

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

December 20, 2017



*Merry Christmas
and a
Blessed New Year!*

Blessed Mom & Dad

Brother Paul Julian Rosonke Eulogy

My name is Brother Lew Brazil. I, along with many others, had the privilege and honor of walking with Brother Paul during the past year as he coped with a very serious medical condition.

On behalf of the Brothers of Holy Cross, I want to extend our prayers and sympathy to Brother Paul's family who is mourning his loss. I certainly want to express our thanks for your presence here today...especially Paul's brother Virgil and his two sisters, Sister Rosezita and Delores, and all the cousins, nieces, and nephews from different parts of the country.

We also want to thank the members of the healthcare staff, both here at Dujarie and at Columba Hall who provided excellent care for Paul during the past year. Some of them are here today because Paul was someone very special to them..

Finally, thanks to all the members of our Congregation who gathered here today to celebrate Paul's life in Holy Cross

This morning, I, along with Paul's family, would like to offer some words of remembrance, honor, and gratitude for the life of Brother Paul Rosonke.

From his early years in Mount Carmel, Iowa, Paul began to develop a special relationship with the Lord and today, after some 60 years in serving the people of God, his journey is now over, he is at peace, his work is done, he is at home with his God.

At Columba Hall, and probably in most of his ministry years in Holy Cross, Paul had a tool box in his shop which was very important to him. His tool box was filled with special tools for every type of mechanical problem that needed to be solved.

This morning, I would like to reflect briefly on another tool box that he had. It's called the tool box of life which contains many of his gifts and talents as a human being. What are these gifts?

First, I need to mention the gifts of gracious acceptance and sense of humor used despite his many setbacks, conflicts, problems to be solved especially during the past year as he struggled with the side effects of cancer.

In his room at Dujarie, there was a plaque on the wall with the words from a Native American Indian: "When it is time to go home, it is time to go home." Paul believed in these words. He has always been ready to answer God's call to come home to Him.

In his final days with us, Paul courageously yielded to the closing down of his physical body and gave himself over to his Lord and Master whom he served so faithfully.

Second, Paul had the gift of curiosity along with enthusiasm and tons of creative energy to explore and solve mechanical problems. If he could not fix an item, he would invent or build something to resolve the problem.

Paul also had a great sense of commitment and dedication in utilizing his skills to help maintain our Holy Cross schools during his many years of service as a Holy Cross Brother.

Another was his gift of zeal for serving the needs of God's people whether it was in our schools, in a parish, or with the poor on backroads of a South Dakota Indian Reservation.

Probably his greatest gift was his spirituality which he wore proudly on his sleeve all the days of his life. He walked in faith. He was a man of faith. This accounts for his deep involvement in the charismatic movement program here at Notre Dame. He also spent several years at the charismatic retreat center in Pecos, New Mexico. Everything Paul did in Holy Cross was motivated by his love of the Lord.

Along with his gift of spirituality, he also had the gift of respect for others and how they related to a higher power.

One brief example was Paul's ministry with the LaCota Indian Tribe in Cherry Creek, South Dakota. He went to the reservation with other Brothers in response to an invitation by a priest to help with the multiple needs of Native Americans in the parish. Besides bringing with him his maintenance skills to help the people, he also showed his ability to observe, to listen and understand the Native American spirituality. As a result, he was accepted and recognized by the tribe in a special ceremony at which time he was given an eagle's feather and a special blanket. He was given the name "Wahwokia"...This is a special name which means, "He who serves the people".

To this day, Paul was proud of this honor bestowed on him as a white man living and working with native Americans on an Indian Reservation.

We would like to close with the words of songwriter Carey Landry which meant so much to Br. Paul:

“Life is a gift... We are a gift, every person is a gift of God,
Special gift, freely given for awhile gracious Father,
Loving Father
How we thank you for our lives,
Take our hands... Hold them in yours, Father, we give
Ourselves to you:

Welcome home, Paul, You have fought the good fight: You are now in the hands of the Lord.

In Loving Tribute to Brother Paul Rosonke From His Family



Brother Paul, as we gather here to celebrate your gift of life on earth and now your new life in Heaven, our hearts are filled with gratitude and precious memories. You are like a multi-faceted jewel showing forth God's life and love through your many gifts and talents, touching the lives of others wherever you were.

