

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

March 6, 2024

Prayer to Saint Joseph

Happy and blessed are you, O Joseph, to whom it has been given not only to see and hear but also to bear in your arms, to embrace, to clothe, and to watch over God himself, whom many kings have desired to see but have not seen, and to hear but have not heard.



I am nothing ... only a tool in the hands of Providence, a lowly instrument at the service of Saint Joseph.

—Saint André Bessette

Directory of Devotional Prayer, Congregation of Holy Cross, article 6, pg 8-9



Begging

The quiet joys of Lent rehearse across
the campus lakes their yearly pilgrimage.
Frame by frame the stations in the woods
top frozen dirt choking February grass.

Each episode I've loved, every mossy
smile and surge of juices in the nearby
walls and chapels, the basilica where I've stood
ungraced, disguised—I glory as I pass.

When I crash among my gods, adoring
human this and human that, I roll
in agony exhausted by the fight.

I've smeared the ashes on my wanton forehead.
So grind the dust into my waiting soul,
and let my starving ego find your light.

—**Brother George Klawitter, CSC**



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

The Binding Up of Lepers By Br. Philip Smith, CSC

On August 14, 1876, when Brother Columba O'Neill, CSC, was 28 years old, he professed final vows and added the fourth vow to "go anywhere in the world the Superior General pleases to send me." In Br. Ernest Ryan's 55-page biography of Br. Columba, *These Two Hearts*, he writes: "He had finally attained the greatest desire of his heart. He immediately volunteered to go to India and/or Molokai to help Father Damien in the magnificent work among the lepers." (26) I have no idea what *immediately* means, but ...

Click link below to read entire article:

<http://brothersofholycross.com/bhc/wp-content/uploads/Binding-Up-Lepers-Midwest-Midweek.pdf>



Week of Service

(Midwest) Holy Cross Associates commit to build community, grow spiritually, and service others. In response to these promises, in two weeks, we are kicking off our Holy Cross Associates Week of Service and we are inviting you to join us.

Starting March 16 through March 23, 2024 we will reach out in service to those in need, either as individuals, in a group, or with your local HCA chapter. This is an opportunity for the entire HCA community and friends, all around the globe, to put our Holy Cross core values into action. Students, Educators, Staffs, Parents, Friends, and Alumni are all welcome to participate and no act of service is too small to build up the Body of Christ.

We will be sharing stories and photos from the week at our Holy

Cross Associates Retreat and All Associate Yearly Promise Ceremony, June 22, 2024. All you need to do is sign up at the website below to let us know how you will be Christ to others during that week - then go and serve the Lord!

[Week of Service
holycrossassociates.org](https://holycrossassociates.org)



Ave Crux, Spes Unica!

Jessica S. Plaspohl
MHCA Board of
Directors, Chairperson



Wednesday: Community Gathering



Brother Kenneth Kane takes a beautiful panoramic photo of our Columba Hall gathering.



Raclin Museum

Last week, Robert and Ken toured the Raclin Museum of Art on Notre Dame Campus..



Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Belonging

There is a connection in all creation that gives us an approach to living. When we have spent time discerning who we are as individuals, we need also to see our place in the totality of God's design for creation.

This understanding comes from many sources: St. Paul names it as the Mystical Body of Christ. The Church refers to it as the Communion of Saints and the doctrine of Christ's Redemption for all. Richard Rohr call this connection with all being as the Universal Christ. Thomas Merton talks about the Contemplative mind and the mission of Contemplative Religious Orders. Pope Francis names it in one of his letters as our Common Home. Carl Jung discovered the Collective Unconscious in his therapy. This connection is real and it verifies that the prayers we offer for others do make a difference. We are connected to a "spiritual internet." Tests have recorded that those who are prayed for in love do better in the healing process than those who were not. Because we have this inner desire for belonging, we can become a person who discovers his or her place in God's plan for creation.

- Have you thought about your place in the totality of God's creation?
- Has your connection to others affected your daily life?
- Do you believe that your loving prayers can connect to all those who are suffering in our world?

**O God, draw me closer to you
though my connection to all of your creation.**

Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.



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

Bible Bites by Brother Robert Mosher, C.S.C.

(0366B-Humanity)



Eating Meals Together

People in Palestine in Jesus' time considered eating meals together as a somewhat like ritual expressing and celebrating their common identity and affinity as humans. Satisfying hunger and seeking nourishment to survive are characteristically indicative of being human.

Such a notion may explain why the scribes and pharisees complained about the behavior of Jesus: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15:20). Biased, they equated anyone unlike themselves as subhuman, and were completely unaware that Jesus, as the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, was made flesh – *humanity*.

Therefore, considering who Jesus is, he was more than ready and willing to recognize and relate to anyone he ate with or otherwise encountered as fellow humans – sinners or sinless.

Futhermore, St. Paul tells us: "He [God] made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become righteous of God" (2 Cpr 5:21).





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



What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

- Mary Oliver -



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• **Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring.**
~ St. Catherine of Siena

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