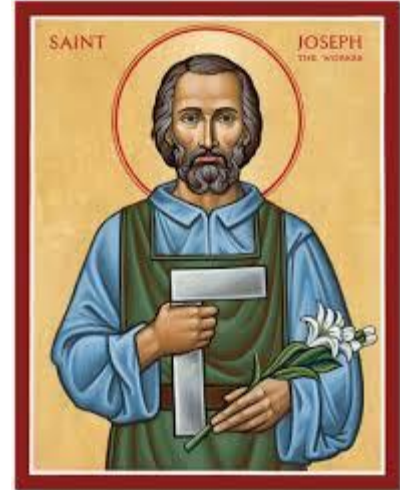


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

May 8, 2019

Saint Joseph the Worker
Feast Day – May 1st



Creative Devices



E-mailed in by Brother Dennis Bednarz:

Engineers, software specialists, and other brilliant minds came together at St. Edward High School's brand new Innovation Center to design and create devices to improve the lives of disabled U.S. and international veterans.

The link to the article and video is: [Challenge America at St. Edward](#)

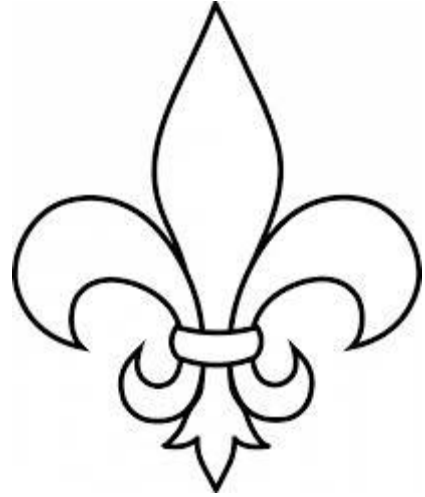
Celebration of Commitments

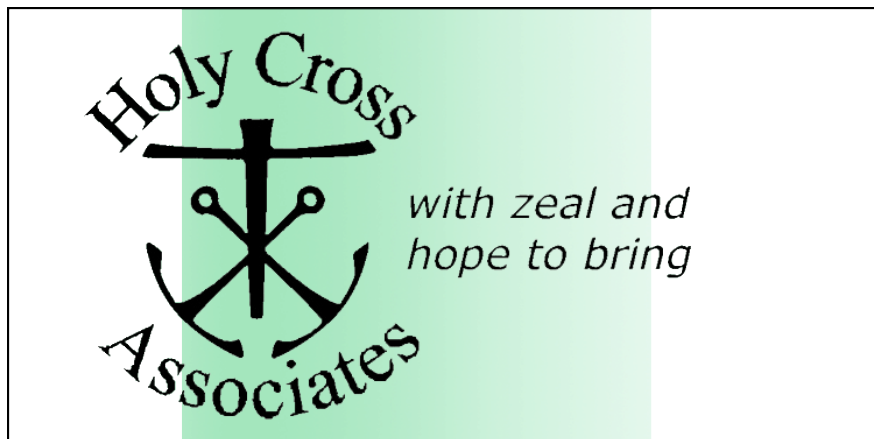
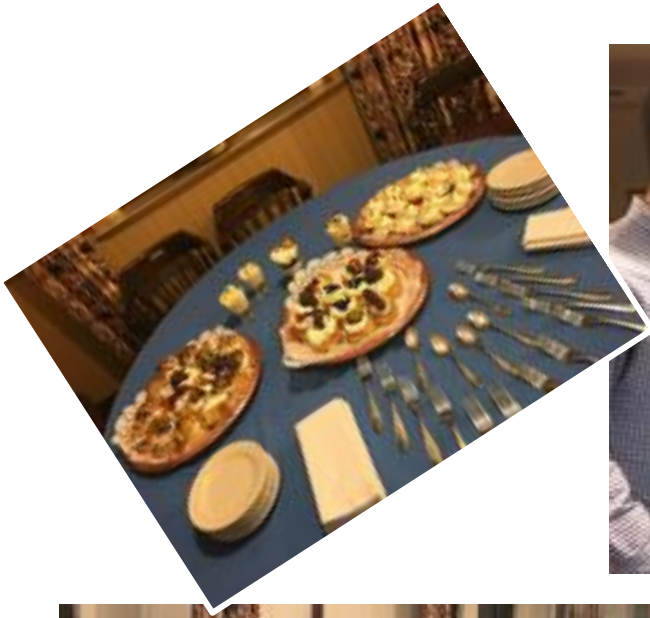


