

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

July 16, 2008

## Br. Ronald Receives Gold Medal



**Brother Ronald Drahozal** recently received a Gold Medal from the Mother Therese Research Council for his service to drug addicts in Bangladesh. The reward was to honor persons who serve others as Mother Therese did. The Midwest Province is honored to have Brother Ronald as a member and is proud of the work he is doing and has done over his many years in Bangladesh.

## 14 New Holy Cross Members

I am writing to invite you to rejoice and pray with us as 14 new members from the Districts of East and West Africa make their first vows in the Congregation of Holy Cross. Today July 12, 2008, eight novices makes their first vows in Uganda and six in Ghana. Out of the **six making their vows in Ghana**, three came from the District of East Africa. Please pray for our young men as they make they make the first vows in their journey in Holy Cross.



### Br. Paul Mensah

The web addresses for the Ghana photos from the celebration are listed below:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fbobcsc/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fbobcsc/sets/72157606129246941/>

## The Family of Holy Cross Retreat

From July 6 – 12, over 145 Holy Cross religious from throughout the world and all four communities took part in a retreat entitled “Moreau’s Vision: Going Beyond Our Brokenness to Bring Unity and Hope” held at St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame, Indiana. Pictures of the retreat may be viewed at:



<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/MoreauVision08.htm>

## Leadership Program



A student leadership program was held at Holy Cross College in late June for 40 or more Holy Cross High School students coming from the Midwest and Eastern province schools of the Brothers. Pictures of the event may be seen at:

<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/Leadership08.htm>

## Holy Cross Associates Leadership Workshop

A workshop for leadership was held at the Indiana Province, LaPorte Center for Midwest Holy Cross Associates from July 11-13.



### Front row L-R:

Bob Kolinski (Chicago Chapter, IL), Maggi Bender (Moreau Chapter, CA), Ellie Peters (Village Chapter, IN), Mary Hauck (St. Joseph Chapter, IN), Michele Kastner (St. Joseph Chapter, IN), Br. Richard Johnson (Village Chapter, IN),

### Second row L-R:

Br. Lew Brazil (New Chapter, IN), Roberta Gittens (Palm Desert Chapter, CA), Ken Peters (Village Chapter, IN), Linda Pagel (St. Gregory Chapter, AZ), Therese Rohan (St. Joseph Chapter, IN), Br. Carl Sternberg (Palm Desert Chapter, CA), Br. Robert Fillmore (Provincial, IN), Rich Galli (Chicago Chapter, IL)

### Third row (L-R):

Fr. John Connor (Coachella Valley Chapter, CA), Joe Connell (HCA Director, Moreau Chapter, CA) and ED Schenk (St. Gregory Chapter, AZ & Chicago Chapter, IL).

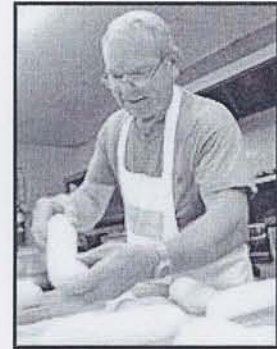
## St. Edward Athletic News

Brother James Everett sent the St. Edward athletic web site address which some of you may be interested. St. Edward won a number of state titles this year in baseball, wrestling and hockey. Go to <http://www.sehs.net/athletics.html> for much more information on the championships.

### This Week in Pictures

#### Sacred Heart Polish Fest:

Again this year **Br. James Blaszak** cooked his Polish Dinner for the annual Sacred Heart Polish Fest in LaPorte, IN, July 11-13. The dinner for over 500 featured golumbki and pierogi. Assisting Br. James were **Bill and Dolores Dusseau** and **Br. Charles McBride**. Brothers attending from Columba Hall were **Walter Gluhm, James Reddy and Roy Smith**. Pictured is Brother James making bread for the Polish Fest.



#### 50-50 Catch:

On his Golden Jubilee trip to Alaska (June 24 - July 11) **Br. Charles McBride** caught a 110 pound halibut. He caught the fish on June 30, the 50th Anniversary of the Senate vote making Alaska the 49th state. The fish, his 6th over 100 pounds, was caught 14 miles off Anchor Pt., Alaska, in 162 feet of water. The brothers at Riverside Place will have halibut for one of their potluck dinners.

