

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

September 19, 2012

## CSC Celebration of Our Lady of Sorrows



The Congregation of Holy Cross celebrated the Vigil of the Solemnity of Our Lady of Sorrows last Friday with at Mass at Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame, followed by a dinner hosted by Moreau Seminary. Rev. Thomas O’Hara, C.S.C. the new provincial of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers was the major celebrant and homilist of the Mass.

Our Lady of Sorrows is the Patroness of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Priests, Brothers and Sisters of Holy Cross took part in the celebration. The dinner at Moreau Seminary was one of the largest in memory with most of the priests from Corby Hall attending.

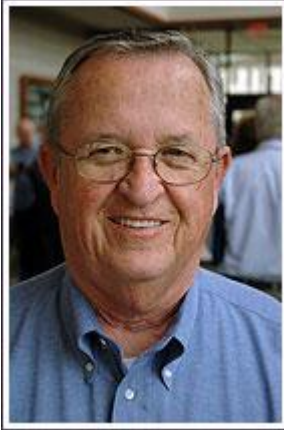
The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows marked the 5th Anniversary of Rev. Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, being named Blessed in a ceremony held in Le Mans, France.

Pictures of the *CSC Celebration of Our Lady of Sorrows* may be viewed at:

<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/Sorrows2012/Sorrows2012.htm>



Eulogy for Brother Peter Graham, CSC  
St. Joseph Chapel, Notre Dame, IN  
September 18, 2012



During one of the last days when I was alone with Br. Peter at hospice I ask him if I was the one he wanted to deliver his eulogy. He responded “yes”. I then ask if there was anything he wanted me to say. He first quickly responded was “no”. Then he opened his eyes wide, looked at me and said... “Pay your bills.”

Now the finance and development folks are probably thinking “good, one last nudge from Br. Peter to remind people to keep up with their campaign pledges”. After thinking about this comment for several days now, I believe that for Peter it

was much deeper.

In the summer of 1976, I met Br. Peter Graham. He was appointed the Headmaster at LeMans Academy, a military school for boys in grades 5 through 9. Peter had only been at the academy a few days when he told me we were going on a fund-raising trip. On the way to South Bend I learned that, in just 3 days at the Academy, Br. Peter had checked out the basketball uniforms and decided that they needed to be replaced. My nervousness about meeting a wealthy person to ask for a donation quickly disappeared when I found out that fundraising meant hopefully winning the \$800 bingo jackpot at Holy Cross Parish. That forty mile road trip was the start of thousands and thousands of miles I would spend with my friend, Br. Peter Graham.

Peter was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. He attended St. Mary Grade and High School where he completely enjoyed the education he received from the Immaculate Heart of Mary sisters who staff the school. Peter took great pride in his near-perfect penmanship that the IHM sisters taught him.

From the time he was very young, Pete spent the summers at the home of Pauline and Bill Eisenhower, his Aunt and Uncle who lived in Vermillion. Having no children of their own, Bill and Pauline fussed over Pete and he experienced the finer things in life. When he turned 16, he landed a job at a Kroger grocery store. With this job, Pete was able to pay his bills which led to his lifelong interest in the grocery business. He loved to walk around grocery stores, especially Sam’s Club and Costco. Just four weeks ago, the last time Br. Peter and I went out to dinner, I

had to take him to Heinen's to buy a few things... not at Giant Eagle and Marcs, both of which were closer to where we had eaten. The items he wanted that day were found at Heinen's. He knew what he wanted and where he wanted to buy it.

Some people are focused on ESPN or shows like "Bones" and "Grey's Anatomy". Br. Peter loved the Food Channel. We often talked about cooking and I know he talked to members of the school staff about cooking and baking. The interesting, dare I say "quirky" thing is that Br. Peter never cooked. A lot of it had to do with the fact that cooking made a mess and Br. Peter hated messes.

After high school graduation, Peter entered the Congregation of Holy Cross, earning his degree at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and was assigned to St. Charles Home for Boys in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Here he did a variety of things from teaching to residential work. Always committed to his work, Br. Peter paid his bills.

