

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

March 22, 2017

## Brother Gregory John Teodecki, C.S.C. April 19, 1940 – March 20, 2017

Brother Gregory John Teodecki, C.S.C., age 76, died on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at Dujarie House in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, IN. He was born in Detroit, MI, on April 19, 1940, the son of Clement and Hattie (Guest) Teodecki. He attended St. Gertrude Elementary and High School in St. Clair Shores, MI, graduating in June 1958. Through his high school years and afterwards, he helped his father who taught him a number of general maintenance skills, including welding, auto mechanics, motor repair, wood-working, and construction. In the fall of 1958, he followed a calling to the religious life in Holy Cross. He went to Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, WI, in October and then to St. Joseph's Novitiate, in Rolling Prairie, IN, where he received the habit of the Brothers of Holy Cross on January 25, 1959, and a year later, made his first profession of vows as a Holy Cross Brother on January 26, 1960.



His first assignment was to be a staff member at Archbishop Hoban High in Akron, OH, working with their maintenance crew. Then he spent the next 5 years in charge of the maintenance and upkeep of the buildings at Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills, OH. In 1966 he moved to Chicago to perform maintenance duties at Holy Trinity High School. Then it was back to Gilmour Academy to oversee and perform maintenance work on the campus for 12 years. Brother Robert Lavelle commented on Gregory's contribution to Gilmour through his versatility in addressing needs at the Academy, from snow removal to bus transportation to maintaining equipment, and to preparing and setting up numerous events. In 1979 Gregory's expertise was needed at St. Joseph Farm for a total of 15 years where he assisted with mechanical needs and repairs and performed a variety of jobs. In 1998 he lived at Columba Hall while serving with the maintenance department at Holy Cross Village and followed the example of a creative genius, Brother Richard

Weber. In 2005, Gregory retired with health problems. He continued to oversee the repairs and work of the maintenance crews at Columba Hall.

For rest and relaxation Gregory loved to fish with close friends in Michigan where he thoroughly enjoyed fishing expeditions on Lake Michigan and favorite inland lakes. His contribution to creative changes and home-like atmosphere of Columba Hall was appreciated by residents and visitors.

Visitation will be held on Monday, March 27th, at Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel within the Schubert Villa-Dujarie House Complex from 9:00 to 10:30 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 Brother Gregory Teodecki, 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.

## Five are Honored by Hoban Alumni in Akron on March 12



**Br. James  
Spooner**



**Lisa  
Craine**



**Kathleen  
Piker-King**



**Jeffrey P.  
Stetz**



**Ronald A.  
Brown**

Firestone Country Club was the venue for the **Nineteenth Alumni Awards Dinner** on March 12, 2017, in Akron, Ohio, honoring five awardees for their contributions in support of Archbishop Hoban High School.

Brother James Spooner, C.S.C., and Kathleen Piker-King, Ph.D., each received the 2017 “Friend of Hoban” distinction, and Lisa Craine received the Hoban Knight Award. Alumni Ronald A. Brown '68 and Jeffrey P. Stetz '70 were honored as Hoban 2017 Distinguished Alumni.

Over a dozen members of the Holy Cross community with various connections to Hoban were present to enjoy the dinner and awards ceremony.



**Br. James Spooner enjoys a  
moment with Br. Joseph LeBon.**



**Dr. Todd Sweda**



Brothers in attendance: John Paige, Joseph Lebon, Paul Kelly, Ed Fox (hidden), Carlos Parrilla, Ed Libbers, Richard Gilman, James Spooner, Ken Kane, Roy Smith, Robert Lavelle, and Ken Haders.

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## Jackson City, New York

### **E-mail Received 17 Mar 2017**

Fortunately survived (the snow storm) and the car ran well once I shoveled it out. Mine is the one in the middle of the pic. Sorry to say I missed work for the second time since being here in NY. Things are back to normal ...



