MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

August 14, 2024



August is a Marian Month

August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Hail holy queen, mother of mercy, hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us. And after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

<u>Singing the Four Seasonal Marian Anthems</u>
(adoremus.org)

Our Poets, Past and Present

Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9)

In my prayer I climbed up Mount Tabor.
A long hard climb, I tired with labor.
While stopping to rest, and observe the weather,

I saw four men, up there, standing together.

Moving closer with great care, I heard them talking. It sounded like prayer. Then, suddenly, being struck with fear, out of nowhere, I saw two more men appear.

One of the four, transfigured, his face a marvelous sight, and his clothes shone a brilliant white. While standing there, looking ahead, suddenly, two men fell, as if they were dead.



I crept closer, not making a sound, watching the two men still on the ground. Then, all of a sudden, again for safety I feared,

as into thin air, two men disappeared.

Then one man bade the others get up:
"We'll go home now, to pray and drink from
the cup,"
he said to them. "Keep this quiet for now—
then after I rise, you can tell it somehow."

— Brother Jerome Kroetsch, CSC



Eulogy for Brother Edward Dailey, C.S.C.



Welcome to family, especially Brother Ed's sister, Sr. Margaret, and her fellow Benedictine sisters as well as Ed's cousin.

There is a paragraph in our Constitutions that I think was written for Brother Edward Dailey. It reads:

"Our mission sends us across borders of every sort. Often, we must make ourselves at home among more than one people or culture, reminding us again that the farther we go in giving the more we stand to receive. Our broader experience allows both the appreciation and the critique of every culture and the disclosure that no culture of

this world can be our abiding home." (Constitution 17)

During his 56 years of active ministry, Brother Ed had crossed many borders and lived in what we would call foreign lands for 36 years. He began his Ministry in Ghana for five years, then in the States at St Edward High School for eight years. After that he returned to Ghana for five more years and then Liberia for one year. He was then inspired to go for a renewal program, after which he spent three more years at St. Eds and a couple of years at a parish in Casper, Wyoming. Then he was in Rome for 12 years, serving as secretary at the Generalate, followed by five years helping in the provincial office here at Notre Dame before returning to Rome for 10 more years, followed by three years in Bangladesh.

It is certainly true that there was no culture that was his abiding home. It is also true that wherever he was he seemed to receive as much as he gave, and he gave much.

Brother Ed was first a language teacher. Mostly that meant French. He taught French in both the United States and Ghana. A friend of mine who remembers Brother Ed being at St Eds in Lakewood while we were students there commented that Ed would actually talk to students. That certainly fits with the recollections of others who remember him as friendly and interested in his students. Ed also said yes to a different need. For 22 years he worked for different superiors general in the General Administration in Rome, where his knowledge of the French language was a great service to our monolingual Holy Cross confreres who knew either French or English, but not both. This was particularly helpful during the time leading to the beatification of our founder, Fr. Basile Moreau. Many meetings and much communication were in French, and a great deal of that was Ed's responsibility.

Ed liked using his skills to help others, so his language skills in both French and English were particularly useful while he was in Rome. He also gained a respectable fluency in Italian and enjoyed trying to act like the Italians. He relished immersing himself in another culture – to learn the language and the customs of the local people. He learned to feel at home whether in Europe, Africa, or Asia.

Toward the end of his ministerial career. Ed began to spend time with the brothers in Bangladesh to help them learn English. Brother Ripon shared that Ed was a true friend of the Brothers in Bangladesh. Ed believed in what he was doing and had no trouble adjusting to being in such a different culture. It was easy to see that Ed liked being with the brothers and teaching them a skill they would need to advance professionally and in the global Holy Cross community. I think he also enjoyed being able to smoke with the brothers there who shared what he saw as a relaxing habit. But we can acknowledge the results of his service in Bangladesh as just one good example of his tireless efforts which have left an indelible mark on all those who had the privilege of knowing him and benefitting from his skills with language – skills that he continued to develop during his long life in Holy Cross.

When Brother Ed finally returned to the United States to retire, it was not because he wanted to stop working. His failing eyesight and hearing were just too much of a hindrance. Later, after he became more forgetful, there were two places he still remembered. He would often speak of Rome and Bangladesh in ways that told us his time there was filled with much joy and fulfillment. And though he could no longer smoke, he was quite the connoisseur of all things sweet. He especially loved his cookies and cakes. He actually had two cookie jars in his room, and his sister would always bring him homemade cookies whenever she visited.