Br. Peter taught the values of our founder, Fr. Basil Moreau at each of the places where he ministered. His continuous message to the faculty and staff was that we had to challenge the students to grow to the next level. Moreau called this teaching the hearts as well as the minds of every student.

Peter's fundraising skills improved greatly since that warm summer night in 1976. In fact, when Br Peter left the academy in 1990, the school had a strong, highly functioning Board of Advisors. Among the improvements were a new library and science and computer labs, a very healthy endowment and the student athletic uniforms were all first class.

After 24 years working in a high profile, residential setting most brothers would request a well-earned sabbatical. Not Br. Peter. He had to pay his bills. Instead Br. Peter accepted a position as residential director at Gilmour Academy.

A year later, at the request of the President of Archbishop Hoban High School, Br. Peter moved to Akron. First as Director of Admissions and later as Development Director, Br. Peter made his mark on Hoban. In the last few weeks, a number of Hoban folks made the comparison between Br. Peter and Br. Andre in that he greeted so many people at the door and made them feel welcome at Hoban. While at Hoban, the school was able to add a second gymnasium, the former brothers' house was converted into a science wing and a golden dome greeted all who arrived at the school.

Br. Peter was very happy at Hoban, but at the request of the provincial, Br. Peter accepted the position as President at St. Edward High School. Few people recall that just a few weeks after Br. Peter moved to St. Edward, he had heart by-pass surgery. This surgery took a lot out of Peter. He shared with me that he just didn't have the energy that he once had. It might have been the surgery or the fact that he was now in his late fifties. Even so, many changes and additions took place at St. Edward under his leadership.

The Holy Family Chapel at St. Edward, complete with golden dome, was Br. Peter's pride and joy. Br. Peter wanted a chapel. Taking a tip from Br. Andre, Peter placed a statue of St. Joseph in front of the school with the promise that he would bring the statue in when ground was broken for the chapel. One day as we were driving to Amish country, he told me what he had done, My first question was "You didn't bury the statue, did you?" thinking that the school might be sold by the time we returned to Lakewood. My laughter ended abruptly with his disapproving glare. Br. Peter got his chapel and St. Joseph came in out of the cold. At one of our recent nights out, we talked about some of the things that were accomplished under his watch. With a very serious face, Peter looked at me and said. "I built two golden domes, Fr. Sorin only built one." Then we both had a good laugh.

Given a choice between a professional game, a college game or a high school game, Peter would choose the high school game every time. He loved high school sports! Br. Peter loved talking to the coaches. And, above all, he loved encouraging the student athletes. Again, helping and challenging kids to grow to the next level was what Br. Peter did best. Gene Boyer and Br. Peter traveled together down state very often for athletic competitions. Poor Gene, long was the ride home when the results were not favorable for the Eagles.

Br. Peter cared about his staff. He knew about their families and asked about them often. He would shout to one teacher, "take your wife to dinner tonight" and to another, "what are you doing with your kids this evening?" or still another, "better get home and walk that dog." His favorite faculty event while at St. Edward was the faculty and staff Christmas party. He liked this party because the faculty and staff were encouraged to bring their families to the event. There was always a visit from Santa Claus and the kids left with a mouth full of Malley's candy.

Working for Br. Peter was not easy. Just as he challenged the students, he challenged the staff and the closer you worked with him, the greater and harsher

those challenges might be. I think I can put it best by saying no one was ever really on the “ins” with Br. Peter without experiencing what it was like to be on the “outs” with Br. Peter. If he was disappointed in something, if he wanted something done differently, or if there was a mess, he let you know about it... On the contrary, he seldom received personal critiques well, but, almost always, evaluated suggestions and often acted on them.

With his expertise, Br. Peter served on a number of special committees for the Brothers of Holy Cross and on the boards of several Holy Cross schools. He loved Holy Cross and our ministries and saw his role on the boards as a way to pay his bill. Br. Peter developed close relationships with many board members.

With his failing health, Br. Peter knew a change in ministry was necessary. But where? The change weighed heavily on him. I suggested that now was the time to take that sabbatical, get his health in order, and then look for something to do. But Peter would have no part in that idea. The Gilmour community reached out to Br. Peter and he was able to do some Holy Cross mission effectiveness activities in the lower school while tending to his medical needs.

