

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

March 27, 2019

Brother William Schu, CSC

Brother William was a gentleman's gentleman. Born in the Middle-South in 1925, he never lost the quiet manners of the Tennessee and southern Indiana man that he was. Born in Chattanooga, he did not grow up in that city. His family moved to Evansville where he attended St. Mary's Grade School and then Reitz Memorial High School. It was at Reitz Memorial where he came in contact with the Brothers of Holy Cross, apparently liked what he experienced, and joined them the summer following his graduation.

In his earliest days in Holy Cross Bill Schu had the religious name "Florentius." He was called "Flo" for short. At the novitiate one of his obediences was tending the huge furnace that kept the building warm all winter. His partner on this job was Ted Hesburgh, who would later become the legendary president of the University of Notre Dame.

After earning a bachelor's degree at Notre Dame, Bill began his teaching career in Massachusetts at Monseignor Coyle High School. After two years there, he was sent for two years to teach at Monroe Catholic Central in Michigan. His longest teaching stint then began in 1953 at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, where he ministered for 32 years. There Bill was assistant principal for 11 years and taught in both the history department and in the religion department. The textbook he authored on marriage for senior religion was legendary. Finding nothing suitable for teaching seniors at a time when high school religion classes were undergoing a major change after Vatican II, Bill simply wrote his own book. It was a hit year after year influencing a thousand Cleveland young men. His approach was practical, having the students at one point design their dream house. One of his interesting techniques was to let the boys submit anonymous questions about marriage. As you can imagine, impish boys occasionally wrote down questions that would make a sailor blush. Given Bill's gentle manner, I doubt that he was disturbed by such shenanigans—he was a man who accepted people as they were, no matter the age.



He was, of course, a man who appreciated impishness. One Halloween someone rang the front doorbell of the Brothers' house. That door was rarely used since the house was usually entered from either the back door or the door from the school. Brother Jerome Meyer went to answer the front door when the bell rang. There stood a rather disheveled tramp. He asked to be given a little food. So Brother Jerome took him into the Brothers' large recreation room to sit down for a bit. There were quite a few Brothers in the room, but they didn't seem to be disturbed by the tramp intruder. They wondered, of course, who it was. After some minutes they discovered the identity. It was Bill Schu, and no one recognized him until he took off his hat and wig. Bill Schu was a very good community man with a kind disposition, a sharp mind, and a delightful sense of humor.

He liked to walk, the only exercise he did regularly. In Lakewood after supper he would often go walking with our cook Brother Amadeus. They would always head to downtown Lakewood and kept their eyes sharp for coins dropped around parking meters: their treks were especially lucrative in winter months when snow cradled the parking meters. They usually bragged about their loot for the evening.

Bill loved to read, and his favorite reading was murder mysteries. You could not name a single title by Agatha Christie that he had not read.

After his years teaching high school, Bill Schu decided to take a new turn in his life—he went down to Tennessee with Brother Gonzaga to run a thrift shop for poor people. After four years of that, he moved to California to spend a decade in Sherman Oaks, close to the movie industry. He loved movies. He sometimes spoke of his days growing up in Evansville when, old enough to get a job at the local theatre, he ushered, sold tickets, and oftentimes opened and closed the theater.

In 2001 he undertook a new life in Florida, helping Brother William Geenen for almost another decade working with senior citizens in the Senior Friendship Centers that William Geenen had started.

In his final creative move, Bill came to Columba Hall in 2010 where he was a gentle addition to the house. Still an enterprising individual, he would take public transportation to get around, apparently unconcerned about getting lost at his age. Once Brother Joseph McTaggart took him downtown to get a senior-pass for the city buses. Bill needed his birth-certificate to get that pass. When it came, we all discovered that he was born and christened "Billy Schu," not "William Schu." That senior pass by the way did Bill little good because he never carried it—he left it in his room at Columba Hall because he said he didn't want to lose it.

At Columba Hall he also started to collect transistor radios and batteries.

Some people have unusual tastes for acquisition in their golden years. For Bill it was little radios, perhaps a sign of his slow decline into gentle senility. Of course, there were other signs. One evening a Brother put a plate of food down at supper and went to get a glass of water. When he came back to his table, he found Bill sitting there quietly eating the Brother's food.