Student Associates Make One-Year Commitments

Four Student Holy Cross Associates made their annual commitments as Student Holy Cross Associates at a Mass at Columba Hall on April 25 with Father Kevin Sandbury, CSC, as celebrant. One other Associate had made his commitment at an earlier event. The Mass was preceded by a mini retreat in which the students reflected on how much one year of participating in their meetings twice a month had helped them grow spiritually, create community, and serve others. The Brothers who helped facilitate the event were Brother George Klawitter, Brother Roy Smith, Brother Carl Sternberg, and Brother Julian Przybyla. Brother Michael Brickman provided the scrumptious fixings after the Mass in the Columba Hall dining room.







AmeriCorps Members Stayed at Columba Hall



A team of AmeriCorps members from across the country has finished its time helping St. Joseph County Habitat for Humanity. The team lived at Bessette House during their stay here in the South Bend area. View what they had been doing by clicking on the link below.

<https://wsbt.com/news/local/volunteer-team-wrapping-up-6-weeks-of-service-on-st-joe-co-habitat-for-humanity-build>

Columba Hall Upgrades

From the Notes of Chris Dryer:

We are in the process of upgrading our sound system in the chapel not only to produce a better sound quality, but also to allow those with certain types of hearing aids to connect directly to the system via an induction loop.

A second upgrade is the patient alert system, which will access the Wi-Fi system. The pendants will be water-proof. There will also be “pull-cord” stations in the common areas to summon help if needed.

A third upgrade is to install an accessible shower in the CNA office to accommodate those Brothers who use walkers or wheelchairs.

All of these upgrades are being funded by a grant from SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious).



Fresh Bread Smells!

From *Forever Learning Institute*

Cooking with Br. Paul

Mondays have quickly become our favorite day as the entire Parish Center fills with enticing smells.

[Forever Learning Institute](#)

St. Therese Little Flower Parish
Center
(574) 282-1901
54191 Ironwood Dr.
South Bend, IN 46635
574-282-1901

eve@foreverlearninginstitute.org

Starting last Monday, Brother Paul Kelly was teaching the baking of bread.

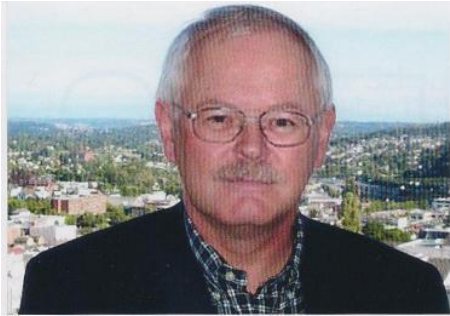


4th Wednesday of Every Month Saint Edward High School

Wednesday, April 24th was the 25-year anniversary of the monthly SEHS community meal. Retired St. Edward teachers Mike Reiling and Paul Bosley were both in attendance to celebrate the meal that they started 25 years ago! The meal is put on the 4th Wednesday of every month by a team of adult and student volunteers. Below are some photos from the event.



The Ten Commandments of Mercy



FR. RON ROLHEISER

Rev. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, is a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He is a theologian, professor, award-winning author, and serves as president of the Oblate School of Theology

Among the Ten Commandments, one begins with the word "remember." Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day. It reminds us of something we already know. There are commandments of mercy imprinted in our very DNA. We need to remember them more explicitly. What are they?

Remember that mercy lies deepest in God's heart. Few things so much approximate the essence of God as mercy. Mercy is God's essence. Scripture uses words such as loving-kindness and compassion to try to define what constitutes God's mercy, but the central biblical concept, captured in the Hebrew concept of *hesed*, connotes a relationship that loves, embraces and forgives, even when, and especially when, we cannot measure up or deserve what's given to us.

1. Remember that mercy is the essence of all true religions.
Inside religion and spirituality, within all faiths, three things try to lay claim to what's central: proper religious practice, compassion, and outreach to the poor. Ultimately, they're not in opposition, but are complementary pieces of one religious whole; but for religious practice and outreach to the poor to be an extension of God's love and not of human ego, they need to be predicated upon compassion and mercy. Deepest inside of every religion is the invitation: Be merciful as God is merciful.

2. Remember that we all stand forever in need of mercy.
There is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who converts than over 99 righteous persons. Does God love sinners more than the righteous? No. There are no righteous persons. Rather, we feel God's love more when we admit that we're sinners. None of us ever measure up, but as St. Paul so consolingly teaches, the whole point is that we don't have to measure up. That's what mercy means. It's undeserved, by definition.

