

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

April 17, 2013

## Brother James Leik Honored by HCC



The highlight of the Holy Cross College Parents/Alumni Weekend, April 5-7, was the President's Ave Crux Dinner the evening of April 6. Mass was celebrated in Saint Joseph's chapel followed by cocktails and dinner. President Brother John R. Paige, C.S.C., presented the "Fidelis Award" to four contributors of Holy Cross College, honoring "lives lived in faith."

Jack and Margaret Berges, John and Mary Anne Hardesty, Lucille and Richard McKenna and **Brother James Leik, C.S.C.**, were this year's Fidelis honorees. The recipients all have strong ties to Holy Cross College, some from the earliest days of the school's

founding and others whose children have experienced the benefits of a Holy Cross College education.

**Brother James Leik, C.S.C.**, began his ministry at Holy Cross College in 1967. He worked with Brother John Driscoll as co-developer of the College as Treasurer, Interim President, Instructor in business, and many other varied positions. He is presently full-time College Archivist.



## Notice

As mentioned in my April 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter to the Province, after the Solidarity Commission meetings in Rome (April 14 & 15) I am conducting the annual visit to the District of West Africa. I am in Ghana from April 16<sup>th</sup> until April 28<sup>th</sup>, and arrive back in the United States on the 29<sup>th</sup>. In the event of an emergency during these days, please contact **Brother Ray Papenfuss** for assistance. I plan to be back in the office on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you.  
**Brother Chester**



### Exploring Our Connection with the Spirit of Holy Cross

The Midwest Holy Cross Associates will hold a retreat/conference June 11-14 at Holy Cross College. If any Holy Cross member is interested in participating, a registration sheet may be downloaded from the website at:

<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/HCARetreat/JRetreat.pdf>

Note that registration for this event will close on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Holy Cross School, the 'Miracle on Paris Avenue'



It has been over 35 years since I was a student at Loyola University and lived at Tulane University for a summer on a Catholic Communications grant in Journalism. Last week I went to New Orleans to photograph the Notre Dame Women win the NCAA Basketball Championship...such was not the case. Prior to the Notre Dame game I was introduced to Mike Bujol, athletic director the past two years at Holy Cross High School in New Orleans, and tournament director for the NCAA basketball games in New Orleans.

Mike invited me to visit the post-Katrina Holy Cross which was rebuilt at 5500 Paris Avenue in the Gentilly 7<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood. Holy Cross has been in New Orleans for 163 years and 134 years at Holy Cross School for young men, grades 5-12.

Bujol, a Loyola University graduate and veteran New Orleans area broadcaster, served recently at the University of New Orleans as Sports Information Director. Mike got his inspiration to be sports information director in 1982 from my mentor, Roger Valdiserri, former SID at Notre Dame, who I first met in 1968...such a small world.

Prior to the August 29, 2005 Katrina Hurricane, Holy Cross Priests, Brothers and Sisters had made their mark on the New Orleans 9<sup>th</sup> Ward. Five Brothers were sent there in 1849 by Rev. Basil Moreau, Superior General and founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, in LeMans France. At the time the Congregation of Holy Cross was just 12 years old. The first five Holy Cross Brothers arrived May 18, 1849 to take over St. Mary's Orphanage. New Orleans had been hit by

epidemics including cholera, yellow fever and malaria. Living conditions prior to the American Civil War were almost unbearable. The Brothers began St. Isadore Farm in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward in 1859 when they bought the Reyes Farm, a riverfront plantation. The farm would provide food for the students at the school they would found in 1879.

The school was first known as St. Isadore's College. By June 1890 the Louisiana Legislature gave Holy Cross College the right to confer Bachelor and Masters Degrees. The old main building is now the only evidence of Holy Cross having been there in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward for 156 years. The old main building was built in 1895 for \$15,000. In 1897 as the need for St. Mary's Orphanage diminished, Holy Cross established St. Isadore's College and Day School. Holy Cross High School considers 1879 as the date the present Holy Cross School was established. The area was known as the "Holy Cross Historic District."

