

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

October 29, 2014

## Brother Albert Vincent Kern, C.S.C. *September 24, 1924 – October 23, 2014*

Brother Albert Vincent Kern, C.S.C., age 90, died on October 23, 2014 at Dujarie House, in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, IN. He was born in Highland Park, Michigan on September 24, 1924, the son of Leo and Cecilia (Erlacker) Kern. He attended St. Mary's Elementary School and High School and graduated in 1942. He worked as a clerk for Chrysler Corporation for a year and then entered the United States Navy in 1943, serving in the South Pacific and rising to the rank of Quartermaster where he performed navigation work. He was honorably discharged in March of 1946 and worked as a postal clerk for a few months.



He then fulfilled a personal calling to join the religious life and entered Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin in September 1946. He began his religious training six months later at St. Joseph's Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Indiana, and pronounced his vows as a Brother of Holy Cross in February 1948.

Brother Albert spent over 50 years of his religious life ministering in business offices of community schools and houses, always with a ready smile and courteous service as a clerk and accountant. He served in the treasurer's office at Sacred Heart Juniorate and Military Academy for 5 years in Watertown, WI, 2 years at Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills, OH, 4 years at Holy Cross High School in New Orleans, 2 years at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, 5 years at Holy Cross Junior College at Notre Dame and 10 years at St. Joseph Farm in Granger, IN and a total of 25 years in the Provincial Business Office at Notre Dame. He is fondly remembered by the staff within the Provincial Business Office for his generous and considerate help and ready smile, always available for their assistance. Albert was noted for his devotion to physical fitness and relaxation at

the end of the work day, as he would head off to his favorite exercise trails around Notre Dame. In 2001 he moved to St. Joseph Farm to assist his good buddy, Brother Donald Dunleavy, as caretakers of the property. He moved to Columba Hall in 2005 and then to Schubert Villa at Holy Cross Village in 2009, where he was noted as a dear friend to all he lived with.

Brother Albert's spontaneous cheerfulness, infectious smile and genuine interest in engaging others in conversation, made everyone feel welcome. He was one who personified the description of a person "*whose actions always spoke louder than his words.*"

Visitation was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2014, at Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel (*within the Dujarie House/Schubert Villa complex*) from 9:30 to 11:00 AM on the grounds of Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame. The Mass of Resurrection will then follow with interment afterward in St. Joseph's Cemetery of the Village. Kaniewski Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Memorial contributions, in honor of Brother Albert Kern, C.S.C., to support the mission and ministries of the Brothers may be sent to: Brothers of Holy Cross, Office of Development, P.O. Box 460, Notre Dame, IN 46556.



## Sister Ruth Marie Nickerson Given Going Away Potluck

For the past five years **Sister Ruth Marie, Nickerson, C.S.C.** has served as Area Coordinator for the Sisters of the Holy Cross in the United States. What was unique is that Sister chose to have her office in the Holy Cross Administrative Center at Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame. This is the first time in recent memory that the administrations of the priests, brothers and sisters of Holy Cross have operated under one roof. Sister Ruth is also a member of the board of directors of Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.



On Thursday, October 23 a potluck luncheon was held in sister's honor at the Administrative Center. It was an opportunity for **Rev. Thomas O'Hara, C.S.C.**, Provincial of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers along with **Brother Chester Freil, C.S.C.**, Provincial of the Midwest Province, along with the staffs of both Holy Cross Provinces, to

thank Sister Ruth for all she has done to show unity within the branches of Holy Cross, and wish her success in the future.

In September **Sister Joy O'Grady**, a former Super General of the Sisters of the Holy Cross was elected at the Area Coordinator for the United States. Sister Joy will begin her term November 17. Sister Joy has not yet decided where her office will be.

From January 11-March 5, Sister Ruth will participate in a Sabbatical Program at the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Cohasset, MA. From March to May, Sister Ruth will visit ministries in the United States States when not travelling living in Maryland with CSCs there. From May-June, Sister Ruth along with other Sisters of the Holy Cross will walk the Camino de Santiago, in Spain for 6 weeks in preparation for her next ministry at a CSC House in Maryland.

