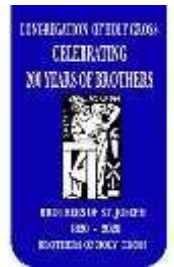


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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



March 17, 2021

March
Week 3

Weekly Spiritual Reflection from the Early Brothers of St. Joseph

A Brother in Africa has to expect to suffer under all conditions. To sleep on a bad bed, lodge in humid buildings, be in there with rats, mice, fleas, and sometimes lice, because the children often have them, eat soldier bread, go to the hospice, not a hospice as in France where you have all you want, but a place where your blood is taken and you're on a perpetual diet, to die without the sacraments, without consolation, where materialism exists big time, to be buried without prayers—such is the sad state of the colonists and of a Brother. (Brother Eulogius Boisard 5/16/1841)

Lenten Lecture Series – 2021

2:00 PM in Geenen Hall - Wednesdays

Personal meeting ID: 891 491 9777 for Zoom
Passcode: 54515

And, for those who live at Holy Cross Village, on TV at
Touchtown Channel 86/951

Continued on next page:

March 17

Brother Benjamin Rossi, CSC

“The Logic of the Cross”

Brother Benjamin Rossi holds both a bachelor and master degree from the University of Notre Dame. After teaching religion for more than ten years at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, Brother Ben joined the Congregation of Holy Cross making his first profession of vows on August 1, 2020. He currently participates in the formation program at Moreau House of Formation.



March 24

Brother Douglas Roach, CSC

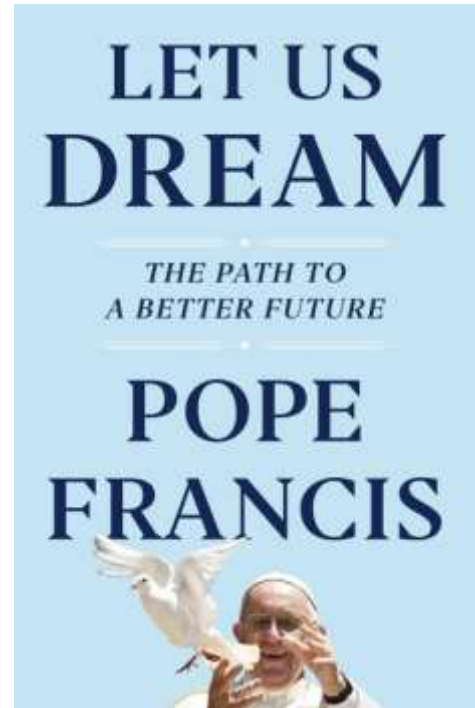
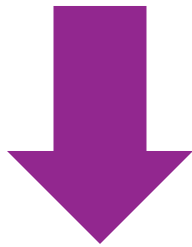
“In the midst of the turmoil, what is God calling us to be?”

Presently celebrating his 67th year in the Congregation of Holy Cross, Brother Doug Roach is the superior at Columba Hall, a Brothers’ retirement facility on the Notre Dame campus. Prior to Columba Hall, he was involved in high school teaching and administration; a mental health counselor in a state prison; administrator of a priest-less parish; and director in a Brothers’ formation program.



Father Mike Ausperk
Virtual Lenten Mission

Fr. Mike Ausperk will present a virtual 3-week Lenten Mission on Pope Francis' latest book Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future on the St. Francis Xavier Parish YouTube Channel. Watch anytime on or **after** February 28, March 7 and 14 at



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJyVd5HJRas&list=PLvefNnPE6ElAJony0t7KpdWfSJ_bmqkg



Fr. Mike Ausperk
Archbishop Hoban High School Board Member
and Friend of the Brothers of Holy Cross - Midwest Province
mausperk@gmail.com

Father Ken Grabner, C.S.C.
Home at Last!

Obituary - March 15, 2021

By Brother Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C.



Any talk about Fr Ken would have to include the concept of “going home. Anyone who has attended any of the funerals that Fr. Ken had would be familiar with his homily on death. There was only one homily that served for all funerals. Someone had “graduated” to heaven and was home. For over 30 years this was his main theme at funerals. I suspect that he was most happy when conducting a funeral because he was sure that someone had gone home. I remember an elderly woman coming to me after a funeral and saying that she was so moved by the homily that she felt she should crawl into the coffin and go home also. Perhaps for today for Fr. Ken we shouldn’t say “going home” but with joy say, “Home at Last!” I have never met anyone who really looked forward to death with joy more than Fr Ken. It almost seemed unnatural. At the supper table a couple of weeks ago he told us that he was dying with pancreatic and liver cancer. Then he said, “I hope you don’t think I am crazy, but I am very happy to say this.” Indeed, I would have been surprised at any other reaction from him.

