

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

September 24, 2014

Brother Robert Lavelle - Retirement



Where Inspiration Happens

Dear Fellow Trustees,

Thank you to those who were able to attend the first board meeting of the 2014-2015 school year last night. For those who could not attend, I want you to be aware of a very important announcement that **Br. Robert Lavelle, C.S.C.** and I shared at the conclusion of the meeting. At the end of the school year, he will be stepping back from his role as Head of School, a position he has held for 34 years. As many of you know, a succession plan has been in place at Gilmour for some time and a transition team has been formed, as authorized by the Members of the Gilmour Academy, Inc. Corporation.



Faculty and staff are being told as we speak and students in grades 7-12 will be told at the end of morning Convocation. The email below, which details Br. Robert's announcement to the larger Gilmour community, will be sent very shortly this morning.

Thank you for your support,
Fred G. Botek '85
Chair, Gilmour Academy Board of Trustees

To the Gilmour Academy Family:

In 1946, nine Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross from Notre Dame, Indiana founded Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills, Ohio. Our school is now in its 68th year of existence and has had eight different Holy Cross Brothers serve as Headmaster (now Head of School) during that time.

Br. Robert E. Lavelle, C.S.C. is currently serving his 34th year in that role. That means his tenure is equal to all of his predecessors combined. He has effectively led and transformed this school for half of its history.

Indeed, most all of us have never known Gilmour Academy without Br. Robert at the helm and at so many Gilmour community functions, warmly greeting everyone by name. Simply put, Br. Robert Lavelle is Gilmour, and Gilmour would not be what it is today without him.

So with an acquiescent heart, I inform you that Br. Robert has determined that the time has arrived for him to step back. The official notification of this fact is his September 16, 2014 correspondence linked at the bottom of this email.

I use the phrase “stepping back” purposefully. Br. Robert states in his letter, “I don’t aspire to retirement but know a different schedule is appropriate.” These words are relieving and encouraging in that he, in his words, “remain[s] energized to continue serving the Gilmour mission.” Br. Robert’s role within Gilmour may be redefined, but his tireless mission and ministry in furtherance of the Holy Cross charisms remain steadfastly unchanged.

Please know that a succession planning process has been in place at Gilmour for some time, that such process has been augmented in the past few years, and that a transition team has been formed, as authorized by the Members of the Gilmour Academy, Inc. Corporation. Included in the primary functions of the Corporation (which, per our *Code of Regulations*, must at all times be equally and collaboratively comprised of Religious Members from the Congregation of Holy Cross and Lay Members) are (1.) appointing the Head of School for Gilmour in consultation with the Board

and (2.) maintaining the “essential Holy Cross character of Gilmour Academy as a Catholic institution of elementary and secondary education” in perpetuity. Therefore, the transition team will utilize the succession planning process to identify and recommend one or more viable candidates to the Members for ultimate selection.

So, the process is in place and already underway. In terms of timing, Br. Robert states in his letter that he is willing to continue serving as Head of School until his “successor is well in place, which may be as early as the beginning of the 2015-2016 academic year.” The transition team endeavors to adhere to that time frame, primarily to coincide with the rhythms of the academic year and the resulting availability of the best candidates who understand, seek and fully embrace our mission.

I would like to thank the 330 members of the Gilmour family, inclusive of alumni, parents, trustees and faculty/staff, who thoughtfully responded to the recent electronic survey we sent out seeking input on the qualities we should look for in our search for the next Head of School, which was conducted in response to a recommendation from the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS), Gilmour’s accrediting organization. The survey results not only address the recommendation by ISACS, but they also serve us well as a current resource in the transition process.

The milestones for Gilmour Academy during Br. Robert’s tenure are too numerous to recount, but among them: Gilmour merged with Glen Oak School for Girls in 1982, creating the only Catholic, independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day and boarding school in the region. Four years later, the Glen Oak building became the Gilmour Lower School. The Middle School was moved from the corner of Cedar and S.O.M. (in what is now Holy Cross House, a residence for members of the Congregation) to the beautiful gateway building with the arch. A complete renovation of the Upper School classroom building; classroom and dining room additions at the Lower School; a “great room” for student gatherings in the residential hall; a premier hockey arena with two sheets of ice; and an athletic center with a swimming pool, basketball gymnasium and field house that rivals many colleges serve our students well and are great

sources of pride. And the coming Fine Arts building will further Gilmour's excellence in theater, music, speech and debate, and a host of other activities. Additionally, the growth in the endowment during Br. Robert's tenure from \$150,000 to more than \$30 million speaks to his commitment to advancing our great school as well as to the confidence the Gilmour Community has had in his leadership.