Pictures continue below





## Brother Dennis Bednarz Named Teacher of the Year



The University of Notre Dame Alumni Association has named **Brother Dennis Bednarz, C.S.C.** as the recipient of its 2014 Outstanding Educator Award. Br. Dennis is a 1979 graduate of Notre Dame who teaches AP U.S. History, AP U.S. Government and A.P. American Government at St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio.

Each year the Notre Dame Alumni Association recognizes an alumnus who has excelled in the elementary or secondary classroom. Nominees must be considered outstanding classroom teachers who have modeled competency and character to students and their colleagues and provided service to their schools and/or the profession.

The award, established in 1996, was presented to Br. Dennis during this year's Notre Dame Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Conference, Friday, October 24 at the Morris Inn at Notre Dame.

Br. Dennis becomes the second St. Edward faculty member to be honored with the award since its inception. In 2004, **Brother Joseph Chvala, C.S.C.** '54, '66MA, received the NDAA Excellence in Teaching Award.

**ND Alumni Association**  
**Photo courtesy of Joe Raymond**



## Holy Cross College Chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma Honor Society Inducts 22 Members

Holy Cross College is proud to announce the induction of 22 new members to the Delta Epsilon Sigma (DES) National Scholastic Honor Society. DES is an honor society for students, faculty, and alumni of colleges and universities with a Catholic tradition. The organization was started at the suggestion of Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, Dean of Studies at Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa, who in October of 1938 surveyed Catholic colleges and universities concerning their interest in initiating such a society.

Inductees of Holy Cross College's Epsilon Delta Chapter are required to have completed at least one half of the credit requirements for their bachelor's degree and rank in the top twenty percent of their class in scholarship. During the October 8th induction ceremony, new members recited their oath in front of family and friends, obtained their DES pins, and received a presentation on "Don't Just Do Something, Sit There! Why the world needs Catholic intellectuals" from Holy Cross College's newly inducted Professor of Theology, Dr. Michael Griffin. In his talk, Professor Griffin, known for always encouraging students to get involved in social action, took a step back and reflected on the need for patience and thought before engagement with the world. He used great figures from the Catholic intellectual tradition to suggest that prayer and scholarship are indispensable aspects of social change. As Jesus suggests in the famous Gospel story, the busy "Martha's" of the world need to learn from the contemplative "Mary's" who sit at the feet of the Lord. "The goal is to combine the two approaches," Griffin explained.

Delta Epsilon Sigma affirms: "In a democratic society wherein persons of like pursuits, abilities, interests, or convictions freely band themselves together for mutual support and encouragement, it is fitting that there be a national association constituted of selected individuals who have a record of outstanding scholastic accomplishment and who have promoted intellectual life... you fulfill the requirements for membership in this national group of men and women whose motto, signified by the letters Delta Epsilon Sigma, may be taken to mean: 'It is the mission of a wise person to put things in order.'" There

are over one hundred schools of higher learning nationwide that have established chapters of Delta Epsilon Sigma.

Pictured below are, front row, left to right: Hilda Juarez, Zayra Valencia, Arpita Rozario, Joysline Lyngkhoi, Bridget McCullough, Coley Schultheis, Jacob Chartrand, Finda Kamanda, Second row, left to right: Celia Hernandez, Zamyra Maciel, Back row, left to right: Joseph Rolf, Roderick Hunt, Joelle Poettgen, Michelle Roy, Rachel Staley, Patrick Phelan, Michael Franz, Jr., and Zoe Bauer. Not pictured: Philip Abate, Bradley Kolcz, and Hannah Vincent.



### Holy Cross College Press Release

## MWP Associates Join Sister Associates Retreat

The Associates for the Sisters invited the Brothers' associates for a wonderful day of recollection held Saturday, October 18. Holy Cross Sister Frances Bernard was the insightful presenter.

It was a great day for sharing spiritually and socially. Brothers participating were Richard Johnson, William Mewes and Carl Sternberg.

Thanks to Sister Joanne Becker and the planning committee for a day filled with many blessings.



