

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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



December 8, 2010

Advent Wreaths



Advent Suggestions

What Am I Doing for Advent This Year? will help you enter into the wisdom of Advent-the season of joyful expectation and spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ. Although brief and direct, this little booklet is a serious "workbook" that presents Advent as an opportunity for spiritual focus and renewal at a usually hectic and exhausting time of year. It invites you to take stock of your customary ways of observing the four weeks and of your spiritual state at this moment. Paul Turner offers engaging descriptions of Catholic Advent practices and explores three memorable figures of the Advent scriptures- Isaiah, John the Baptist, and the Virgin Mary. He then guides you through a reflection process that will lead you to fresh insights and resolutions for this Advent season.

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Lake-Effect Snow

For the coming week, the South Bend area is going to experience lake-effect snow which is produced when cold winds move across long expanses of warmer lake water.



SMCC celebrates Holy Cross brother's canonization



- Courtesy photo

BROTHER ANDRÉ BESSETTE, CSC

Students and staff at St. Mary Catholic Central High School are celebrating the elevation of Brother André Bessette, CSC, into sainthood this week.

Brother André, who died Jan. 6, 1937, at 91, is the first saint in the history of the Congregation of Holy Cross, the religious order of brothers who served Monroe Catholic Central High School from 1944 to the mid-1990s. On Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI performed the rite of canonization in Rome.

Last week, SMCC educated students about Brother André during its pre-homecoming liturgy. Sean Jorgensen, president, shared the story of Brother André's canonization and read a biography of his life.

The brothers work is being marked this week with prayers of thanksgiving during the school's morning and afternoon all-school prayers. Photos of Brother André and his life are posted in the hallways and on the monitor in the main corridor this week. Theology classes will review online resources about the brother and the Catholic Church's process of canonization and also view recordings of the ceremony in Rome.

Denise Wiederhold, French teacher at SMCC, said her classes celebrated the canonization in all of her classes Monday. She showed a short PowerPoint presentation in both French and English with some links to various French and English videos.

"I was 'inspired by Sean's speech at Mass on Thursday," Ms. Wiederhold said. "As the first French-Canadian and Holy Cross brother to be canonized, I thought it would be very interesting to give my students more information on the life of Frère (Brother) André Bessette. I also showed them the Pope's French description of Frère André as he is canonized."

Students also, learned a French prayer to St. André, one that comes from St. Joseph's Oratory; and also wrote short French prayers asking for St. André's intercession.

SMCC's connection with the Holy Cross brothers began when local parishes sought to establish an all-boys Catholic high school in Monroe in the early 1940s.

School organizers contacted Father Thomas Steiner, CSC, the Provincial of the Congregation of Holy Cross in South Bend, Ind., and a native of Monroe. Father Steiner agreed to ,send brothers to Monroe to staff the new school.

Monroe Catholic Central opened Sept. 18, 1944, with an enrollment of 56 freshmen. Three Holy Cross members - Brother Christian Stinnett, Brother Remigius Bullinger and Brother Gerontius McCarthy - formed the entire first staff working as teachers, administrators, coaches, and janitors. As enrollment increased, additional brothers were hired. In 1969, enrollment increased to its peak of 530 students.

In less than 30 years, the brothers created a school with an "extraordinary reputation of a disciplined and challenging environment as well as a school with a rich tradition of academic and athletic achievement," Mr. Jorgensen said.

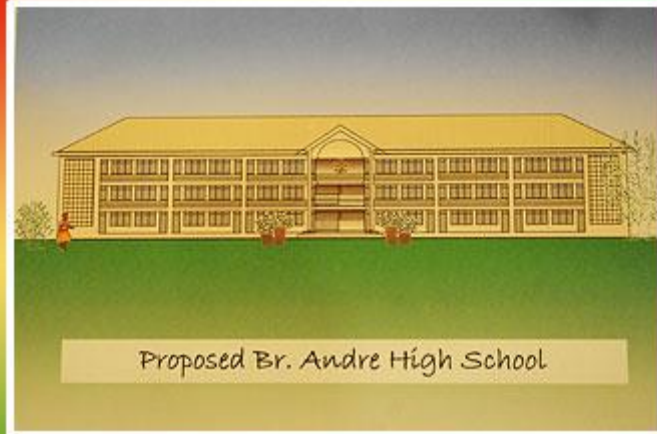
In November, the school hopes to have a member of the Holy Cross brothers who attended the canonization to visit SMCC.

"Saint André's elevation is a great teaching moment to share the church's process of canonization and to hold up a remarkable, yet incredibly humble man as an example of the kind of life that we are called to live," Mr. Jorgensen said.

Monroe Evening News – October 21

Presentation on the Proposed Brother André High School in Ghana

On Thursday, December 9th at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Room at André Place, **Brother Raymond Papenfuss** will give a presentation to Holy Cross Village and ome benefactors from the Michiana area on the work of Holy Cross in West Africa with special emphasis on the new Brother André High School. There will be a 15 minute DVD that has been prepared by **Br David Kpobi**, a presentation from Br Raymond and a time for questions. There will also be a picture display of the work and of the new school. All are invited to attend.



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