3. Remember that having received mercy, we must show mercy to others.
We existentially receive and appropriate God's mercy and the mercy of others only when we extend that same mercy to others. Mercy has to flow through us. If we don't extend it to others, we ourselves will never know mercy.

4. Remember that only the practice of mercy sets us free. Receiving and giving mercy is the only thing that frees us from our incurable need to self-seek, self-justify and judge others. Nothing frees us more from the tyranny of ego than the practice of mercy.
5. Remember that mercy is not opposed to justice, but is its fulfillment. Mercy, as Walter Kasper suggests, is not, "a kind of fabric softener that undermines the dogmas and commandments and abrogates the central and fundamental meaning of truth." That is the accusation the Pharisees made against Jesus. Mercy undergirds justice.
6. Remember that only the practice of mercy will make God's Kingdom come. Jesus promised us that someday the meek will inherit the earth, the poor will eat plentiful rich food, and all tears will be wiped away. That can happen only when mercy replaces self-interest.
7. Remember that mercy needs, also, to be practiced collectively. It is not enough for us just to be merciful within our own lives. Mercy is marginalized in a society that doesn't sufficiently attend to those who are weak or needy, just as it is marginalized in a church that is judgmental. We must create a society that is merciful and a church that is merciful. Mercy alone enables the survival of the weakest.
8. Remember that mercy calls us to do works, both spiritual and physical. Our Christian faith challenges us to perform mercy in a doubled way, corporeally and spiritually. The classic corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, cloth the naked, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. And the classic spiritual works of mercy are to instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the afflicted, admonish the sinner, forgive offenses, bear wrongs patiently, and pray for the living and the dead. All of us are better at some of these than at others, but mercy is manifest in all of them.
9. Remember that our lives are a dialogue between God's mercy and our weaknesses. The only thing at which we are adequate is being inadequate. We are forever falling short at something, no matter the strength of our sincerity, good intention, and willpower. Only mercy, receiving it and giving it, can lead us out of the choppy waters of our own anxieties, worries, and joylessness. Only in knowing mercy do we experience gratitude. Mercy is the ingredient needed to put a credible face to God, to put a credible face to our churches, and to walk with steadiness inside our own lives.

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<https://ost.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/OST-NEWS-VOLUME-2-Final-wout-Printer-Marks.pdf>

Reflections

125 years
of innovation driven
by compassion

Providence
HEALTH CARE
How you want to be treated.

Small acts,
when multiplied
by millions of
people,
can transform
the world.

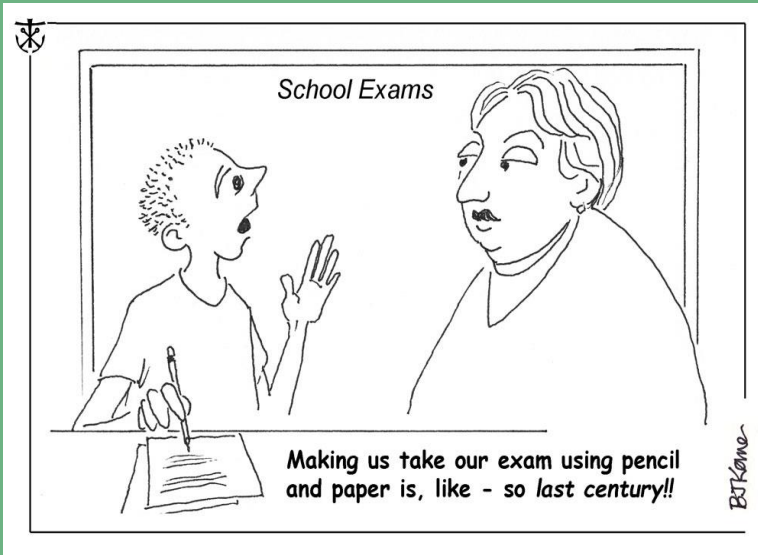
Howard Zinn

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You are not
a drop
in the ocean.
You are the
entire ocean,
in a drop.

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi

Ramadan begins Sunday, May 5. Ramadan is celebrated as the month in which the prophet Mohammed received the first of the revelations that make up the Quran. During this Islamic holy month, Muslims around the world observe a practice of fasting from dawn to dusk and bettering themselves in principles of faith.



Cartoon
by
Brother
James
Kane,
CSC



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