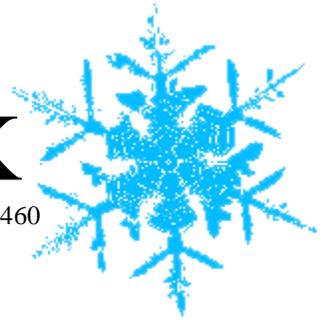


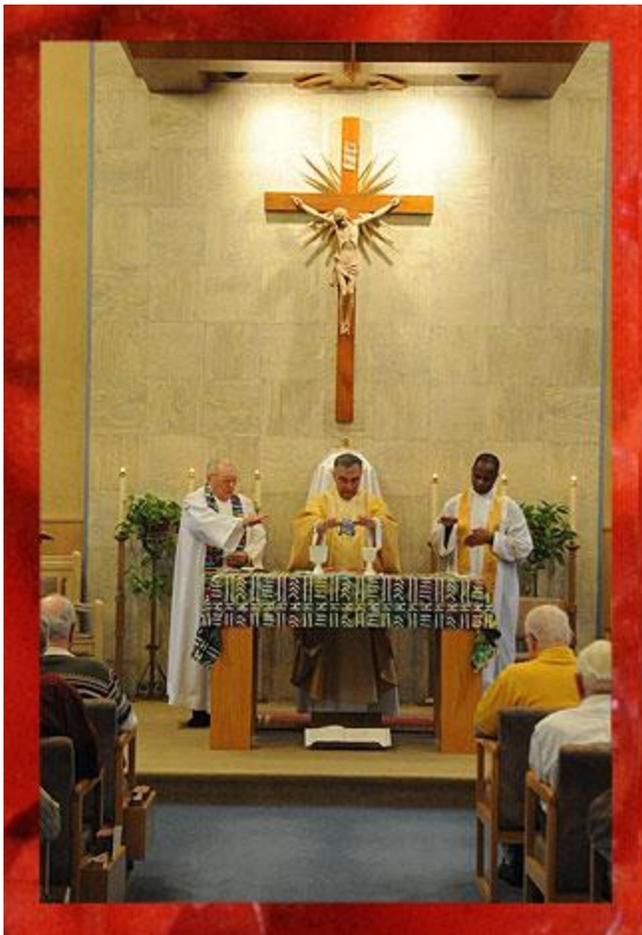
# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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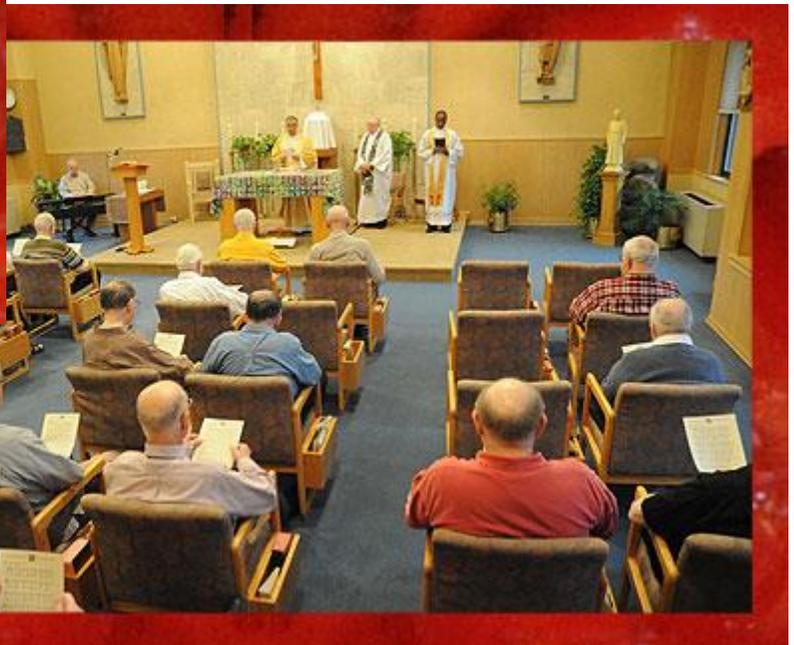


December 1, 2010

## Thanksgiving Day at Columba Hall



Columba Hall held their annual Thanksgiving Day Celebration with a Mass, social and Thanksgiving Day dinner with all the trimmings. This year, because of space limitations, community invitations were extended to Brothers who live off the Notre Dame or Holy Cross Village campuses along with the residents of Columba and Bessette House. Thanks to all who prepared the meal and made the celebration a success.



Pictured above concelebrating the Thanksgiving Day Mass at Columba Hall are (from left) Fathers Joe Wilson, Bill Blum and Leonce Rambau.



View Columba Hall  
Pictures on the Website  
Home Page:

[www.brothersofholycross.com](http://www.brothersofholycross.com)



## Annual Appeal

To access the Annual Appeal letter, go to:

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

and choose *2010 – Annual Appeal*.

## News From Br. Ronald Drahozal



**Brother Ronald Drahozal** sent the following news items to **Br. Richard Johnson** in response to Br. Richard's Happy Birthday e-mail to Ronald: "Hope this finds you and all well---and still not too cold. This is the worst part of the year for me-- --uncomfortably cool and then cold, dusty and dreary at times.