**Sr. Frances Bernard and  
Kenneth Peters**

### **Br. Carl Sternberg**



**Br. Carl Sternberg  
And Thomas Labuzienski**



**Bobby Hill  
and Joseph Daughty**



**Sr. Joanne Becker and  
SHCA member**

## Fall Colors

It's all a matter of timing. Getting the correct moment to picture the fall colors turning to their brilliant peak can be like winning the lottery. The leaves turning colors depend on dipping temperatures, few rain showers and little wind to obtain the best show. This year many leaves were late to turn color and we had many rainy days in early October. You may view this year's fall leaf color show at:

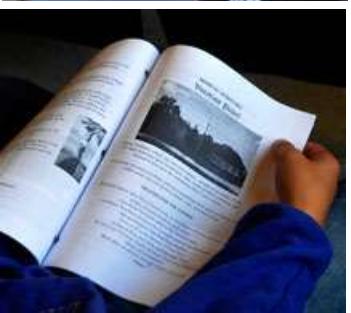
<http://brothersofholycross.com/CurrentEvents.htm>



**Columba Hall from St. Mary's Lake, Notre Dame, IN.**



Brother Roy Smith



## Gilmour Freshmen Hear Vocation Presentations

The 109 member freshmen class of Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio, spent a day-and-a-half making their freshmen retreat at Notre Dame the evening of October 16 and all the 17th. The students stayed at the Sacred Heart Parish Center on campus and a dozen chaperones spent the night of October 16 at Columba Hall. **Katie Petros** and **Kevin Berry** of Gilmour were the lead faculty members of the team. **Father John J. Blazek, C.S.C.**, long-time chaplain at Gilmour Academy accompanied the group. Gilmour was founded by the Brothers of Holy Cross in 1946. During the retreat the students were able to connect with their Holy Cross heritage of Blessed Father Basil Moreau, Saint Andre Bessette, St. Joseph and the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows by visiting campus sites and reading their special retreat guide books. They had the opportunity to visit the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Old College, Log Chapel, Notre Dame Bookstore, and many other landmarks on campus.

The freshmen were hosted by Moreau Seminary for an hour-long vocation presentation on Friday, October 17, by **Brother Roy Smith, C.S.C.**, of the Midwest Province od Holy Cross Brothers, **Sarah Perkins**, a married woman and Director of the ACE Advocates at the University of Notre Dame, **Brendan Ryan, C.S.C.**, a seminarian at Moreau Seminary, and **Father James T. Gallagher, C.S.C.**, director of vocations for the United States Province. Father Gallagher is a native of South Bend and a graduate of St. Joseph's High School and the University of Notre Dame. All the panelists spoke how they discerned their vocation and how they strive to make God known, loved and served. **Virginia A. Dybicz**, Instructor in English at Gilmour was the coordinator of the vocation panel. The students had an opportunity to ask questions of the vocation panelists.

## HCC Holds 7<sup>th</sup> Gerontology Conference



Holy Cross College held its 7th Annual Gerontology Conference on Wednesday, October 22 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, IN. The theme for the day-long conference was: Love is Listening: Remembering our communities from the inside out. The conference was intended for health care professionals, friends and family members along with interested members of the community.

The conference keynote speaker was 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](http://memorybridge.org)). Michael's keynote speech was entitled: ***Love Is Listening: Healing the Dis-ease of Dementia through "Being With" Care.***

Mr. Verde provided training to the care givers of people with dementia 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. Verde said, "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."

Verde's presentation explored 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?

Michael Verde spoke at both morning and afternoon sessions. There were three breakout sessions provided during the day covering different areas of caregiving. There was also time for lunch, program evaluations and presentation of continuing education certificates to some participants.

You may obtain additional information on the Gerontology Conference and programs offered by Holy Cross College by calling Pat Adams at: (574) 238-8364.



Pat Adams



Br. John Paige



Michael Verde



Malana Maher



## Columba Hall Open House for Donors Today

Today, Wednesday, October 29, **Brothers Chester Freel, Thomas Moser and Roy Smith** along with residents of Columba Hall will host some 40 persons from the area who have donated to the Annual Appeals the past 5 years to renovate parts of the 100 plus year-old residence of the Brothers of Holy Cross on the University of Notre Dame Campus. Over 200 donors from the area were sent invitations to view the changes they had a part in bringing about. Over the past five years more than a million dollars in donations have been used to add private bathrooms, provide for a handicapped accessible entrance, new roofing and gutters which are now being installed, along with the renovation of the walk-in coolers, dining room carpeting, chapel ceiling repair and painting, library ceiling, along with painting, carpeting and updated building safety.