## Eulogy for Brother Joseph Walter Olszowka, C.S.C

DECEMBER 31 - JUNE 19, 2008

By Brother Don Fleischhacker, C.S.C.

The life of Brother Joseph Walter began on December 31, 1911 to Paul and Agnes Olszowka in the town of Wola Kzedsinka, Poland. He was baptized Stanislaus Jerome. He was known as Stanley. He had an older brother and an older sister. His father was a professional Tailor.



At the age of three Stanley immigrated with his family to the south of Chicago where the family attended St. Adalbert and St. Casimir parishes. He graduated from St. Casimir elementary school. He took the commercial program in high school for several years before leaving to work for the Addressograph Corporation in Chicago and later in Cleveland.

Stanley entered Sacred Heart College prep high school Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin in August 1932, at the age of twenty-one as a special student where he graduated. Stanley received the habit of the Brothers of Holy Cross and his new name, Ladislaus, at Notre Dame, Indiana on February 1, 1933; and made his first vows on February 2, 1934.

Stanley was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth, nor did he have things handed on a silver tray, but later in his young life, he had a silver plate placed in his head as a result of a serious truck accident, which he suffered nearly fatal injuries in late August 1940.

Brother Joseph Walter was known at that time as Brother Ladislaus. He was one of five Holy Cross Brothers hit by another truck. Two brothers Sabinus and Caesaire, were killed. Brother Ladislaus was near death from a serious skull fracture was taken to a Kalamazoo hospital. The other two brothers, Eustace and Vallery, were less injured. The composure and bravery with which Brother Joseph Walter endured the months he spent recovering in the hospital are, one likes to think, a reflection of the calm, steady way he looked on life.

The apostolic life of Brother Joseph Walter was filled with variety and experience. As a bookkeeper at the Ave Maria Press, "civil servant" at the N.D. post office, a perfect at Notre Dame while he studied for his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1942, and a Master's degree in Economics in 1949. He was a teacher and effective administrator.

Brother Ladislaus changed his name to Brother Joseph Walter between 1942 and 1952.

Brother Joseph Walter taught for one year at Holy Cross School in New Orleans; and then for the next seven at Vincentian Institute in Albany, New York.

From 1952 to 1958 Brother Joseph Walter was principal at Holy Trinity High School. It was here we first met in March 1956. I came for an interview with Brother Eymard, concerning the life of the Brothers of Holy Cross. I rang the Holy Cross Holy Trinity High School residence bell. It was Brother Joseph Walter who answered the front door and let me in. While I was waiting to see Brother Eymard, Brother Joseph Walter visited me about forty minutes. He was very friendly and cheerful. He made me feel at ease and comfortable. My intention was not to join Holy Cross, but to talk about who and what the Brothers did. However, after my talk with Brother Eymard, the application papers began. And here I am after fifty years as a Brother of Holy Cross.

From March to October 1956 I would visit Brother Joseph Walter every three or four weeks about the life of the Brothers of Holy Cross and what they did. He became a very good mentor

for me. We became friends over the past fifty-two years. Brother Joseph Walter always had a gentle smile on him. A gentle smile is one of the most characteristic expressions of his.

He was my mentor and good friend. He was assistant principal at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis in 1958-1959, after leaving Holy Trinity High School. Then, after leaving Cathedral High School he became treasurer at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, for ten years, 1959-1969.

In 1969 Brother Joseph Walter returned to Chicago at Holy Trinity High School where he was a teacher for one year, then served for seven years as its assistant principal.

From 1976 - 88, he taught Business Law at Holy Cross Junior College, Notre Dame, Indiana. From 1988-89 He was assistant Business Manager at St. Joseph High School South Bend. He was then on the staff at Holy Cross High School, River Grove, Illinois. He served as well as the Brothers' Community Director for two years. Leaving school work, Brother Joseph Walter worked as a sales clerk at O'Hare Airport in Chicago from 1991-1993, as a security officer in Chicago, in a parking garage in the Loop for six years. Both jobs were paid positions. His salary checks were sent to the provincial office. After that Brother Joseph Walter was a volunteer at Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center for eight years.

These 16 years he took the Chicago buses and CTA trains to the last tree jobs. He enjoyed meeting the people and talking with them. He often offered some food, a sandwich or apple or some other food item to those he felt needed it. He shared new tales or stories with the Brothers at River Grove.