### **Brother James Bagans**



## St. Andre Scholars Program St. Edward High School

### President's Letter:

Dear St. Edward High School Community,

I am writing to announce a new program that we are introducing at St. Edward High School next school year - the St. Andre Scholars Program, serving students with developmental disabilities.

St. Andre Bessette, C.S.C. has long been a model to the world of the power of acceptance and hospitality. As children of God, each of us is endowed with our own unique gifts. At St. Edward High School, we embrace that spirit of acceptance and hospitality, and the St. Andre Scholars Program will serve as another example of our community's tradition of embracing the God-given gifts and talents of students of all types.

When I was President of Eastside Catholic in Seattle, the Options Program that existed to serve students with developmental disabilities had a significant impact on the entire school community. We have also studied closely the Burke Scholars Program at one of our fellow Holy Cross Schools - Notre Dame High School in Niles, IL - and witnessed first-hand the ways that Holy Cross acceptance and hospitality comes to life on its campus through the spirit of the Burke Scholars.

In 1978, the U.S. Catholic Bishops shared a pastoral statement on people with disabilities that read: "The same Jesus who heard the cry for recognition from the people with disabilities of Judea and Samaria 2,000 years ago calls us, His followers, to embrace our responsibility to our own disabled brothers and sisters."

St. Edward High School is uniquely positioned to answer the call of the U.S. Catholic Bishops to embrace the responsibility to educate with the acceptance and compassion of Jesus Christ. In alignment with St. Edward High School's Holy Cross Mission, the St. Andre Scholars Program will allow students with developmental disabilities to embrace their faith, strive for personal excellence, develop lifelong relationships, and commit to the virtues of Christ-like servant leadership in a structured environment that meets the specific needs of their learning differences.

- The St. Andre Scholars Program is a 4-year language-based course of study available to young men beginning at age 14. St. Andre Scholars will access a

special education curriculum that includes math, language, reading, life skills and communication, as well as select "inclusion" classes in theology, the arts and physical education, and other courses where appropriate. Students will earn a certificate of completion following the 4-year course of study. Students are eligible to then return to their local school district for vocational training until the age of 21.

- Students eligible to enroll in the St. Andre Scholars Program will have a diagnosed developmental delay, typically reading at a 1st to 4th grade level. Each applicant will be subject to a selective admission process, including an IEP review, up-to-date testing, interview, student visit day, and recommendations from former teachers and support services providers. Enrollment for the 2017-18 school year will be limited to a maximum of 4 students.
- St. Andre Scholars will have access to the full range of St. Edward faith, co-curricular, leadership, and community service programming.
- The program is welcoming of students who receive Ohio's Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship. (Note that the deadline for new JPSN applicants is April 15. For more information, [click here](#).)

As we launch this program, we are in need of the St. Edward Community's assistance in two ways:

- 1.) We are currently seeking a talented special educator to be the Director of the St. Andre Scholars Program. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in this opportunity, please share the position description listed on the [Job Openings](#) page on our website.
- 2.) We are currently accepting inquiries for students who are interested in applying for the St. Andre Scholars Program. If you know any students who meet the criteria outlined above, their families may contact KC McKenna in the Office of Admission at [kcmckenna@sehs.net](mailto:kcmckenna@sehs.net) to begin the application process.

We are excited for the opportunities that the St. Andre Scholars Program will provide for us to live out our mission by celebrating the gifts of all of our students. We look forward to sharing with you all of the tremendous achievements that we expect for the St. Andre Scholars in the future.

Sincerely,

**Jim Kubacki**

President

## Holy Trinity High School



On March 3rd, Holy Trinity celebrated their annual Guardians of Hope dinner and auction. Last week the school announced they raised just over \$1 million. The event was held at the Grand Ballroom on Chicago's Navy Peer. Below please find a link to a video that was premiered about the school at the event.

