MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

Brothers of Holy Cross – Midwest Province - P.O. Box 460 – Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-0460 May 10, 2023



Jubilee

The day ignites with happiness, the day of wonder, joy, and sweet humility, and sun and moon and stars along the way, to open hearts to their tranquility.

The bridegroom waits—his background is the altar rich with ferns and flowers, candles brightly lit. You raise your eyes: your vows will never falter. You swim the aisle though the guests who sit

in restless awe, your siblings and the others primed for alleluia, jubilee, forever blessed by heaven, blessed by brothers, that Andre, James, and Basil trinity

of earthly men with vision, hope, and grace.

They wove their holy lives to tapestry
where you and men like you have found your place
to grow toward peace and even majesty.

Resolve yourself, my brothers, to endure some days of darkness, groping for the light: your final years will finally best ensure a lasting day made gentler by the night.



—George Klawitter, CSC

Brother Jubilarians 2023 Midwest Province Celebration



Back Row: Br. Joseph McTaggart Br. James Van Dyke Br. Robert Livernois

Front Row: Br. Nicholas Thielman Br. Raymond Papenfuss Br. Paul Mensah

Jubilee pictures will appear in coming publications of Midwest-Midweek.

A Few Jubilee 2023 Pictures



Br. Robert Lvernois

Br. James Van Dyke

Br. Nicholas Thielman

Br. Joseph McTaggart

Renewal of Vows





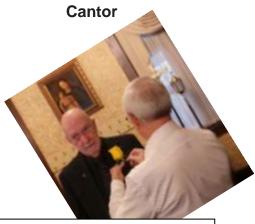




Br. Raymond Papenfuss

Raymond Br. Paul Mensah

Renewal of Vows



Brothers Joseph & Joseph

Brothers Francis Boylan & Richard Johnson





Br. Paul & Br. Joseph

Br. Paul & Friend

2nd Reading at Mass – Br. James

Br. Joseph Fox Organizer



Brother Thomas Rock and Guest





Healthy Aging Series

"FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE AS WE AGE"

During our fall and winter series on healthy aging, individuals, as they age, were encouraged to follow the interdependent model for optimum health. As was mentioned, this model encourages individuals to do everything they can for themselves but also remain open to assistance so that their physical and personal needs get addressed safely.

Besides truthfulness with medical personnel, another important guideline to follow, as an interdependent older adult, is developing or maintaining an attitude of mental flexibility. Flexibility vs Rigidity. Flexibility is a personal trait that describes the extent to which a person can cope with changes in circumstances as life moves forward. On the other hand, cognitive rigidity is the lack of mental flexibility and the inability to change behaviors when they are ineffective in order to reach an objective.

Research tells us that the human body is in a growth phase from birth to approximately age 35. From that point forward, the body is in a slow decline. In our later years, the decline appears to escalate requiring individuals to adapt to body changes and continue to pursue a flexible attitude. The phrase, "going with the flow" is a healthy attitude to adopt. A rigid inflexible attitude can lead to increased anger and serious distress in a person's life during the later years.

A psychologist that I worked with in Sun City, AZ, had a big picture frame on her office wall with the words, "SO WHAT"? So what if I need more assistance. So what if I need a cane or rollator to avoid falling and breaking a hip.

In conclusion, pursuing or maintaining a flexible attitude, as we progress through our later years, can lead to satisfaction and being content with ourselves. It can prevent projecting the dissatisfaction and anger within ourselves on others. I have had the privilege of walking with many brothers who "went with the flow" and adapted wonderfully to their medical changes during this time of life's journey.

Brother Lew Brazil, LCSW, CSCDirector of Healthcare & Aging, Midwest Province





Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Cross Roads

The title of our reflections has been "Holy Cross Roads." What does the phrase mean to you? For me it has reference to our Holy Cross family. We are on this journey together. These reflections are meant to help us negotiate the twists and turns we have in life going from one stage to another. Wherever we find ourselves on this road, our goal is to reach a place where God can be all in all and the source of our most authentic fulfillment.

The phrase "Holy Cross Roads" also contains the word "Cross." We cannot be true follows of Christ leaving the cross behind when Jesus says, "If you want to be my disciple, pick up your cross and follow me." We will experience many crosses as we travel the crossroads of our lives. We will need to come to grips with who we truly are which involves accepting our shadow side and not projecting all of the guilt on other people or institutions. It means emptying ourselves to the extent that there is room for God to enter into all of the crevices of our being. Then God can love all of who we truly are. It means sharing our life and our gifts in the communities in which we participate including our common home, mother earth. It also means listening to the God who will share the next steps we need to take on this journey of ours. There might be suffering, rejection, failure and even death, but as with Jesus there will always be the hope of resurrection and the experience of joy that the world cannot give.

So, we travel these crossroads of our lives together. We support one another. We share our gifts and acknowledge our weaknesses and the ways we need to grow spiritually. This is also the goal of our Holy Cross Associates.

- What does the word "crossroads" mean to you?
- How are you taking up your cross and following Jesus?
- Do you have a support group that helps you navigate the ups and downs of life?



O God, guide me through the crossroads in my life.

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.





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.



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