Even as a young boy, the discovery of how things worked fascinated you. You always found fulfillment in being able to fix things. In your inventiveness you enjoyed doing something with discarded items that could be of a new use by someone else. You have been described as being a genius in custodial duties in schools, parishes, and in community facilities. You also showed us your gift of artistry by writing special poems and by using a wood/wire art form to create Gospel scenes. At the table, with an ordinary orange, you would do artistry and celebrate humor in how you peeled it! In the spirit of St. Joseph you ministered creatively to many persons, wherever you were, in their needs and in their prayers - with a touch of humor. You needed to promote humor as a balance in your life.

Br. Paul, you have known many sorrows along your journey of life. Life changed forever when our father died. Mom, as a widow with five children ages 2 to 10, called on you as the oldest to assist in many ways of responsibility far beyond your tender age of ten. We, your brothers and sisters, also counted on you for leadership and example. And we thank you. You have used the many hurtful times in life to strengthen your gentle heart in prayer, compassion, and courage in reaching out to others.

We are so proud of you as a Brother of Holy Cross. In our parish in Mount Carmel, Iowa, you were the first to respond to the vocation of becoming a

Religious Brother. We always anticipated your arrivals from Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Texas, South Dakota, and elsewhere. You had so many stories to share of your experiences along the journey of life. You especially treasured the words of a Sioux Indian lady who thanked you with the words "Brother, you give us HOPE." Your whole life was one of being brother and giving hope to others."

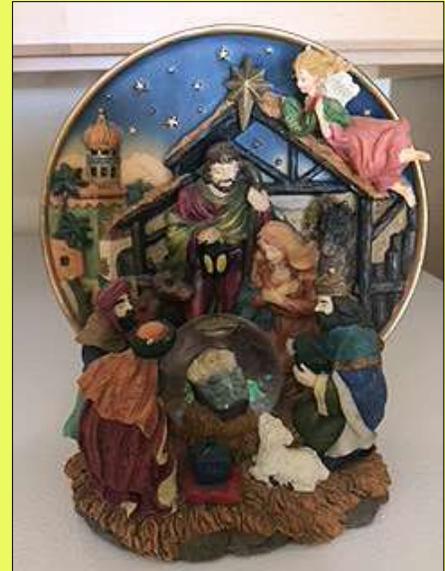
May your route to heaven be speedy with no detours. You have now taken the greatest of journeys where hope is completed in the presence of our loving God - and with all who have gone before us. Even from heaven we can hear you saying as you often said to us: "God Bless You Real Good"!! Now we wish the same for you, Brother Paul, "May God Bless You Real Good" forever!

Brother Paul's family wishes to thank his other family - the Brothers of Holy Cross with whom he has lived, prayed, and ministered these past 65 years. We also thank all who ministered to Brother Paul in his medical needs during his time of illness.

Thank You. "May God Bless you Real Good"

Sister Rosezita Rosonke

Around the Village – Christmas Decorations



Brother Thomas Sisung's Decorations



Christmas Sing-Along

On December 3, 2017, the Columba Hall Choir entertained all of Columba Hall with a holiday sing-a-long.



Above Picture by Brother Michael Brickman



Brothers at Columba Hall

Matthew 2:11

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The Brothers at Columba Hall recently donated \$770 to the St. Vincent De Paul Society of Saint Joseph County for its annual Christmas appeal. The money will be used to purchase gift cards for food for those in need.

Anne Hosinski Watson, Executive Director, stated that "your generosity has affected the lives of those struggling in poverty in our community. Truthfully, we could not do this without you. We, and those we serve, sincerely appreciate your generosity."

Christopher J. Dreyer, C.S.C.

Christmas Concert 2017 Brother Lew Brazil, C.S.C.



December 10, 2017, marked the Village Christmas Concert. An overflowing room into the craft room and outside corridors held Brothers, area friends, and village residents while the Big Band provided a joyful entrance into the coming Christmas events.









Hoban Dedicates New Innovation Center

Cloud computing specialist. Driverless car engineer. Drone operator. Social media manager.

Ten years ago, none of those jobs existed. Today, they are hot careers. In fact, 65 percent of children entering primary school today will end up working in completely new job types that haven't even been created yet, according to a 2016 report by the World Economic Forum.

So how do you prepare high school students to work in – or even create – a field that doesn't exist yet?

Doing its part to fulfill that mission, Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron officially opened its new state-of-the-art Innovation Center on Nov. 14, with faculty, staff, alumni and friends. Hoban president Todd Sweda,

principal Emily Hanson and the Rev. Mike Ausmerk were on hand with more than 100 guests to dedicate and bless the new center, which is designed to boost students' creative expression and problem-solving skills in the fast-paced 21st century technology economy.