Sure need the prayers, although God has been good to us and continues to keep his work going here. A visitor offered to finish the next floor of the male rehabilitation floor. God works through various people. Another visitor got us into contact with a donor group to help pay some of the expenses for the street children and poor female addicts.

Attached is a picture of our youngest drug addicts in green----someplace around 5-7 years old. They have been on the street and into drugs for years. Mother died, father re-married and he ended up on the street as a small child---sure is street wise. Keep him and the other 150 or so residents here in your prayers. The other boy is 11 or so.

My new e-mail is: [apongaon@gmail.com](mailto:apongaon@gmail.com) .”

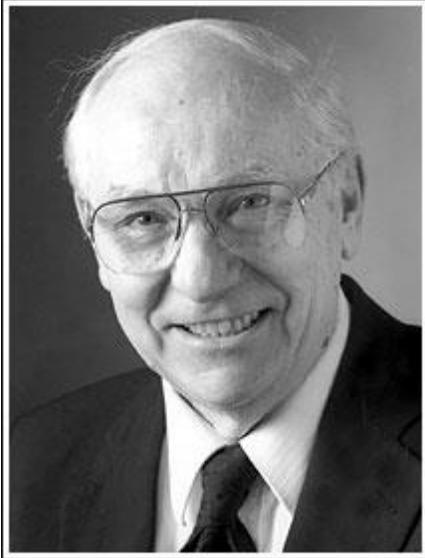
**Br. Ronald Drahozal**

## Brother André Page

Continue checking the Brother André Page for additional postings of pictures from Rome and Montreal.

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

## Words in Remembrance of Brother Vincentius Balog, CSC



Good afternoon. I am **Brother Chester Freel**, Provincial Superior of the Brothers of Holy Cross, Midwest Province.

On behalf of the brothers, I wish to express our condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Vincentius** who are gathered here today. Also, in addition to Brother Vincentius' family members, my appreciation is extended to the staff at Dujarie House and his religious community members, in particular, those of Columba Hall, who visited him, prayed for him and attended to him, during his illness over this last month.

The comments that I am about to make will be shorter, and perhaps more focused, than those you may be accustomed to during a "eulogy." This is because Bishop Kevin Rhoades of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese earlier this month issued new directives for "Speaking in Remembrance" at a funeral mass.

To "speak in remembrance" means to give a brief reflection on the life of the deceased in the context of his or her life of faith. Any remarks made are to revolve around God's action in the life of the deceased, and how God's blessings have enriched the world through that life. Furthermore, it is directed in this new policy that the spoken "words of remembrance" should not exceed two or three minutes in length.

With that as backdrop, I wish to share these words of remembrance with you as I reflect upon Brother Vincentius' life....or perhaps, I should say, the life of "Brother Vinny," as he was more commonly known.

By training, and throughout his teaching career, Brother Vinny was an artist producing oil paintings and mosaics, but he also thoroughly enjoyed landscaping and designing gardens. Vinny loved being outdoors and enjoyed helping God beautify the world.

Brother Vinny's generous nature and what he portrayed through his artistic and gardening talents enriched the environments wherever he served. He shared these

gifts of creation at Gilmour Academy, LeMans Academy, and most recently, here in the Notre Dame area.

At Columba Hall, the garden shrine around the statue of St. Joseph, and the prominent stone marker identifying Columba Hall, are just two of his many landscaping projects.....and if you listened to Vinny for any length of time, you would quickly learn of other projects he had underway, and of many more still on the drawing board.

The thousands of visitors strolling past Vinny's gardens at the front of Columba Hall for this year's Notre Dame football games are now gone as the campus prepares to move into the stillness of winter cold and snow. As we conclude this autumn season of harvesting, it seems appropriate that Vinny's earthly body decided to wear out. For so many years Vinny shared his faith, his belief in the power of new life and creation with us through his gifts of artistry and gardening, but now he decided it was time to move on to his next place of assignment.

It is during this Thanksgiving weekend that we gather to celebrate Brother Vincentius' life, and to say thank you to our God for giving us Brother Vinny, and for allowing him to share the many gifts that God gave him. Our lives have been enriched by Vinny's talents, and his works have reminded us of the many blessings given to us.

In closing, let me share these words with you. The author is not named, but it certainly could be Brother Vinny speaking to us one last time.

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God laid for me,  
I took his hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day  
to laugh, to love, to work, or pray.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way.  
I found that place at the close of day.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me.  
God wanted me now, he set me free.

May Vinny's soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Thank you.

**Brother Chester Freel, CSC**

November 27, 2010

### Note from the Provincial

Last week **Brother Chester's** 5<sup>th</sup> Update Letter to the Province was distributed utilizing results of a survey conducted by **Brother Larry Stewart** back in August. Hopefully all brothers received the letter according to their indicated preference on the survey. For those brothers who did not complete the survey, the letter was sent via US mail. If you would like to update your preference for receiving such correspondence from the province office, please contact Sharan Palmer at [spalmer@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:spalmer@brothersofholycross.com), as she maintains the mailing lists.



**View Website at:**

[www.brothersofholycross.com](http://www.brothersofholycross.com)

**View Midwest-Midweek at:**

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

Please have material to **Br. Charles McBride** by Monday of each week *Midwest-Midweek* is published: [cmcbride@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:cmcbride@brothersofholycross.com)

For technical problems or errors please contact: **Br. Richard Johnson** at [rjohnson@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:rjohnson@brothersofholycross.com)