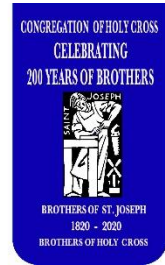


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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



May 14, 2020

In This Week

Information on individual early Brothers of St. Joseph for posting week by week in 2020.

May 10 – 16 In this week Brother Andre Mottais wrote a letter while en route to Marseille where he would board a ship for the new mission in Algeria in 1840.

May 17 – 23 In this week on May 23, 1843, Brother Andre Mottais wrote his final letter. It is addressed to his old friend Brother Vincent Pieau in Indiana.

Music from Daniel



Since moving to the ND area from Cleveland I encountered some health problems, one of which prevented me from ascending the Notre Dame Basilica's circular stairwell to the choir loft. Prior to that, my final use of the organ was in June of 2018.

The following is the Postlude I played. (You'll notice the 2-page music score with one page printed, the other hand-written -- the latter being my 'finale' enhancement!). There's no one in the church as I finished, as most generally leave to head for refreshments!

My gratitude to **Ken Kane, CSC** of Gates Mills, OH, for the video, and to **Mike Brickman, CSC** of Columba Hall, ND, for forwarding the video and this info.

Brother Daniel Kane



The organ selection is "*Recessional in C*" by Hal Hopson.

Click on the link below:

[**Dan's Hopson Postlude 2018**](#)

Recorded at Jubilee 2018, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, Indiana, June 16, 2018.

Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Easter
By Brother James Kane, C.S.C.
May 10, 2020



Life is a journey with a lot of unexpected twists and turns. In today's response we prayed together, "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you." Now, what sort of *trust* might that be?

When my novitiate year drew to a close a member of the Eastern Brothers Provincial Council met with me to discuss my preferred college courses. English, history, and Spanish, I eagerly replied, anxious to distance myself from my personal demons: math and science. OK, he agreed. I was delighted.

A few weeks later the scholasticate director handed me my course schedule. To my dismay, it was riddled with math and science courses. "There must be some mistake," I exclaimed! "There is no mistake, Brother," he replied, ending our dialog. So began my painful, two year search for a path through the labyrinthine byways of calculus and chemistry.

At the start of my junior college year the brother director – to my immense relief – agreed to let me change my major to English and history. Now my future seemed clear. Two years later I graduated and set out on the next stage of my life's journey. I was sent to a school in New York where the principal handed me my teaching assignment: math and science!

Ah, well. I was beginning to get the message: perhaps I'd better listen to the Spirit and open my mind and heart. My journey is not all about me and my comfort zone. My sense of order, my personal GPS, does not take precedence. The needs of others come first. Today's second reading cautions us not to "stumble against the cornerstone," but instead to help lead others from "darkness into the light" (*1 Peter 2*).

St. Joseph had greater difficulties than I did. Just as his life journey seemed clear, he learned Mary was with child. The traditional orderliness of his life was turned on its end. Responding to the Spirit, he complied and took Mary as his wife. Later, after a long trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the parental joy at the birth of Jesus was interrupted by an angel's instruction to flee to Egypt!

How incredibly difficult must this have been for Joseph and Mary: The Holy Family's lengthy journey of faith from Bethlehem to Egypt came with its own set of dangers and hardships. How could Joseph and Mary have envisioned such a

dramatic turn of events? It upset all of their perceived expectations. And yet, off they went, following the Spirit.

Brothers, what sort of journey do we find ourselves on today? This dreadful pandemic has inserted itself directly into our path, into our sense of order, into our safety-net: a predictable schedule. It has changed our living patterns, our diet, our travel plans, our traditional assemblies.

Like a modern day Herod, the pandemic looms over our lives in the most threatening manner. How do we respond? Do we look back, longing for everything to be as it was before?

Or like Joseph and Mary, do we look ahead in faith, understanding that our new lives together may never be the same, may never be what we envisioned? Do we – like Joseph and Mary – accept this unexpected prompt of the Spirit? What challenges will we face on our latest journey together?

In today's Gospel, Thomas implores Jesus, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me’” (*John 14*).

As members of the Family of Holy Cross, may we continue to respond together, “Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our *trust* in you.”



Pastoral Center



Photo and email sent by Brother Francis Boylan

Latest picture update of the pastoral center for *Saint Brother André High School* in Kasoa, Ghana, West Africa, on the far eastern edge of the Central Region.



The school had to close several weeks ago, so I also have been self quarantined, thus time to finally re-connect with you. No one sick here, although some Brothers suffer from malaria

The lock down has been partially lifted, workers are back constructing the pastoral center. Next week the landscaping, sidewalks and road construction begins. I also hope the airlines resume services. I hope to visit the USA on the first international flight out of the country, hopefully by July 2020!

In our “spare time” the sisters on staff here are sewing masks, and the Brothers distribute them to the village folks. The lock down was difficult for the villagers, who are dependent on rain to wash hands, No houses with single rooms to be self quarantined, No grocery stores, can’t self distance in the market, Medical?. So villagers who work for daily food take the risk of contracting the virus over starving to death!

Stay safe. Stay home. Wash your hands often. And God Bless you and all those you care for, **Br. Francis** Sent from my iPad



Time to Plant Corn



The farm pictured above of 16 acres is part of the almost 100 acres of the school in Kasoa. It is a beginning. Villiage people, Brothers, and school staff make up the varity of farmers attending to the first planting. Hired villagers are paid 5 GHC per hour.