The Open House will begin with a welcome and blessing in the dining room followed by tours given by Columba Hall residents. At 5:15 p.m. there will be a social in the Columba Hall recreation rooms followed by Dinner at 6:00 p.m.



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# Columba Hall



## Upcoming Events for November

**Monday, November 3** – Invitation from the United States Province of Priests and Brothers for all Holy Cross religious to attend the All Souls Day celebration beginning with at 4:30 p.m. Mass at Fatima House, visitation to the Community cemetery and dinner at Moreau Seminary following Mass. *A response to attend was requested from local superiors.*



**Tuesday, November 4 - Metropolitan Community** bi-monthly dinner at Andre Place 5:30 p.m.



**Tuesday, November 11-** Invitation for priests and brothers to attend the Knights of Columbus steak dinner at 6:00 p.m., Father Nieuwland 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly # 242, 61533. S. Ironwood, South Bend. *If you plan to attend please respond to George Adams at: 273-1198.*

**Wednesday, November 12** - Monthly dinner/house meeting of the **Maple Lane Community** at Nick's Patio, South Bend, 5:30 p.m.



**Tuesday, November 18 - Metropolitan Community** bi-monthly dinner at Andre Place 5:30 p.m.



**Thursday, November 27-** All Holy Cross Brothers in the area are invited to attend the Thanksgiving Day Celebration at Columba Hall. Mass, social and dinner beginning at 10:30 a.m.

## National Vocations Awareness Week – November 2-8

Brothers,

Attached is information from **Brother Jonathan Beebe** regarding the upcoming National Vocation Awareness Week.

With the joint agreement that the Moreau Province and the Midwest Province now has a unified vocation and formation program, you will be receiving regular mailings from Jon concerning vocation activities. This is the first, and announces that Sunday, November 2, begins National Vocation Awareness Week. These are being sent in advance so that you can plan and distribute materials accordingly.

If you have questions, Jonathan can be reached at: Br. Jonathan Beebe, CSC - Vocation Director - Congregation of Holy Cross - 1101 Saint Edwards Drive - Austin, Texas 78704 -(917) 538-7561 - [www.HolyCrossBrothers.org](http://www.HolyCrossBrothers.org)

Prayer Card:

[Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week, Prayer Card, 2014.pdf](#)

Daily Reflections:

[Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week, Daily Reflections, 2014.pdf](#)

Letter:

[Vocations, National Vocation Awareness Week, Letter, 2014.pdf](#)

**Br. Chester Freel**

## Prayers Requested

Brothers,

Here are some updates on brothers who recently have experienced health difficulties:

- 1) **Brother Robert Kelly** is rehabbing at Dujarie House after recent hospitalization due to an infection. The rehabilitation period may last for three weeks, and afterwards it is hoped that Robert can return to his residence at Schubert Villa.
- 2) **Brother Donald Fleischhacker** continues rehabilitation work at Dujarie House after his recent hospitalization due to shingles. The resulting sores have subsided, and Don is regaining strength and mobility.
- 3) **Brother Gerald Nettesheim** underwent surgery two weeks ago to address a pinched nerve in his lower back. The procedure appears to have greatly helped with pain relief, and Gerry is now undergoing rehabilitation therapy at Dujarie House to strengthen muscles for improved walking.
- 4) **Brother Bernard Klim** did not undergo surgery to remove his spleen due to a last-minute infection. Subsequently, Bernie returned to his residence at Columba Hall while waiting a rescheduling of the surgery. However, last night Bernie was readmitted to St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka, IN hospital due to general weakness. Nothing further is known at this time as doctors are assessing Bernie's condition.

Please remember each of the above members in your prayers, as well as all **others** in the province who are experiencing difficulties related to poor health and aging.

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>



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Please have material to **Br. Charles McBride** by Thursday the week before *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

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