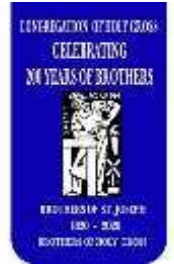


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

May 5, 2021



May
Week 1

Weekly Spiritual Reflection from the Early Brothers of St. Joseph

The Brother of St. Joseph, who sacrificed his family, abandoned his country, his beautiful France, without ambition for goods or well-being, and who was moved only by zeal and devotion to do good, lives for religion and finds himself happy at his arrival in a mission, to find himself like a bird on a branch, without concern for the next day. He blesses the Lord because he knows that his true home is in God's bosom. (Brother Eulogius Boisard 5/16/1841)



Feast of St. Joseph

“May we live in such a way
that we will be blessed with new
members so we can continue the
mission of Jesus and complete God's
will for us.”

(Directory of Devotional Prayer, pg. 177)

Celebration began with Mass:



Columba
Hall

Dinner Followed:



In the Evening was pizza and watching the Kentucky Derby:



Brother Carl Sternberg helps us at Columba Hall to celebrates another Kentucky Derby.

He starts off with his secret formula for mint julips. This is followed with pizza and watching the race.

George aided in collecting bets as well as preparing chocolate rum pie and other sweets.

Bill Mewes and Tom Cunningham were winners of the jackpots.



Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

**May 1, 2021 -- Columba Hall
Reflection for Mass
Brother George Klawitter, CSC**



I am happy to speak to you today on this feast of St. Joseph the Worker. This year our feast has special meaning because the day has been dedicated to all Brothers in all Brother communities. By one on-line count, there are one hundred Brother groups, seventy-two of them part of “mixed groups.” And this entire year is special because Pope Francis has dedicated the entire year to St Joseph to commemorate Pius IX’s dedicating the universal church to St. Joseph 150 years ago.

Our own Holy Cross Community has even more reason to rejoice this year as we commemorate 200 years of the Brothers of St. Joseph, as witnesses this beautiful blue banner in the corner of the chapel, a banner adorned with a special illustration created by Ade Bethune of the Catholic Worker back in the days when Dorothy Day was still alive.

When he assumed directorship of the Brothers of St. Joseph in 1835, our own Basil Moreau wanted the Brothers to continue their special veneration of St. Joseph. In his collected conferences, which I presume he read word for word to the priests and Brothers in the Le Mans chapter room, is found a beautiful conference on St. Joseph, easy to read and full of wonderful ideas about St. Joseph.

Moreau begins his conference by comparing St. Joseph to the Joseph of the Old Testament:

While the seven years of famine were desolating the land of Egypt, its starving people came to the court of Pharaoh to beg for food. The monarch bade them go to the faithful governor of his palace and do whatever he commanded them...In this history, with its many symbolic figures, we find a prophecy of what God’s gifts of grace wrought in our holy patriarch St. Joseph. Or we might say, the virtues and the achievements of the older Joseph are but the shadow of those we honor in our

glorious patron. Such is my confidence in his power with God and the veneration that fills me at the sight of his picture or statue, that the words “Go to Joseph...” seem no longer those of the older king but those of our Mother Church. Seeing her children about to perish from material want or from diseases of body and soul, or even from loss of faith, she bids them in her grief “Go to Joseph.” (214-215).

Moreau thus sees our Joseph not as a fulfillment of a Biblical type, but rather as a patriarch with more authority and more responsibility than his Old Testament precursor.

We use the word “just” to describe our St. Joseph: “St. Joseph was a just man.” And Moreau traces this word back to the Latin root, meaning “to put in order.” And Moreau concludes from this that Joseph was a perfect man, the greatest of all saints because he was the spouse of the Queen of Heaven. That makes, in Moreau’s mind, Joseph better than the leader Peter and the scholarly Paul and the intrepid John the Baptist.

And Moreau claims that Joseph is superior to the angels, all nine choirs, which he names one by one and shows how Joseph was better: guardian angels (“Did he not watch over the divine Child committed to his care?”), Archangels (“Did he not communicate to Jesus and Mary the commands from heaven?”), Virtues (“Did he not govern the Holy Family?”), Powers (“Did he not manifest the power of the Word made Flesh?”), Principalities and Dominions (“Did he not command the King and Queen of heaven?”), Thrones (“Did he not carry Jesus in his arms?”), Cherubim (“Did he not penetrate the deepest mysteries of Wisdom Incarnate?”), and Seraphim (“Was he not raised on wings of fire to the heights of contemplation?”). This beautiful explication by Moreau alone makes me admire his imaginative inventiveness.

In his conference Moreau notes that Joseph was a prototype religious because he in essence had the vows of celibacy, poverty, and obedience. This is a novel idea which Moreau defends in great detail, claiming in fact that Joseph took a vow of perpetual chastity in his youth. In this regard Moreau references Francis de Sales, Hugh of St. Victor, Teresa of Avila, and 350 other writers which he thankfully does not name in this conference. I wonder about that claim of 350.