These progressions in the expansion of Gilmour's physical plant and its endowment are wonderful and have enhanced the overall academic excellence and experience for our students. But I also wonder about other, more personal, milestones, for which I do not have any statistics: the thousands of graduates who have shaken Br. Robert's hand at Commencement; the number of marriages between Gilmour students; students of alumni parents in class and participating in extracurriculars together, as their parents did a generation ago; how many family functions (weddings, funerals, graduation parties) Br. Robert has attended; and, of course, how many Gilmour athletic events he has cheered at, whether on our beautiful campus or much farther away.

Suffice it to say, Br. Robert Lavelle – in his most humble of ways – continues to touch the personal and spiritual lives of students, alumni, trustees, faculty and staff, parents and grandparents. While Gilmour is home for all of us, his influence is felt well beyond our campus, to the Holy Cross Congregation; other Holy Cross and independent schools; and, given our international students and social outreach programs, the entire world.

So at this inflection point in Gilmour's history, we take comfort in and apply to today Br. Robert's own words about Gilmour Academy and its continual, competent and courageous transformation – that we are “preparing for a future where none of us have been,” but our reach will be through the generations of current students challenged to be persons of faith and integrity, committed to lifelong learning and courageous in seeking a more just and humane world inclusive of all humanity.

Kind Regards,
Fred G. Botek '85
Chair, Gilmour Academy Board of Trustees

September 16, 2014

Mr. Fred G. Botek
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Dear Fred:

In the summer of 1976, I was invited to join our Holy Cross community here at Gilmour and served as Assistant Headmaster. Now in my 38th year in ministry here, 34 years of which were served as Head of School, it has become important for Gilmour Academy, the continuation of our Holy Cross mission and me to move to serving in a different way. I hold dear our mission and am committed to educating the minds and hearts of new generations. It is time for me to anticipate a transition from being Head of School and for our Board to secure another to lead the Academy well into the 21st century. I will continue to serve as Head of School until my successor is well in place, which may be as early as the beginning of the 2015-2016 academic year.

I will be open to joining our Board in a suitable way for discerning and presenting a successor to the Board and Members of the Corporation. We share in a call “to prepare students for better times than ours” (Moreau 1850). The success of the Academy does not lie in the bricks and mortar but, rather, in the students who emerge as alumni continuing their life’s journey in becoming persons of great competence, deep faith and lifelong learners. We want them to be prepared for living lives of integrity and courage as they actively work for our world to be a safe harbor of hope, justice and peace.

The Academy’s leadership focus needs to be one that builds on strengths and embraces all that is required to not only meet, but exceed the call of our mission.

I remain energized to continue serving in ways that will enhance the experience of the message of Jesus as expressed through our Holy Cross charism, tradition and mission. I don’t aspire to retirement but know a different schedule is appropriate.

I am grateful for the time and opportunity extended to me by our Province and Gilmour's Board leadership. May we all be blessed in energetically pursuing a creative path for Gilmour Academy's future.

I look forward to the Academy's 69th year in serving generations of young people and joining the entire community in welcoming the Academy's ninth Head of School!

Sincerely,

Br. Robert E. Lavelle, C.S.C.

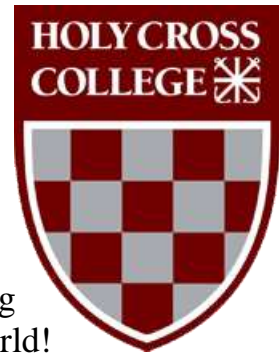
Head of School

Communicating in Today's World



Radio, television, the Internet, and newspapers are all ways we communicate. Successfully managing the activity of effective communication is an ever changing challenge, especially in today's world!

This is a challenge that Todd Schurz, President and CEO of Schurz Communications, Inc., faces every day.



As the leader of an organization immersed in the fast-past, constantly transforming realm of communications, Schurz will share his thoughts with Holy Cross College students and the Michiana community on Wednesday September 24th at the college as part of the Practical Lessons in Success lecture series.

Schurz Communications holds a unique place in the Michiana community. As the parent company of the South Bend Tribune, WSBT/Channel 22, WSBT/960AM, and Sunny101.5FM they inform and entertain hundreds of thousands of people throughout Michiana. Schurz Communications, Inc. is a diversified privately-owned, nationwide communications company that has been in continuous operation for over 142 years.

Holy Cross College President Brother John Paige noted "Holy Cross and Schurz Communications share similar values. At Holy Cross we educate and prepare students for life. Schurz Communications '... constantly strive(s) to improve to meet the needs and wants of readers, listeners, viewers, users, and advertisers'. Positive outcomes are what we all attempt to achieve."

Members of the Michiana community are welcome to attend the Practical Lessons in Success presentation and share in Schurz's story of success. Schurz visits the Holy Cross College campus Wednesday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. The event takes place in the Driscoll Auditorium, followed by a social reception.