People could never get mad at Bill. He was the kindest of men, a good listener. One Brother who lived with Bill in Tennessee said of him, "His personality and disposition were always positive and upbeat. He would engage himself with just about all he met. Oftentimes at the dinner table he would pose questions to those present, but very, very rarely did he ever state his opinion. He just wanted to hear folks talk and get their various opinions. What struck me the most was his authenticity: what he was on the exterior was what he was on the interior. One could turn him inside out with no difference."

That is a wonderful tribute for a human being: his inside was his outside, his outside his inside. Being authentic was what Bill Schu was all about. Few surprises—just a day-to-day good person who was a valuable, contributing member of Holy Cross. I imagine that today he could be sitting somewhere with a good murder mystery to read or a good movie to watch, but really the angels no doubt find him too genuine to leave alone—they will engage him in gentle conversation, listening to him as much as he listens to them. Rest well, Bill—your contributions to Holy Cross will never be forgotten.

Brother George Klawitter, CSC

Reflection for the Feast of St. Joseph



**Homily by Brother Robert Mosher, C.S.C.
March 19, Columba Hall**

On this feast of the our patron, St. Joseph, foster-father of Jesus, let us reflect together on St. Joseph's participation with Jesus and Mary in the incarnation and God's saving plan for our redemption.

With the exception of the somewhat sketchy narratives in the Gospels of Sts. Matthew and Luke, little has been said or written since that delineates to any great extent the true significance of St. Joseph's role in the Incarnation and redeeming acts of Jesus. Although always subordinate to those played by Jesus Himself and His Mother, St. Joseph's is important enough to be substantial along with that of his foster-son and of his spouse.



St. Joseph, whose ancestry is traced to the prophetic King David, has been identified as a devout practicing Jew and righteous man, implying qualities of character such as faith, courage, humility, gentleness, and fairmindedness. He was a carpenter.

While betrothed to Mary, St. Joseph, learning of her unexplained pregnancy, and wishing to preserve not only his own reputation but that of Mary and her yet unborn child from the prospect of any local community gossip and religious scandal, contemplated divorcing her according to Mosaic Law.

The Roman command of an imperial census requiring St. Joseph to journey with his then pregnant wife Mary to Bethlehem resulted in the registering of himself, his wife, and their newly born son. Thus, through St. Joseph's compliance with the law, the birth of Jesus was legally afforded legitimate status, officially recognized by the Roman Empire and the residents of Nazareth and throughout all of Judea. As a result, throughout his life, Jesus was identified as the son of Joseph.

St. Joseph's ingenuity in finding shelter in a stable when there was no room in an inn afforded at least a safe place suitable for Jesus' delivery at his birth.

St. Joseph's courageous plan to flee with Jesus and Mary from King Herod's threat to kill the newly born child saved Jesus' life.

In the time and place in which the Holy Family lived, carpenters were considered

artisans, a designation which placed them in a social status slightly above others. As St. Joseph's legal foster-son, Jesus consequently shared this same status, and therefore was called the son of the carpenter.

As a father in the then Jewish society, it was primarily St. Joseph's responsibility to educate and nurture his son Jesus, especially through the influence of providing example of the good qualities of a father's own character.

St. Joseph demonstrated his concern for Jesus' welfare in returning with Mary his spouse to find Jesus lost in Jerusalem.

After being found by his parents in the temple in Jerusalem, Jesus at the age of twelve returned to Nazareth with his parents, where, according to St. Luke, Chapter 2, verse 52, He "advanced in wisdom and age before God and man."

As an apprentice working alongside of St. Joseph in the carpentry shop, the youthful Jesus, experiencing some occasional mishaps handling roughened wood, wooden pegs, and mallet hammers, developed, we might surmise, some tolerance for pain.

In view of what had to be a very close father-son relationship, we can be confident in assuming that Jesus and St. Joseph occasionally had discussions about Jesus's future as an adult.

Thus, the man that people encountered in the person of Jesus was viewed as devout, courageous, humble, gentle, and fair-minded, the son of Joseph the carpenter, as well as one who did good and extraordinary things, all of which reflects a direct result of what St. Joseph had been and done from the time of Jesus' birth to his development as an adult man.

As the Divinely predestined virgin-father of God the Father's only begotten son made man, St. Joseph, from what has been considered here, undoubtedly contributed substantially to the successful fulfillment of the Divine Plan in the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ and the redeeming of mankind.

