

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

Brothers of Holy Cross – Midwest Province - P.O. Box 460 – Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-0460

Januaary 3, 2024



## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5. 

**A** *Ima \* Redemptó-ris Máter, quae pérvia caéli*  
*pórtá mánes, Et stélla má-ris, succúrre cadénti súrge-*  
*re qui cúrat pópu-lo : Tu quae genu-ísti, natúra mi-rán-*  
*te, tú-um sánctum Geni-tó-rem : Vírgo pri-us ac posté-*  
*ri-us, Gabri-é-lis ab óre súmens illud Ave, peccató-*  
*rum mi-se-ré-re.*

# Christmas Gifts



After the shepherds, Magi came to see  
why Bethlehem is opening its quiet gates.  
Behold where the star shows us Love instate!

Gold for a King without a crown or mace,  
whose kingdom rests inside the willing hearts of those who  
open their souls to be born anew.

Incense to sweeten life in Nazareth  
among the wood chips and the humble joys of youth,  
best taught by the two parents, Love and Truth.

Myrrh for the gentle Man we crucify  
each time we celebrate the rocky path inside  
these hearts closed to Him who for us has died.



—**Brother George Klawitter, CSC**

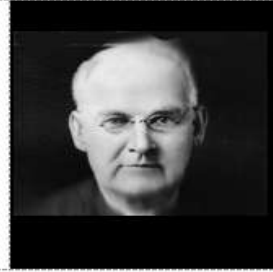
# New Years 2024 at Columba Hall





Happy New Year 2024

**Brother Columba O'Neill, C.S.C.**  
Servant of God



Website

<https://brothercolumba.com/>



**Brother Philip Smith, C.S.C.**  
Postulator of the cause for Brother Columba

Click  
Link



## Wealth

Jesus is known for expressing His preference for the poor. As He often taught, the Kingdom of God is especially intended for them, which several of His parables illustrate.

One of Jesus' instructions reported by evangelist Mark (10:25) states very clearly what Jesus expressed about the matter of wealth: It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the reign of God.

Jesus' audience would have recognized the allusion immediately, not so much about sewing, but more likely the reference to the rather narrow gate in Jerusalem's wall that cargo-bearing animals had great hardship in negotiating, not impossibly but with great difficulty,



What Jesus appears to imply here is that it is not having wealth but rather how the wealth is acquired and used. In Jesus' day and place much of the wealth was accumulated by tyranny and for self

selfaggrandizement. (Zecheus) Riches acquired by legitimate and honest effort and shared in helping the less fortunate seem more acceptable with Jesus and more worthy for acceptance for God's Kingdom.

## Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

### Missing the Mark

Some say that missing the mark is a way to understand what happens when we sin. In Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Evita," Eva Peron sings looking for love in all of the wrong places, I knew all of these things and experiences would not satisfy. "They are illusions. Don't cry for me, Argentina. I never expected them to." They miss the mark for which our hearts are yearning. Remember St. Augustine's often repeated words, "Our hearts were made for Thee, O God, and they will not rest until they rest in Thee." Until we have really been loved for who we are, it will be difficult to come to this deep wisdom. How many times must we make those mistakes before it really comes clear? It may take a life time.

When we come to grips with our weaknesses, only then can God invite us to another way of being. God will now have room for God's mercy and love to flow into our hearts. Jesus says he has come to bring good news to sinners, not to the "righteous." St. Paul exclaims that while the faithful make up for what is "lacking in Christ," it is also true that it is Christ who will make up for what is lacking in us. Knowing the extent of our humanness enables us to embrace humility, the first step spiritual writers say leads to a truly spiritual life.

- Do you find that at times you miss the mark in what you had hoped to achieve?
- If so, how do you deal with this acknowledgement?
- Do you find consolation when you bring it to Christ and/or church?

**O God, help me make room for your mercy and love.**

**Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.**



For more reflections to grow spiritually  
please visit our new blog  
<https://weeklyspiritualinsights.org/>



**Reflection** sent in by Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



✦ HAPPY NEW YEAR ✦

January 1, 2024



**Providence  
Health Care**

How you want to be treated.

A new year is like a  
blank book, and the  
pen is in your hands.  
It is your chance to  
write a beautiful  
story for yourself.

~ *Unknown*

This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics & Spirituality + Providence Health Care  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada [providencehealthcare.org](http://providencehealthcare.org)

December 29, 2023





A Christmas Watercolor

Brother James Kane, CSC



### Past Copies of *Midwest-Midweek*

Since February 2006

Past copies of *Midwest-Midweek* may be viewed by scanning the icon or by clicking on the link below.



<p><b>View Website at:</b>  <a href="http://www.brothersofholycross.com">www.brothersofholycross.com</a></p>	<p><b>View <i>Midwest-Midweek</i> at:</b>  <a href="http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/midwest-midweek-newsletter/">http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/midwest-midweek-newsletter/</a></p>
<p>Webmaster Proofreader</p>	<p><b>Br. Richard Johnson</b> <b>Br. George Klawitter</b></p>

Save this link in a SHORTCUT

Please send material to the e-mail address below by Thursday the week before *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

[Midwest-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:Midwest-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com)