In 1923 the first Ursuline School for Girls (the oldest Catholic School in America), was destroyed to make room for the 1923 Industrial Canal (the same Industrial Canal which experienced levee failures that flooded large parts of New Orleans when **Hurricane Betsy** hit in 1965 and **Hurricane Katrina** in August 2005).

Over the years a number of additions were made to the 9<sup>TH</sup> Ward property beginning in 1954 and ending in 2002 (See **picture of old property taken by the California Highway Patrol after the flood waters from the broken levees went down**). At one time some 150 boarders were part of the 800 member student body. The boarding program ended in 1972.

When Katrina hit New Orleans, Mr. Charles DiGange, a '64 graduate of Holy Cross School and 25-year Director of Institutional Advancement at Loyola University, New Orleans, had his vision of Holy Cross as a fundraiser to 'rebuild' bringing about the 'Miracle on Paris Avenue.' DiGange became Holy Cross' Headmaster in 2004, a year before Katrina hit. He was a member of the Holy Cross faculty from 1968-1989.

Since Katrina all of the old school buildings have been leveled with the exception of the historic main building. The school is currently attempting to sell the portions of the former property to invest in the new school on Paris Avenue. The population of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward is now about 40 percent of pre-Katrina levels.

Holy Cross bought the 20 acres in the Gentilly 7<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood from the

Archdiocese of New Orleans. It had been the site of St. Frances Cabrini Shrine Church and Redeemer-Seton High School. The diocese decided not to rebuild the church, built in the 1960's, because of the cost to repair the flood damage as well as the fact the mostly African-American population of the flooded neighborhood decreased by more than half in the years following Hurricane Katrina.

After Katrina and the purchase of the new land, for two years, until 2007 Holy Cross students were educated in some 30 mobile classrooms located at the new Paris Avenue site. The student dining hall building was just completed in January 2013. The school is presently preparing a middle school athletic field where the mobile classrooms were located. Students are bussed into Holy Cross from as far as 25 miles away. Holy Cross at 900 students, grades 5-12 is one of the only schools in New Orleans proper to gain population after Katrina.

The new school currently has 5 buildings, 20 acres, 900 students from grades 5-12 and plans to buy additional property, build an auditorium, pool and chapel. The school hopes to continue to increase its enrollment to 1200 young men. The current value of the new property, buildings and equipment is 120 million dollars. FEMA paid for much of the new school along with alumni, donors from across the country as well as Holy Cross institutions. The school still carries a debt on the facility.

Holy Cross is now one of the finest schools in Louisiana or the nation. It was an honor to have Mr. Bujor give me the full tour of the facility. Mr. Charles DiGange, Holy Cross Headmaster, was at St. Edward's University for meetings at the time of my visit. Congratulations to all who work on and made this "Miracle on Paris Avenue" happen. The Congregation of Holy Cross has reasons to be proud of your efforts to continue the vision of our founder the Blessed Basil Anthony Mary Moreau who had the vision to send Holy Cross religious to New Orleans in 1849.

Holy Cross School has an award-winning website which you may access at:  
[www.holycrosstigers.com](http://www.holycrosstigers.com)

For picture coverage of the new school click:  
<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/NewOrleans2013/NewOrleans2013.htm>

**Br. Charles McBride**

## Update of the Hoban Lip Dub Video



This is Monday (April 8) morning as I write. Please update the story I sent earlier about the Hoban lip dub video. The number 40,000 (hits on YouTube) can be changed to 63,000 Thanks. I hope you enjoyed your trip.

(It is now 66,641. - Thursday) The updated number of viewings is found in the lower right-hand section, just below the video viewing window.

See for yourself. Watch the entire video on the [hoban.org](http://www.hoban.org) homepage or at <http://www.youtube.com/supermario3097>.

### **Br. Joseph LeBon**

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## Mayor Peter Buttigieg Brings Success Story to Holy Cross College

NOTRE DAME, IN (April 9, 2013)



St. Joseph's High School graduate, Harvard University Graduate, Rhodes Scholar, major corporate consultant, Naval Reserve Officer and now Mayor of South Bend, Indiana. Pete Buttigieg has worn many hats, all successful layers to his life story. Peter is one of the youngest mayors of a major U.S. city and a rising political star. He will share his path to success as the next speaker in the Holy Cross College series Practical Lessons in Success.