Finally, Br. Peter never liked to be the center of attention. If he could, he would send you all a note, in near-perfect penmanship, thanking you for coming.

Br. Peter served well for 50 years as a Brother of Holy Cross. He paid his bills to God as he challenged each of us to grow to the next level. May he rest in peace.

**Br. Robert Livernois**

## Historic Farm, Once Run by Brothers of Holy Cross, Still Looks the Same, More Than 100 Years Later

*Following is a story written by WSTB recently on St. Joseph Farm, Granger. Enjoy, editor*  
September 10, 2012 | By Kristin Bien



Did you know that Notre Dame and the Brothers of Holy Cross at one time ran a farming operation?

According to Notre Dame Archives, a farm was developed on campus in 1842 to provide food for residents, staff and students as well as to generate revenue. Most of those old farm buildings are long gone. But, in 1867, the University bought 1,300 acres of land in Granger and called it St. Joseph's Farm. While no longer owned by the University, that farm is still in existence today. When it was

sold it was owned by the Southwest Province of Brothers.

Aside from some updating and renovations here and there, the St. Joseph's Farm still looks like it did at the turn of the century. Paul Blum owns it now.

"It is the best farm in Indiana," says Blum.

From 1867 until the 1990's the farm was run by Brothers of Holy Cross. About 35 brothers lived on and ran the farm -- according to Notre Dame archives they grew everything for the University, "from peat for fireplaces to tobacco for faculty cigars."

Now, Blum farms seed corn here. And he still uses most of the buildings on the 40 acre homestead, which includes a horse barn where at the turn of the century the Brothers kept their horses, the power of the farm. The landscape also includes a soy mill, an apple storage building, an octagon shaped barn, an brick building with a giant brick chimney which generated steam to heat the farm buildings, and at least 4 towering silos.

The farm also boasts a nearly 100 year old, cattle barn. It was at one time the heart of a cattle operation there and the barn was one of the largest in the state.

"Well underneath that barn is where all the cows stayed. About a 150 head of cows and on top there is hay storage," says Blum.

Blum says the Brothers started a commercial cattle operation sometime around the 1960's.

Blum and his family live in what was once the church. It was Saint Pius Church, before the church moved to their new building on Fir Road.

"This was the altar," says Blum as he walks into what the family has made into their kitchen.

Right next door to the family's homes is a massive building where the brothers once stayed. The building looks like a large home. The porch stretches the length of the building. The inside has been gutted in preparation for renovations but you can still get an idea of how many people lived there and what it took to run the giant farm operation.

And while Blum maintains and uses most of the 29 buildings on the farm, there is one that doesn't get any use anymore.

"I better check this out first. There might be raccoons and possums and rattle snakes," says Blum as he walks into an old outhouse which the Brothers used as a bathroom, "yeah, we have got ourselves a number one commode."

The Brothers moved out in the 90's. But remnants of their lives are still visible on the farm.

"Most of the brothers that worked here are gone. There are a few left," says Blum, "they love the place that is for sure. But I don't think they ever felt like they owned it. It was just part of their vocation."

The Brothers may have moved on but they are not forgotten.

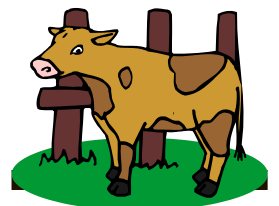
St. Joseph Farms sits along Currant Road in Granger.

Video on Saint Joseph Farm:

<http://www.wsbt.com/videogallery/72214605/News/VIDEO:-Historic-St.-Joseph-Farms-->

The above Article:

[http://articles.wsbt.com/2012-09-10/historic-farm\\_33744149](http://articles.wsbt.com/2012-09-10/historic-farm_33744149)







**Holy Trinity  
Celebrates 100  
Percent  
Acceptance Rate**  
(Article from the  
September 9 edition of  
*Catholic New World* –  
Archdioceses of  
Chicago)

In addition to celebrating 100 percent college acceptance for the seventh consecutive graduating class, Holy Trinity High School, 1443 W. Division, celebrated the fact that their senior class received more than \$2.5 million in scholarships. This is no small feat given that many of these students will be the first in their families to attend college.