And he liked to talk about heaven. Nobody knows what heaven is like, but I do like his concept. From Teilhard de Chardin Ken developed an evolutionary idea of heaven. He would often say that since God is infinite, heaven for him would be a continuous evolution and development of a deeper consciousness of God’s love and

this would never stop growing. What a beautiful way of understanding heaven. Did this desire for death and resurrection affect his daily life? He didn't sit around and wait for it to come. Fr. Ken was totally dedicated to his work at Holy Cross Village. He spent all of his time visiting the sick, consoling the suffering, being present to everyone. The only complaint I ever heard him make was his not being allowed to visit the people in Dujarie because of COVID 19. He was convinced that his job as Chaplain was to be with those who were sick. He was totally dedicated to this. He never thought of himself but only those he was called to serve.

He rarely took time off for himself. When he couldn't visit personally he was on the phone with the men and women of Shubert and Dujarie helping them to become more united with God.

Ken had another great passion which he often talked about in his homilies and during our supper conversations at St. Joseph Place. He talked frequently about bringing God down from the head and into the heart. He wanted people to have an experience of God, not just knowledge about Him. During his homilies he would talk about this frequently and give many different examples as to how this could happen. His belief was the main work of any religion was to help people have a real experience of God. Ken had this, and perhaps this was why he was so eager to die and enjoy this experience more completely.

From time to time Ken and I would have small discussions about spirituality. I am reminded of one of my favorite quotations from the great German Mystic, Meister Eckhart. "It is your destiny to see as God sees, to know as God knows, to feel as God feels. The greatest gift God can give is His own experience." I believe Ken received and dwelled in this gift. Fr. Ken was a very quiet man, a man of deep prayer who spent much time in contemplation. He was totally dedicated as a Holy Cross Priest to his work at Holy Cross Village. He developed many close friends. He always wanted to die to go home to heaven. Yet, from my point of view, he was already there, but not quite aware of it. He practiced heaven by the way he talked, worked, and visited the men and women of Holy Cross Village. I am reminded of another of Meister Eckhart quotations. "To see as God sees, to know as God knows, to be as God is." This was Ken's life—to live a life of love as Jesus did. Ken, you will be missed.

Holy Cross Grade School – South Bend, IN

Crosses and Letter to the Brothers of Holy Cross at Columba Hall, Notre Dame, IN



January 20, 2021

Dear friends in our community,

As we begin our Catholic School Week January 31, 2021 our students at Holy Cross Grade school are learning God's love by serving him. Our faith in Jesus is the foundation of our work. The educators of Holy Cross guide us to form excellent habits and flourish in virtue. A commitment to service reminds us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for Christ. Please accept these crosses made by the students of Holy Cross Grade School.

Sincerely,

The students of Holy Cross Grade School
Holy Cross - Mrs. Gustine

Brittany

Justin

Paul

Lanaya

Beni

Alondra!

John

Isaac

Cameron

Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Belonging

Dear Associates and Friends,

We are in the midst of Lent. How is it going? We usually evaluate our progress on our pilgrimage to Easter with how well we are doing in our resolution to give up something. But is that the only way we can get closer to God?

Maybe a more fundamental question we could ask ourselves is who do I belong to? If we could say that we are declaring our independents and freedom from our compulsions, we might say, "I belong to myself." But will that be enough to satisfy our inner longing. There is the God who created us, Christ who forgives our sins and redeemed us and the Holy Spirit who enlightens us and gives us the strength to face the obstacles we encounter along the way.

I might be reluctant to say, "I belong to God." I belong to the love that is the source of my being. In God I find my purpose, my meaning and my fulfilment. Lent can be a time to acknowledge the relationship I have with God. When I do, I can receive the true freedom to be all that God has created me to be. What is dead in me can revive, and I can experience the new life that God wants to give me this Easter.

- What does Lent mean to me?
- What is dead in me that needs to be revived?
- What can result if I acknowledge that I belong to God?

O God, help me to acknowledge that I belong to you.



Brother Carl Sternberg,

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

From the *Voice of Moreau Website*

The website features a Holy Cross sister, a brother, or a priest, with a weekly story on the blog. Check the following link below.



Website: <http://www.voiceofmoreau.org/>



**Brother
Philip
Smith**



**Brother
Ben
Rossi**

Reminder

Spring Teleconference Sponsored
by the Midwest Holy Cross Associates

Saturday, April 24, 2021

Click below for the conference program and registration:

<https://holycrossassociates.org/chapters/national-and-regional-conferences/>





Reflection
Reflection sent in by
Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



Whenever we encounter another person in love,
We learn something new about God.

- Pope Francis





Brother
James
Kane,
CSC



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Since February 2006

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

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