In thinking about Brother Ed, Brother Victor Correa wrote this comment.

I thank God for calling Brother Ed. As I found him in the last stage of his life, he was still ready to respond to God's call. I had the pleasure of knowing him personally. He was undoubtedly a dedicated Holy Cross Brother, raising many amazing future and young religious members in Bangladesh. Let's praise and thank God for the gift of his life.

Indeed, let us praise and thank God for the gift of Brother Edward Dailey in our lives, and that he did cross so many borders with such generosity and delight.

Brother Kenneth Haders, C.S.C. Provincial

Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Either/or?

Sometimes it is easy for a person to bring closure quickly to things, rather than wait in order to be sure. We see Jesus in St. Mark's Gospel not wanting the people to broadcast that he was the long, awaited messiah when he performed a miracle. Scripture scholars refer to this caution in Jesus to proclaim his identity as the "messianic secret."

One of the gifts of the "synodality movement" is not only to have the opportunity to express one's thoughts and feelings in a group, but to put these thoughts and feelings aside so that one can truly listen to what others are communicating. If Christ is present, "where two or more are gathered in his name," his Spirit will allow them to take what has been expressed into consideration along with incorporating tradition and their responsibility for the future. When no course of action seems possible, then maybe "a wait and see response" is the best solution at the time, given no prophetic proclamations.

In an age of polarization in which name calling has become an "art," what is certain for the Christian is that we love God and love our neighbor as ourselves.

- Are you open to input from others before you decide on a course of action?
- Do you have a tendency to make important decisions very quickly?
- Is it hard for you to listen to others when their ideas are different from yours?

O God, guide me in the process of making life decisions.



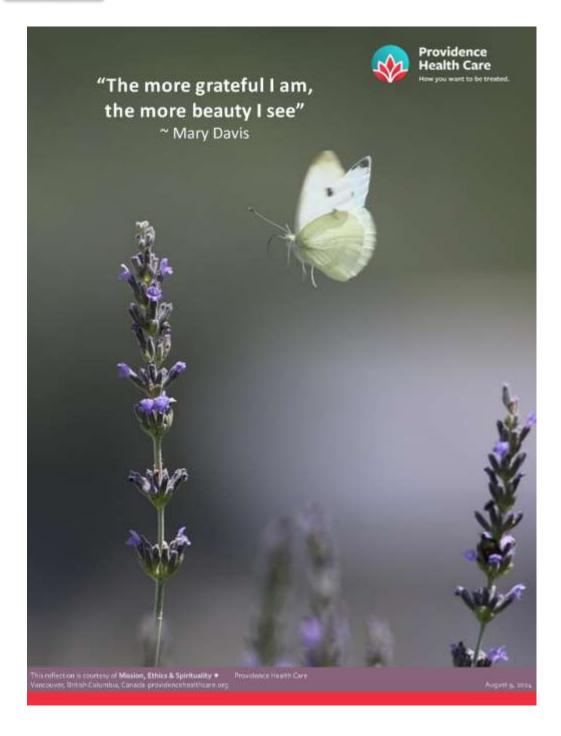
Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.

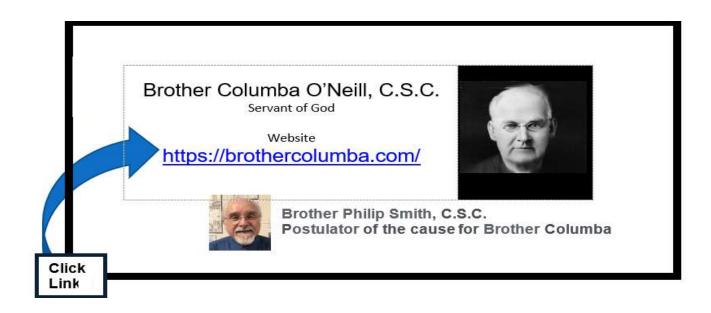
For more reflections to grow spiritually please visit our new blog https://weeklyspiritualinsights.org/

Reflection









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