Link to Holy Trinity Website: <http://www.holytrinity-hs.org/>

## Brothers Welcome Back Br. Donald after 24 Years in Portland

This past week Brother Donald Stabrowski returned to South Bend after serving at the University of Portland for the past 24 years. At the University of Portland he served as dean and professor of history and political science. Since August of 2002 he served as provost of the university responsible for the administration, coordination and development of all academic programs and activities of the University. He served as interim president of the University in 2003.

Last year Brother Donald transferred from the Midwest Province of Brothers to the United States Province of Priests and Brothers. A year ago June Brother Donald celebrated 50 years of religious profession in the Midwest-Province of Brothers. In June Brother Donald was appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Provincial of the new United States Province of Priests and Brothers by the newly elected provincial Rev. Thomas O'Hara, C.S.C. during their two-week Chapter held in



Portland. Brother Donald has his office in the Administrative Center in Holy Cross Village. One of his primary duties as 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Provincial will be attending the board meetings of the province institutions.



*Pictured welcoming Brother Donald Stabrowski back to South Bend after 24 years at the University of Portland at Moreau Seminary last Friday evening were: seated, Brothers Raymond Dufresne and Charles Gregg. Standing are Brothers Donald and Brother Charles Drevon.*

## Midwest-Midweek Reaches 100,000 Hits on the Web

The Midwest-Midweek web newsletter of the Midwest Province reached 100,010 hits on September 12. The weekly newsletter began on February 8, 2006. The average viewing of the newsletter is 3.56 minutes. Midwest-Midweek is designed to include extensive picture coverage along with articles stories of what is happening weekly in the province. It is E-mailed weekly to over 900 members of the Congregation of Holy Cross worldwide. Over the years we have received numerous E-mails from community members thanking us for keeping them informed on a timely basis of the ministries of province members. The newsletter is produced by **Brothers Charles McBride** and **Richard Johnson** and proofread by **Brother Raymond Harrington**. Thank you for your interest over the years.

## HC College Premieres Business Seminar Series



Beginning Wednesday, September 19, Holy Cross College will present a business seminar series including real estate, internet business, government and automotive products Talks will be on Wednesday September 19, October 3, October 24 and November 14. Successful business entrepreneurs will share their secrets for success. The seminars are free and open to the

public. All programs are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Driscoll Auditorium on the Holy Cross College Campus. The seminars are free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception on campus. The business seminar schedule includes:

**September 19: David Matthews.** As a young, aggressive real estate developer, Matthews is making a name for himself in the South Bend community with profitable and ambitious downtown developments.

**October 3: Matt Edmonds,** Vice President, Tire Rack. Tire Rack, Inc. is America's leading high performance tire products distributor. What began as a locally owned business quickly turned into the industry's most up-to-date Internet sales operation. Tire Rack revolutionized the sales process, yet maintains a unique focus on customer service.

**October 24: Jeff Rea.** As Chief Operating Officer of the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce and former mayor of Mishawaka, Jeff has an exceptional grasp of the role of service to the community. He represents the interests of over 1,100 business operations that represent 85,000 area employees.

**November 14: Don Reese,** Chief Operations Officer of Gurley-Leep Automotive group. Gurley-Leep has an enviable reputation for automotive accomplishments in a challenging business environment. Their success is the result of innovative thinking in a changing business world.

## Progress of Building Brothers House Holy Cross Village



Click the following link for updates on construction:

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

Also

Visit the homepage slideshow for more pictures of the construction:

<http://www.brothersofholycross.com>

**View Website at:**

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

**View Midwest-Midweek at:**

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

Please have material to **Br. Charles McBride** by Monday of each week *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

Editor: **Br. Charles McBride** - [cmcbride@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:cmcbride@brothersofholycross.com)

Webmaster: **Br. Richard Johnson** - [rjohnson@brothersofholycross.com](mailto:rjohnson@brothersofholycross.com)

Proofreader: **Br. Raymond Harrington**