Buttigieg is a South Bend native having spent his early years less than a mile south of Holy Cross College. In a relatively short time his energy and

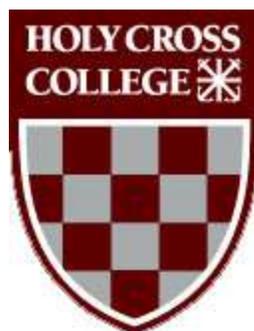
drive earned him impressive credentials in the private and public sectors. He returned to South Bend to enter politics and immediately earned success when elected mayor in 2011. He took office as South Bend's Chief Executive in January, 2012.

As the chief executive Buttigieg supervises the enforcement of municipal codes and state laws, appoints and supervises department officers, and communicates with the Common Council on financial issues and policy affairs. He also serves as the representative for the city and its residents for special events and ceremonies. His goals for the city include strengthening the local economy by retaining and attracting businesses, partnering with the local public school system, managing a cutting-edge and transparent city administration while providing safety and security by empowering neighborhoods throughout our community.

As if that wasn't enough he performed "Rhapsody in Blue" with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra earlier this year.

Holy Cross College business seminars present real world business perspectives and success stories in an open, friendly, academic environment. "Practical Lessons in Success" augments the academic experience, yet will contain valuable insights for any business executive in today's highly competitive business environment. Members of the Michiana community are welcome to attend the presentations. Mayor Buttigieg visits the Holy Cross College Wednesday, April 17th at 7:15 p.m. (special time) in Driscoll Auditorium on the campus.

Seminars are free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception.



<http://www.hcc-nd.edu/>

## "Come and See" 2013



This was another great experience for the three senior students from Gilmour Academy. Living at Bessette House, eating with the Brothers at Columba Hall, praying with said Brothers, and listening to Brothers tell of their life experience in being a Brother of Holy Cross were some of the activities during the weekend of April 5-7 at the Brothers' residence on campus.

Our Vocation Director, **Brother Carlos L Parrilla**, along with **Brothers Robert Kelly, Joseph McTaggart, George Klawitter, Richard Johnson, Roy Smith, Thomas Moulder, Robert Sylvester, and Edward Fox**, who brought the students from Gilmour Academy, so generously gave of their time and talent to these young men. We are most grateful to the Superior at Columba Hall, **Brother Thomas Moser**, who was a most gracious host, along with the rest of the Brothers at Columba Hall.

It is important for us to remember that the Moreau Province, the U.S. Province, and the Midwest Province all have a "Come and See" program.

[Article is written by **Br, Robert Kelly**, who serves in Ministry to the Elderly. He formerly served in Vocation Ministry in the Midwest Province,]



## Justice and Peace and the Integrity of Creation

At the regional coordinators' meeting in Rome the first part of December, it was decided that the entire Congregation should celebrate Earth Day, which is April 22 this year. Attached is a prayer service for the day. Thanks for the service goes to the Holy Cross International Justice Office.

Click for Earth Day Prayer Service:

<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/MIDMID/EarthDayPrayerService/EarthDay.doc>

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## Brothers Newsletter

[Click for a copy of the April 2013 Newsletter](#)

Back copies may be accessed by clicking on the following link:

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

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## Prayer Requests

Brother Edward Wauchter is in South Bend's Memorial Hospital due to a foot infection. Ed is being treated via IV antibiotics, and is asking for prayers of the community.

At this point, he prefers no visitors.

### Moreau Province Update

#### Moreau Province

April 8, 2013

Confreres,

**Brothers Joe Ash** and **Jerome Donnelly** continue to do well in recovering from heart surgery. Jerome expects to be released today or tomorrow.

As announced in the last Province Newsnotes, **Br. John Bailanda** was appointed Headmaster of St. Joseph Hill Secondary School, Kyarusozzi, Uganda.

Let us now offer congratulations to **Br. Cleophas Kyomuhendo** who has been appointed as Headmaster of Lakeview Secondary School, Jinja, Uganda. More information about this appointment will be in the next Province Newsnotes.

In Holy Cross,

**Bill Zaydak**

Thank you,

**Br. Chester Freel**

**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.

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