Joseph’s practice of poverty is a no-brainer, and his practice of obedience Moreau

follows through the blind obedience that Joseph demonstrated when an angel directed him to take the pregnant Mary as a wife and when another angel told him to take his family into Egypt to evade Herod's massacre of infants.

Moreau makes some rather interesting claims in this conference. For example, he notes that Joseph was the person who came up with the name "Jesus." And Moreau suggests that Joseph "rose with Jesus Christ," and following St. Bernadine of Siena, Moreau opines that Joseph "is body and soul in heaven shining with glory." Moreau says, "I fall at his feet. I am enraptured by such glory."

I never realized how special St. Joseph is until I stumbled upon Moreau's conference on Joseph. I recommend it as a wonderful yearly meditation on either of Joseph's big feast days. You will look on Joseph with new wonderment once you have meditated on our Basil Moreau's words.

And let us remember the phrase "Go to Joseph" from the Old Testament, a phrase that Moreau explains in his conference, and which became the watchword of our own Brother Andre Bessette of Montreal. In his lifetime, one biographer has estimated that Brother Andre worked over 10,000 miracles, all in the name of St. Joseph. My favorite Andre miracle is about a little ten-year-old boy who was crippled from an accident. He was covered with bed sores from being in bed so long. His mother took him up the hill to see Brother Andre. She bugged Brother Andre for a cure. Brother Andre lost his temper, smacked the little bell on his desk to summon the next visitor, and said, "Oh, take him home and wash him in your dishwasher." The mother was hurt and upset. She took the boy home, and that night after supper she said to herself, "Well, it can't hurt." So she washed the boy in her dishwasher. The next morning the boy had no bed sores. All gone. So the mother told him, "You go back up the hill and thank Brother Andre for curing you." The boy got on his crutches and hobbled up the hill. There he told Brother Andre, "My mother said I have to thank you for curing me." Brother Andre said, "I didn't cure you—St. Joseph cured you. You have to thank him." The little boy said, "How can I do that?" Brother Andre said, "Give him your crutches." The boy said, "I have to get my mother's permission for that." Brother Andre said, "You do that." So the boy dropped his crutches and ran down the hill. When he burst into the house, his mother realized what had happened. That little boy grew up to be a Holy Cross priest in Canada. GO TO JOSEPH!

Brother George Asare, CSC is Honored, Hurray!

St. Peter's Catholic Church, Fiapre Parish – Sunyani has honored Brother George Asare, CSC, with a citation and numerous words of gratitude to George at a thanksgiving Mass offered by the parish for Brother George.

Brother George lived at Brother Rex Hennel Scholasticate House, Sunyani for seven years. During these seven years in Sunyani, he studied for his Bachelor's degree at the University of Energy and Natural Resources; a Certificate in Theology from the Catholic University College of Ghana, and did one year teaching service at the Notre Dame High School, Sunyani - Ghana.

As a get-going person, George got involved during these seven years in the nearby Parish – St. Peter's Catholic Church, where he used to worship. At this Church, he served the people especially as animator for the Holy Childhood Society and as the Deanery Chaplain for the same society.

On the 18th of April, 2021, The Parish and the Holy Childhood Society invited George to have thanksgiving Mass for him for his final vows which took place on the 19th of March, 2021. He was honored, blessed and surprised by the children and the church with their citation, prayers and gifts. Their surprise made George shed tears as he said “.... was it my making as a brother, to deserve this? No, it's the Lord who uses my hands and wits to glorify himself, *Cons.* 2:20. I thank God for the honor given me. “