In 2005 Brother Joseph Walter came to Schubert Villa at Notre Dame; and for the past two years he lived at Dujarie House. He was noted as the "best dressed male resident". He was always neatly attired with an attractive tie.

Brother Joseph Walter's wit and overall good nature and even disposition served him well over the years. Brothers, students and others benefited from his pleasant personality and were continually impressed with his good example. He was a people person.

Brother Joseph Walter was a Brother of Holy Cross for 74 years. He was a good and holy gentleman. He aged gracefully. He retained brilliance of mind and heart through all his years of service. He died peacefully on June 19, 2008 in Dujarie House.

His pleasant smile and cheerful personality were evident to all who lived with him. We were truly blessed with this man's talent and good example of leading a full and generous life. May God bless you. Good bye, my mentor and friend.

## Obituary for Former Holy Cross Member: Dean Blietz

Florida Newspaper Obituary



Dean Blietz was born on October 24, 1947 to Giles and Dorothy Blietz of Monona, Iowa. Dean is survived by his daughter, Tara Blietz, three brothers, Roger (Helen) Blietz, Rickey (Laurie) Blietz, and Kevin Blietz, and one sister, Marleen (Gary) Moritz. He is also survived by several nieces and nephew, great-nieces and nephew, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Gary Blietz, and one sister, Elaine Blietz.

Dean joined the Navy in 1968, and he was honorably discharged in 1974. That same year he received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Iowa. Prior to receiving his degree from the University of Iowa, he was a Brother of the Holy Cross at Notre Dame. In 1976, he earned a second Bachelor of Science from the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Dean received his Masters Degree in Pastoral Theology from the Blessed Edmund Rice School (Barry University) in 2000. At the time of his death, he was working on a Masters Degree in Black Catholic Studies from Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana and a Doctorate in Ministry from Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida.

Dean worked as a Surgeon's Assistant in cardiac surgery in Grand Rapids, Michigan from 1976 to 1987 and in Fort Myers, Florida from 1987 to 1996. From 1996 to 2001, he worked for Bon Secours in Venice, Florida as a physician's assistant for their Care-A-Van program, which provided much needed health care services to migrant workers and the underprivileged in the communities. At the time of his death, he served as the Director of Evangelization at St. Peter Claver Catholic Mission, and worked for Vista Behavioral Crisis Services and Health Services of Central Florida.

Over the past several years, Dean tirelessly served the community through his volunteer work. He supported and donated his time to several organization, including the Resource Network for Offenders, Neighborhood Accountability Board, Restorative Accountability Board, HIV/AIDS Leadership Commission for the National Black Catholic Congress, Cultural Competency for VISTA, Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Homeless Coalition, Board of Directors for Family Health Centers, Executive Committee of the Lee County Branch of the NAACP, Shady Rest Care Pavilion, the Guardian Ad Litem Program, Voices for Kids, St. Peter Claver Catholic Mission, and his own organization, CHAINS, Inc.

In 2004, Dean established CHAINS, Inc., (Caring Has Always Initiated Necessary Services) to provide services for ex-offenders. Dean's dream in life was to create a network of resources that would help ex-offenders re-enter the community and become productive members of society. Dean received daily letters and phone calls from friends and strangers who were incarcerated throughout the United States. He provided these individuals with spiritual and emotional support by answering every letter he received. He also spent much of his time writing letters to and on behalf of death row inmates throughout the country.

Out of all of his accomplishments, Dean was proudest of his work with the children in his church community and through the guardian program. The youth of his community who were so briefly touched by him will now be counted on to carry on his legacy.

Dean will be deeply missed by his family and friends who will carry him in their hearts until the time when they will be together again.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to St. Peter Claver Catholic Mission, c/o Father Ed Galvin, 3681 Michigan Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916.

## **E-mail Change for Br William Geenen, C.S.C.**

Br. William Geenen's new e-mail address is now [sarasotacsc@verizon.net](mailto:sarasotacsc@verizon.net)

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**View Website at:** [www.brothersofholycross.com](http://www.brothersofholycross.com)

Next *Midwest – Midweek*: Please have material to **Br. Charles McBride** by Monday of each week *Midwest-Midweek* is published: [cmcbride@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:cmcbride@hcc-nd.edu)

**Summer Schedule  
for  
Midwest-Midweek:**

July 30  
August 13, 27