Preview YouTube video Holy Trinity: A Life-Changing Opportunity

[Holy Trinity: A Life-Changing Opportunity](#)



## National Symposium on the Life of the Religious Brothers

The University of Notre Dame will be live-streaming the Mass for the National Symposium on the Life of the Religious Brothers on Saturday, March 25, at 5 PM.

Cardinal Joseph Tobin will be the main celebrant and homilist.

The link below takes you to the University's Basilica webpage at UStream which will be live shortly before 5 PM on Saturday the 25th.

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/basilica-mass>

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For Symposium information, follow the link below:

<http://www.yearforconsecratedlife.com/brothers-symposium.html>

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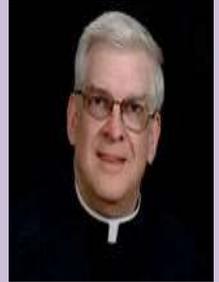
## Lenten Lecture Series - 2017

7:00 PM Geenen Hall

### March 22, 2017

*"Redemptive Tragedy: Finding new life in adversity."*

**Steve Newton, C.S.C.**, received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame, his master's degree in arts in pastoral studies from Loyola University Chicago, and his doctorate of public service from the University of Portland in Portland, Oregon. Father Newton served in treatment centers both in Portland and in South Bend for over two decades and was a rector and adjunct professor at the University of Notre Dame until June 2000 and then served as pastor St. Andre Bessette Catholic Church in Portland. He currently serves on the campus ministry team at Saint Mary's College.



### March 29, 2017

*"Solidarity Can Transform Your Spirit"*

**Arlene F. Montevecchio, Director - Center for Spirituality at St Mary's College** is a graduate of St. Norbert College and Harvard Divinity School. She previously worked as Director of the Center for Social Concerns at Gannon University and is currently a doctoral student in theology and ethics at Duquesne University. She has published articles and reviews in *Political Theology*, the *Annual Volume of the College Theology Society*, *U.S. Catholic*, *The National Catholic Reporter*, *The Merton Seasonal*, and the blog *Daily Theology*. Arlene and her husband Caesar have two sons, Andrew and Damian.



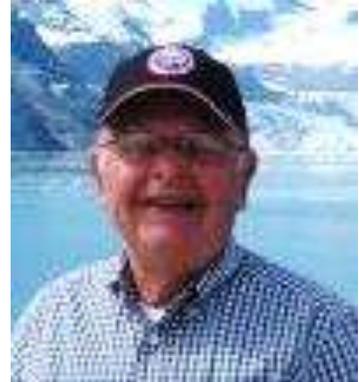
Saint Joseph  
Pray for us!



## John Henry "Jack" Ryan

**Former Brother John Ryan passed away last month at his home in North Carolina. Thought you should know as he was somewhat active with the Holy Cross History Conference in previous years. John was my (Neil Dvorak) junior physics teacher at St. Edward High School in Lakewood.**

John Henry (Jack) Ryan, 86, of Hendersonville, passed away Thursday, February 16, at his home following a short illness. A native of Detroit, Michigan, he had been a resident of Hendersonville for over 20 years. He received his bachelor of science degree from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and his master's degree from DePaul University in Chicago. Jack loved science and astronomy and taught in private Catholic schools in Cleveland, Louisville, and Birmingham, Michigan. He also taught at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan, was the first director of the Detroit Science Center, and served as president of Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. Jack was a member of Immaculate Conception Church, the Knights of Columbus, and the Hendersonville Daybreak Lions Club. He had been a volunteer at Pardee Hospital for many years and loved to travel. Jack is survived by his wife of 38 years, Gretchen Ryan, two stepsons, John Chestnut of Redford, Michigan, and David Chestnut of Hendersonville; his brother, Pat Ryan of Kissimmee, Florida; two nieces and one nephew. A memorial service will be celebrated at 10 AM on Monday, March 13, in Our Lady of the Angels Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church. Committal will take place in the columbarium of First United Methodist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Four Seasons Compassion for Life, 571 S. Allen Rd., Flat Rock, NC 28731. To offer condolences online please visit ...