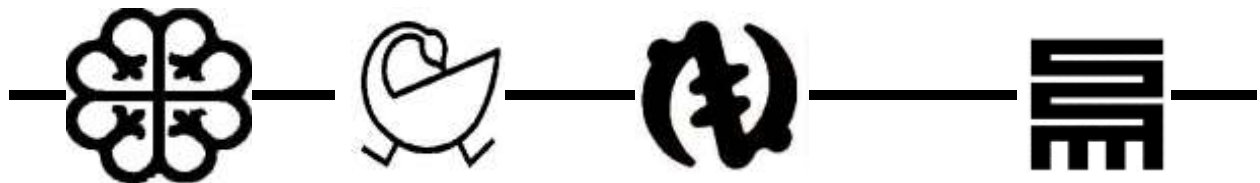
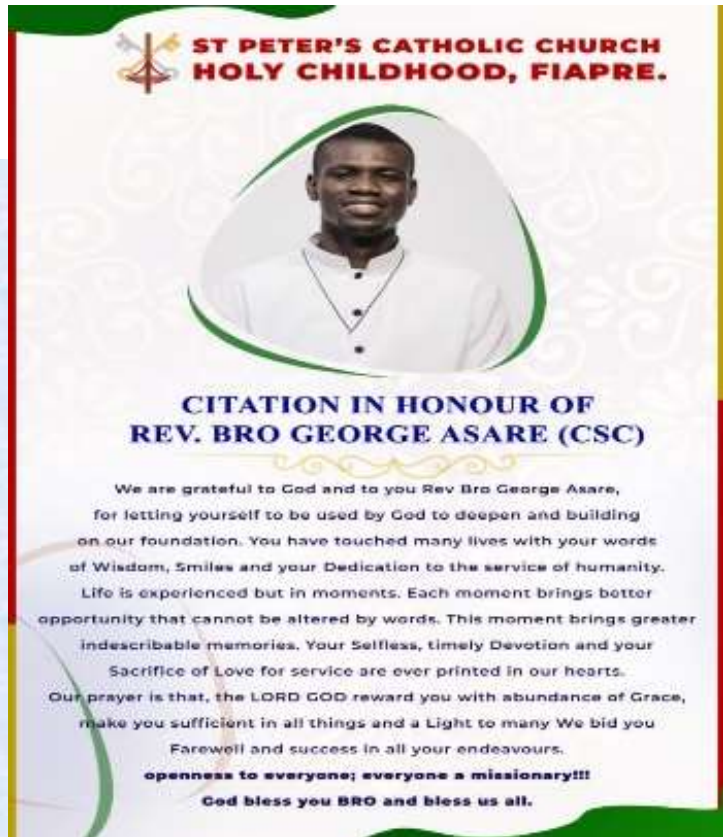
Receiving citation from the church president and the parish priest.

At Right is the picture of the citation plaque. It reads:

We are grateful to God and to you Rev Bro George Asare, for letting yourself to be used by God to deepen and building on our foundation. You have touched many lives with your words of Wisdom, Smiles and your Dedication to the service of humanity.

Life is experienced but in moments. Each moment brings better opportunity that cannot be altered by words. This moment brings greater indescribable memories. Your Selfless, timely Devotion and your Sacrifice of Love for service are ever printed in our hearts.

Our prayer is that, the LORD GOD reward you with abundance of Grace, make you sufficient in all things and a Light to many. We bid you Farewell and success in all your endeavors. Openness to everyone; everyone a Missionary. God bless you BRO and bless us all.



[Adrinks Symbols](#)

Timely Birthdays

Ten CSCs gathered for a "timely birthdays" observance Friday evening, April 30, 2021, at Mario Fazio's Restaurant in Willoughby Hills, Ohio.



Clockwise from left:

Ed Libbers, John Blazek, Robert Lavelle, Maurice D'Sousa, Ken Kane, Phil Smith, James Spooner, Charles Smith, Joe LeBon, and Dennis Bednarz.

We especially kept the following "in mind and heart" today:

March:

15th - Phil Smith

April:

19th - Ed Libbers
20th - Charlie Smith (**80th**)
(21st - Lew Brazil)
30th - Maurice D'Sousa
(73rd)

May:

9th - Dennis
Bednarz (**65th**)
10th - John Blazek
(16th - Dan Kane)



Picture on a Tree Information

To read MDWorks story, click on link below:

[Backstory: Our Lady of Guadalupe on the tree](#)

by [Natalie Davis Miller, Managing Editor, NDWorks](#). June 08, 2020

ND Campus Landmark artwork by Beatrice Bradley, 2017

<https://ndworks.nd.edu/news/our-lady-of-guadalupe-on-the-tree/>



This rosary case recently covered the original 2017 Guadalupe image. Several weeks later it was replaced by the beautiful new image (right), signed "BB'21"



Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Happy Easter

Dear Associates and Friends,

We celebrate this most sacred time bathed in the reality that Christ is alive. But the timely question is “Are we alive?” Has Christ risen within us so that we can be a true witness to his resurrection?

What does it mean to be alive in Christ? Maybe it is the inner experience of his presence that is manifested in our bodies. We have become free from worry. We have become free from paralyzing fear and anxiety. We are now able to relax knowing that in all things Christ is here to be with us each day in the dying and rising in the ups and downs of life. We can weather it all because of the faith, hope and love that is who we are. This is what was so attractive in the first Christians. People said, “I want to have what they have.” Their preaching went beyond words. Christ was alive in them.

- What does Easter mean to you?
- As spring and nature come alive, what is coming alive in you?
- Has Christ risen in your heart?

O God, help my sadness turn into Christian joy.



Brother Carl Sternberg,

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

From the *Voice of Moreau Website*

The website features a Holy Cross sister, a brother, or a priest, with a weekly story on the blog. Check the following link below.