The center houses five 3D printers, laser cutters, engineering graphic design software, vinyl cutters and hand, power and bench tools and much more. It is designed to get students' creative juices flowing. The adjoining Entrepreneurship and Communications studio is a technology-rich environment that allows faculty and students to link with experts at multiple sites to provide real-time communication and instruction with students and teachers from across the globe.



Hoban Knights Take Third Straight Football Championship



Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, won a third straight state football championship on November 30 at Canton's Hall of Fame Stadium.

Hoban was bumped up a division to Division II in 2017, not because of an enrollment increase, but because of the Ohio High School Athletic Association's new formula of "competitive balance." But that did not

slow the Knights. Finishing the season 14-1, Hoban's only loss was to Division I Cleveland St. Ignatius, always a formidable opponent.

The championship game pitted Hoban against Cincinnati Winton Woods. The week before, the Warriors rebounded from being down 21-0 to beat Massillon 56-21, not to mention that Winton Woods boasted the Division II Coach of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year.



But after an electrifying 73-yard touchdown strike from Hoban freshman quarterback Shane Hamm to senior wide receiver Garrett Houser on the first play from scrimmage, the

Warriors looked shell-shocked, and the Knights never looked back, winning 42-14.

Tim Tyrrell, in his fifth year as head coach, credits his upperclassmen, especially



seniors Houser, Daeshon Martin, Nate Bauer and R.J. Kelly. All four will play for Division I college teams next year. And it is notable that more than 75 percent of the members of the football team this season are also on the honor roll.

Christmas Music at Dinner

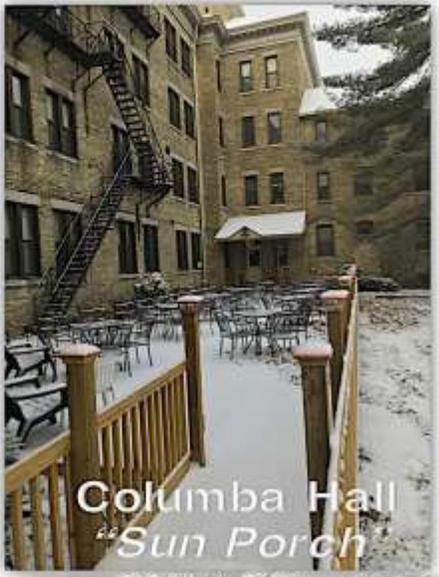
Mark Ridenski made a return visit to Columba Hall on Dec. 13, 2017. Residents were entertained again by Mark. His music added to the spirit of Christmas showing around the house.



*Kind-da
Looks
Like
Santa,
Would
You
say?*



**Columba Hall
Sun Porch & Walkway**
December 7, 2017



(L) Walkway from Bessette House to the front of Columba Hall; (R) Walkway from Bessette House to back of Columba Hall.

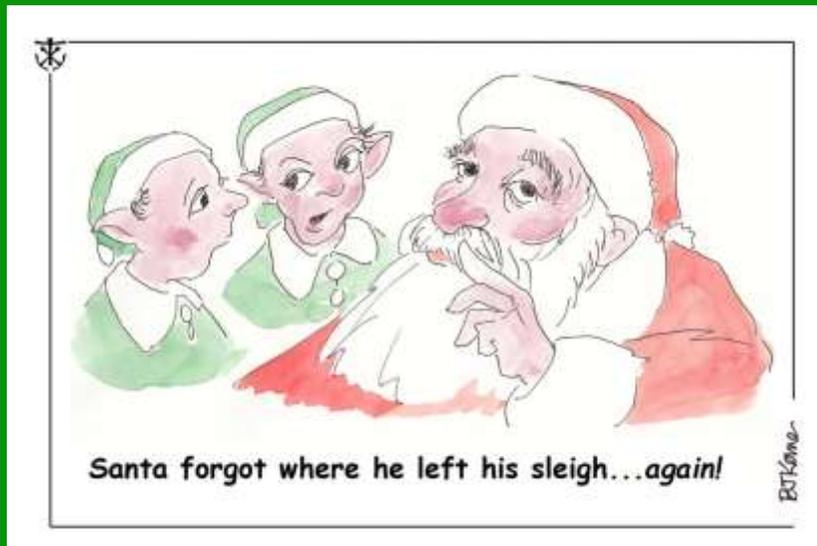


Pictures and arrangement by Brother Michael Brickman



Photo taken December 13, 2017.

It looks as if we will have to wait until spring before we can use the patio.



Cartoon
by
Brother
James
Kane,
CSC

Next publication will be after the New Year

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