Seminars are free and open to the public.

Holy Cross College Press Release

Holy Cross College will hold its
7th Annual Gerontology Conference



Holy Cross College will hold its 7th Annual Gerontology Conference on Wednesday, October 22 from 8:00 a.m.– 4:15 p.m. at Holy Cross College. The theme for the day-long conference is: Love is Listening: Re-membering our communities from the inside out.



Keynote Speaker

The conference keynote speaker will be **Michael Verde**, Founder of Memory Bridge, a nationally recognized non-profit organization dedicated to ending the emotional and social isolation of elders with dementia (*memorybridge.org*.) Michael's keynote speech is entitled: ***Love Is Listening: Healing the Dis-ease of Dementia through "Being With" Care.***

Training for the giving of care to people with dementia is typically concerned with how "carers" can best meet the functional needs of people experiencing cognitive decline, from the biological to the activities of daily living. What is often overlooked in traditional approaches to giving care is how much of the quality of our lives, while grounded in functional needs, depends finally-indeed ultimately-upon the meeting of our relational needs.

This presentation explores the deep structure of empathetic communication: What is it? Why does it matter therapeutically? And how do we, as individual "carers" and organizations of care, transition from understanding care as an instrumental practice of doing to and doing for another to care as an existential orientation of being with another?

Intended Audience

Professionals, families, friends and interested community members

Agenda

- 8:00 - 8:30 am - Registration (Vincent Hall) and continental breakfast (provided)
- 8:30 - 8:40 am - Welcome and speaker introductions
- 8:40 - 10:10 am - Keynote Speaker (all attend)
- 10:10 - 10:30 am - Break
- 10:30 - 11:30 am - Breakout Session I
- 11:40 - 12:40 pm - Breakout Session II
- 12:40 - 1:40 pm - Lunch (provided)
- 1:40 - 2:40 pm - Speaker Workshop (all attend)
- 2:40 - 3:00 pm - Break
- 3:00 - 4:00 pm - Breakout Session III
- 4:00 - 4:15 pm - Evaluations/Continuing Education Certificates

Those attending are able to obtain credit hours for attending the conference. Many caregivers are required to obtain continuing education credits from time to time.

You may obtain a registration brochure or additional information by calling Pat Adams at: (574) 238-8364.

Holy Cross College Release

Order Congregation of Holy Cross Ordo

Dear Holy Cross Religious,

It is about that time when I need to hear from you regarding how many Holy Cross ordos you would like to order for your province/district/vicariat/congregation for the 2015 liturgical year. If you prefer, you may wish to notify your membership that the ordo is available and may be ordered directly from me. Each ordo costs \$13.00.

Checks should be made out to **Congregation of Holy Cross**, NOT to me.

Please note that there are two editions of the ordo: one for the United States; the other, the International edition, for all other countries.

Religious may receive a copy of the ordo by contacting me at: Peter D. Rocca, c.s.c., 409 Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA, or At: procca@nd.edu



Thank you. In Holy Cross,

Rev. Peter D. Rocca, c.s.c.

Columba Hall Roof Project Delayed by Rain



It is a little over three weeks ago that the Columba Hall roofing project began. Due to weather delays during the past two weeks, the project is about 25 percent complete. The projected six weeks for the project may take longer. With a forecast of clear days for the next week much of the east side of Columba Hall should be completed. The scaffolding will then be moved to the west side of the building. Once the crews are on the west side the building, residents will be able to see the work in progress without trying to get a glimpse through the trees.



Holy Cross Today – Ghana



The July-September quarterly publication of *Holy Cross Today – Ghana* is now posted. To access the District of West Africa's Ghanaian news use one of the following links:



<http://www.brothersofholycross.com/GhanaDWA/Publications/Publications.html>



Prayers Requested

Brothers,

Here is some good news concerning Brothers John Stout and Richard Gilman:

- 1) John has been discharged from Memorial Hospital to Dujarie House. The doctors decided against implanting a pace-maker, and opted to have him placed at Dujarie House for physical rehabilitation. John says he is feeling much better, and is described as being “chipper.”
- 2) Richard reports that his hip replacement surgery went without a problem. He is up and “walking” with much less pain than usual. Richard is in Dujarie House for a period of physical rehabilitation.

Both John and Richard are appreciative for all who remembered them in prayer.

Thank you
Br. Chester Freel

Past Copies of Midwest-Midweek

Past copies of Midwest-Midweek may be viewed by scanning the icon or clicking on the link below.

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



View Website at: www.brothersofholycross.com	View Midwest-Midweek at: www.brothersofholycross.com/midmid.htm
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Please have material to **Br. Charles McBride** by Thursday the week before *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

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