Website: <http://www.voiceofmoreau.org/>



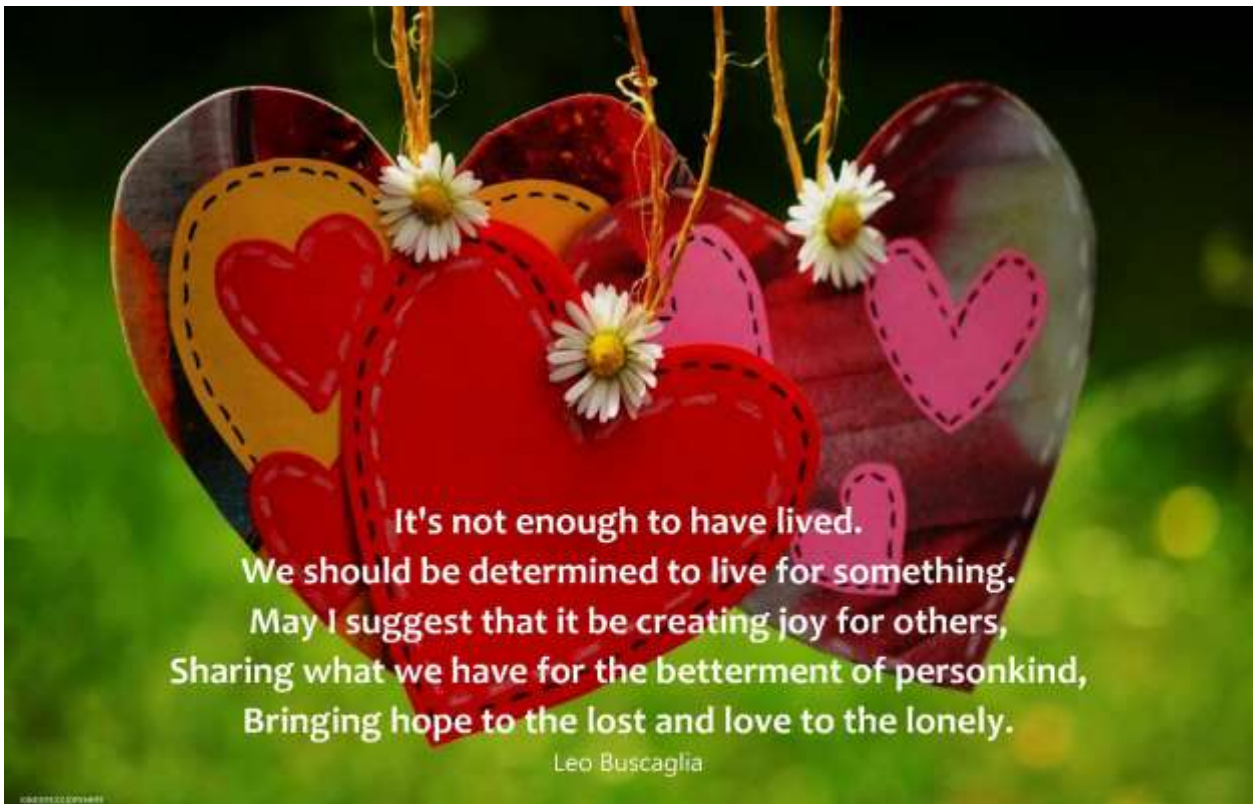
**Brother
Philip
Smith**



**Brother
Ben
Rossi**



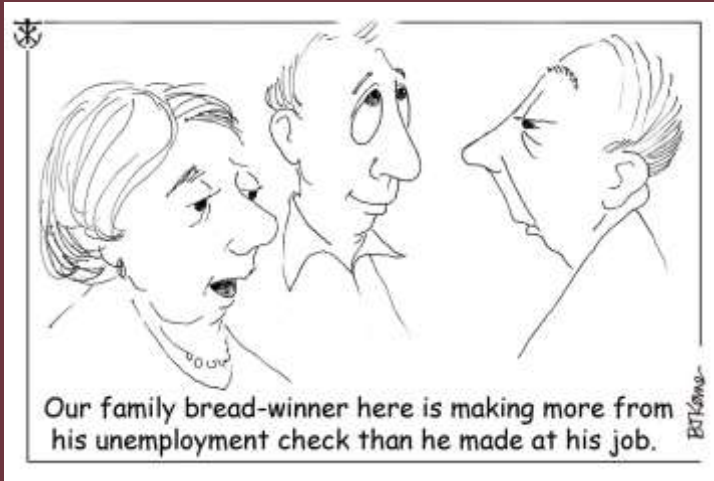
Reflection
Reflection sent in by
Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



Emmanuel Care....With you on your journey toward health, healing and a better quality of life.

emmanuelcare.ca





Brother
James
Kane,
CSC



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Br. Richard Johnson
Br. George Klawitter**

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

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