter-than-air aircraft. Several brothers from the Notre Dame area attended and heard Br. Richard express his gratitude and reflect in a beautiful and well received speech on his life in Holy Cross.

Br. Francis, who is a 1962 graduate of St. Paul on the Lake Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, was noted in the April 30 edition of *The Michigan Catholic* as being named a distinguished graduate by the National Catholic Educational Association, which recognized him for outstanding personal and professional achievements that reflect "the values and ideals learned in Catholic education."

Congratulations to these four Midwest Province religious on their significant accomplishments!

Br. Lawrence Skitzki notified the *News Items* that he has been Controller at Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California, since March 1. He also has moved, and his new address is 15231 Magnolia Blvd. #216, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403.

Br. Richard Hartnett (EB, formerly known as Br. Eudes) died at the age of 84 at Dujarie House on May 4 after a long illness. Prior to funeral services and burial at Valatie, New York, visitation and a Mass of the Resurrection were held May 5 in the Dujarie House chapel, attended by many, including close friends living in the area. Br. Richard had taught and administered with

distinction in Holy Cross schools for many years.

Br. Ralph Baird returned on May 3 to The Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne for further evaluation and possible treatment. It is the hospital at which he had prepared for and undergone a heart transplant two years ago. Prayers are requested.

Also to be remembered in our prayers are **Br. Carroll Posey**, who is undergoing treatment at St. Michael's Community in St. Louis, **Br. John Harris**, who has returned from Mountain View to Columba Hall for an operation to remove a tumor discovered in his lower abdomen, **Br. Albert Rimlinger** of Columba Hall, who is to have cancer surgery in the near future, **Br. Walter Davenport**, who traveled north from Mobile, Alabama, in early May for diagnosis and possible treatment of a health problem, and **Br. Richard Weber**, whose fight against cancer is showing the first positive results in some time.

Br. Kenneth Kane informed the *News Items* that his brother, **Paul Kane**, died in Lakewood, Ohio, on April 8. **Br. Thomas Balaz** related that his sister, **Julia Zebula**, died at the age of 86 on April 7, in Sterling Heights, Michigan. **Br. Joseph Chvala's** brother, **Anton Chvala**, died April 3 from complications resulting from a heart attack. Prayers are requested for Paul, Julia and Anton.

Nearly everyone scheduled to move into the apartment building at the Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame had done so by the end of April. The usual "punch list" of last-minute corrections of minor glitches in construction is being attended to. There is universal enthusiasm among the residents for the durable and attractive nature of the building from every angle, inside and out.

Work continues on completing the infrastructure for new residences in the East Village area of the Holy Cross Village, and the new entrance. Paving was begun May 6, and the pond featured in the center of the area is nearly ready to be filled.

Fr. Bob Gilmour (S, Dist. of W. Africa), in charge of the pre-novitiate program at Brafuyaw in Ghana, wrote **Br. Raymond Papenfuss** recently describing the program, the facilities (the old District Center building) and the need for such a specialized program as many new candidates prepare to enter Holy Cross.

Fr. Bob took the pre-novices to Kumasi, capital of the Ashanti region of Ghana, at the invitation of **Bishop Peter A. Sarpong**, an internationally recognized anthropologist, who made it possible for the visitors to experience what few others have ever enjoyed. The principal chief in Ghana, the Asantehene (Chief of Ashanti), had died recently. The Queen Mother, who holds power in the matriarchal society to name the new Asantehene, and the Acting Asantehene both made time to greet the Bishop, Fr. Bob and the young men, as did the National House of Chiefs, the annual gathering of principal chiefs from throughout Ghana, which was in session at the time. Bishop Sarpong is clearly recognized and respected not only as a Church leader but as a professional preserver and interpreter of the Ashanti culture.

If there are other Midwest Province members who were recognized or honored in any way by their ministry employers or by organizations to which they belong, please forward the information to **Br. Philip Armstrong** or **Br. Don Gibbs** before the end of May so notice of the accomplishments can be included in the June issue of the *News Items*.