Brother Francis Boylan is pictured holding a corn hole tool. Poke holes into the soil with a wooden rod or your finger 1 to 1 1/2 inch deep and spaced 12 to 15 inches apart. Place two to three corn kernels per hole. Cover them and hope the squirrels don't dig them up before they can sprout.

“The vegetable ‘farm’ is only the first phase of the project The farmers plan to plant corn, tomatoes, okra, cassava, sweet potatoes, peppers, and coconuts. The second phase of the farm (when there is money) will include a poultry farm and in the third phase a pig farm.” **Brother Francis' email**



Ohio CSC Members

**Corona
virus-19**



All of the CSC members in NE Ohio have a Zoom video chat each Monday night to check in with one another. We are all doing well and staying safe at Gilmour, in Akron, and here in Rocky River.

Bednarz, Br. Dennis

Midwest Holy Cross Associates

Holy CrossRoads **Writings for the Journey** **#8**

The Christ Within

Dear Associates and Friends,

Why do opposites attract? Is it because these attractions recognize the underdeveloped side of our personality that yearns to be made known? We are attracted to Christ because he represents that part of us that longs to be authentic, loving, and whole. The God who created us is manifested in him. Our spiritual journey leads us on the path to be authentic, loving, and whole. Christ wants to access that part of us that is still hidden. St. Paul says, "It is not I that live but Christ who lives in me." By faith and by grace we know that our true identity lies in our identification with him. We are collectively the Body of Christ.

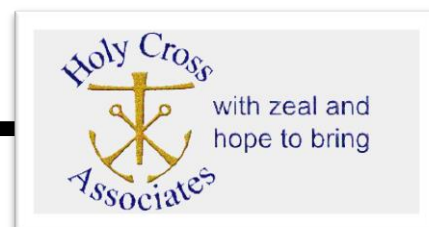
What does this mean in the way we choose to live? It could mean that if we recognize the Christ within us, rather than building up our ego, we would simply allow Christ to act in us and through us. This depends on our prayer life. It depends on the way God guides us through our DNA, our history and our experiences and the unique way God wants to relate to us.

O God, help me appreciate not only what I do but who I am in Christ.



Brother Carl Sternberg, CSC
March 24, 2020

<http://holycrossassociates.org/>



Reflection for Brothers' Communion service May 7, 2020

Let us be aware --- aware that we are in the presence of the living God. Perhaps when you came into chapel you acknowledged Christ/God in the tabernacle with the sign of the cross or a head bow, but did you really realize --- realize the presence of God? The God-man Jesus is present here in a special way - under the presence of bread.

Someone's recent survey found that about two-thirds of those going to Communion see it as a social thing rather than actually receiving our Lord Jesus Christ. How sad! How truly sad. An altar call might do more good than that. What about you?

One time I heard Martin Luther King speak here at Notre Dame. I felt inspired to follow him, to love both blacks and whites, to go off and fight for equality and justice. But in reality I was already committed to do that as a committed Brother and wasn't free to go and follow Martin wherever he went.

At one time we all heard the call to follow Christ, to leave all to follow Jesus as a Brother of Holy Cross. We not only heard the call, we followed the call. Thanks be to God!

Today we are still called to follow God/Jesus/Spirit, but how are you called individually today? How are you called to serve others? How are you called to grow in your relationship with God and with your neighbor and with your fellow Brothers? We once gave all to God. Are we still doing that?

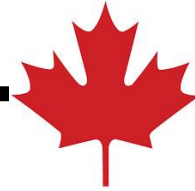
Brother William Mewes





Reflection

Reflection(s) sent in by
Brother Thomas Maddix:



Happy Mother's Day – May 10th, 2020

It's not *WHAT* we have in life, but *WHO* we have in our life that matters – Unknown

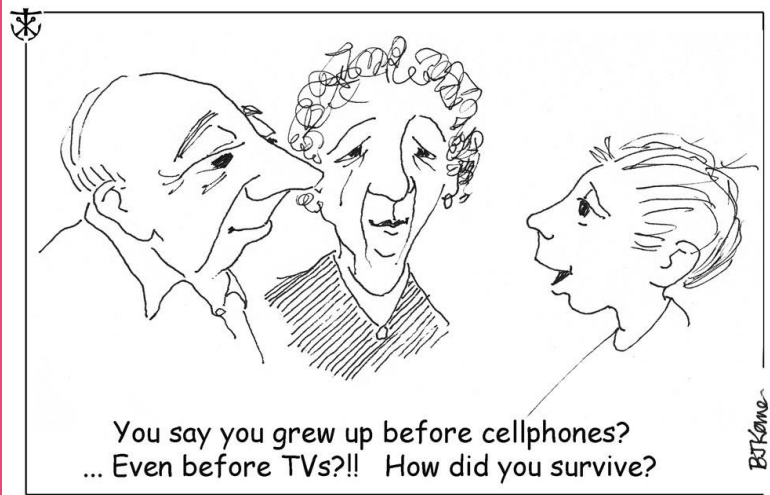



**Emmanuel
Care**

A Catholic Health Organization

This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics and Spirituality Office, www.emmanuelcare.ca

bonquet(ccc)phere



Cartoon
by
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 clicking on the link below.

<http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/archived-publications/>



View Website at:

www.brothersofholycross.com

View *Midwest-Midweek* at:

<http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/midwest-midweek-newsletter/>

Editor

Webmaster

Proofreader

Br. Kenneth Kane

Br. Richard Johnson

Br. George Klawitter

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

Send material to this address:

Midwest-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com