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

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## Reflection



All the flowers  
of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today.

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## Knight Award 2017 - Lisa Craine: A Reflection for Your Reflection

There have been many times in my life when I have stepped back turned to God and said, “Why me?”

The times of beautiful joy, marrying the love of my life, holding our sons for the first time—I’ve asked “Why me?” When life was sailing along as planned, when it seemed that God and I were on the same plan.



But there have also been times when I have asked, “Why me?” when things have not gone according to my plan, when God seemed to have a different plan for me. I asked, “Why me?” When I was told I was the recipient of the Knight Award, realizing all of the individuals who could have been given this award and knowing the many who have been a part of this amazing school called Hoban. I wondered—I was and am humbled and honored and still ask “Why me?”

I am honored and humbled because of the wonderful place Hoban is—a place that has become like family to us since the first day that our son Jacob walked through those doors as a freshman in 2006, followed by his brother Noah in 2012. We have felt like family ever since, and my family is grateful for the education, example, and support of this community.

As most of you know I was diagnosed with stage IV Cholangio-carcinoma in 2010 and given six months to live. Again, the question, “Why me?” But before living with that question for too long, I would no longer live asking the question, “Why me? But through blessings and trials the question would become, “What now?” What can I do now with this blessing to bless others. What

can I do now with this difficult situation in my life? I've had the chance over the last six years to really examine my life and my purpose to ask that question: what now?

I've come to realize that the obstacles and hurdles in my life have presented me with opportunities to grow in my faith and to serve others, and I have done my best to take advantage of these opportunities. I find comfort and guidance from Bible verses as to why things happen:

"As he went along he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned—this man or his parents that he was born blind?"

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in him."

The Holy Cross motto is *Ave crux, spes unica* (Hail to the cross our only hope). Upon my diagnosis I found myself suddenly faced with many choices and the greatest one was what will I do

with the rest of my life? How could I use the burden of my cross to positively change my small corner of the world? I knew that in my journey the carrying of my cross might just make the heavy crosses of others just a little lighter if only I could bring them the deep and sincere hope that I felt. "What now?" I asked myself.

People want to be loved, and so I decided my direction had to be mentoring others and providing them with love and hope in the midst of their trials. From sitting with patients during chemo to fund raising, from one-on-one meetings with those who walk the same journey that I walk, to spending hours on the phone with those newly diagnosed. I have done my best each day to share a message loudly and clearly: even in your cross there is hope.

Words spoken by Saint Theresa of Calcutta inspire me and fill my heart as I walk this journey: “Never let anything so fill you with sorrow that you forget the joy of Christ Risen.”

Powerful words for many who carry crosses daily, and In the same spirit as the Holy Cross community it is my hope to bring the hope of the cross to others. My journey has helped me realize that any cross that we bear in life, no matter how heavy, can be a sign of hope as long as we are willing to bear that cross with hope ourselves. I have had help carrying my cross with wonderful friends and family. My husband has carried me and my cross and shown me the way along my journey through his unshakable faith and never-ending love of me and our boys.

I've learned that we cannot run from the crosses in our lives, but we must embrace them as a part of our journey, a truly blessed journey, as long as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus who said, “He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” Crosses will come, but how we choose to carry them and the message that we choose to carry to others is up to us.

The cross for Jesus ultimately ended in the joy of the resurrection. Nothing could overcome the love and hope that he brought.... there is hope in every cross. So, when things do not go as I had hoped or planned, never again “Why me?” but what can I do given what I know, given my faith, given the love in my heart....in other words, “What now?”

In closing, I would like to leave you with the words from one of the favorite songs:

I will choose Christ.  
I will choose love.  
I choose to serve.  
I give my heart.  
I give my life.  
I give my all to You.



*Cartoon  
by  
Brother  
James  
Kane,  
CSC*

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