Now let us religious of Holy Cross, especially we Brothers of Holy Cross, designated in the Congregation as Josephites, be aware of our own contributions through the influence of who we are and the exercise of our ministries toward the redemptive formation of Jesus in ourselves and in those whom we have served. So, akin to St. Joseph, we have likewise played not a small part in the realization of God's Plan. St. Joseph, pray for us your brothers.

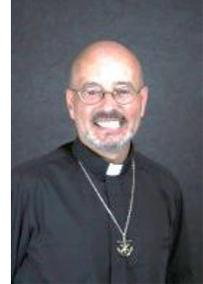
Lenten Lecture Series – 2019
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Geenen Hall

March 27th

Wounds in a Resurrected Body: Discovering Our Forgiven Self in Christ

Fr. Jeff Cooper, C.S.C.

Fr. Jeff Cooper, C.S.C. is a priest and religious in the Congregation of Holy Cross. He currently serves as Postulant Director at Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame.



April 3rd

Bridging Lenten Practices and Renewal: We are in this Together

Fr. Bob Loughery, C.S.C.



April 10th

Triduum and Transforming Grace

Sr. Veronique, C.S.C.

Sister M. Veronique has a wealth of mission experience including many years as a high school and college teacher. She served in ministry with the Brothers of Holy Cross at Saint Francis High School in Mountain View, CA and credits the Brothers with helping her grow as a teacher. As a diocesan administrator, she worked as Director for Women Religious in San Diego, CA and served on the Liturgical Commission in Boise, ID. She has been involved in Vocation/Formation ministry for her congregation for over 30 years. She serves as a board member for Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, and Holy Cross Health, Silver Spring, MD as well as being a member of the Finance Committee of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. She currently serves as President of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.



Voice of Moreau Blog

Written for and sent to CSC
educators around the world



The [Voice of Moreau Blog](#) is a weekly collection of reflections on the Cross with a practical classroom/school application. It also has a section called Heroes of the Cross which highlights bios of sisters, priests, and brothers from Holy Cross who have lived out the educational charism well.

Founders:

Ben Rossi rossib@hoban.org

Brother Philip Smith smithp@hoban.org



Web Address:

www.voiceofmoreau.org

E-mail your support for this blog by contacting the founders at their addresses listed above.

REMINDER

2019 Conference for Midwest Holy Cross Associates



Registration:

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Lunch \$10 (Yes or No) _____ Deadline
March 26



The Midwest Brothers Province and the Midwest Holy Cross Associates
Invite you to participate as part of the Holy Cross Family in a Spring Conference

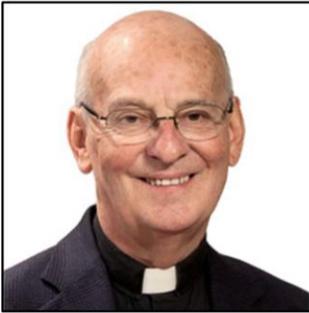


Pray, Reflect, Act

Tapping inner resources to meet the challenges at this time in the Church, country and world

Saturday, March 30, at Holy Cross College Auditorium from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Our keynote speaker is **Anthony Gittins, CSSp.** His presentation at 1:00 pm Eastern Time will embrace the theme of our Conference: “Pray, Reflect, Act”, (Tapping Inner Resources to meet the crisis of this time in our church, country and world.) He will present a broad view of evangelization for our time exploring examples of Jesus’ call, distill the principles involved through New Testament stories and in this way build up a picture of the “The Way” of Jesus himself and of the way today’s disciples can follow his call to mission.



Father Anthony offers workshops, seminars, and retreats in more than thirty-five countries from Africa to the Pacific. He was the keynote speaker at the LA Congress with over 30,000 people participating. He is the author of fifteen books

on theological and anthropological topics on mission and spirituality. He is an emeritus professor at the Chicago Theological Union. Father Gittins also has practical experience in ministering as a hospital chaplain, in homeless shelters and as a missionary pastor in Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Schedule:

- 8:30 Registration, Coffee
- 9:00 Opening Prayer
- 9:15 Presentation - Brother George Klawitter, C.S.C. - Holy Cross historian

“Contribution of the Brothers of St. Joseph on the 200th Anniversary of their Founding”

- 9:45 Panel: Influence of their origins on Holy Cross Brothers today
- 10:15 Break
- 10:35 Presentation – Sister Veronique Wiedower, C.S.C., - President of the Sisters of the Holy Cross

“Moreau’s Insights for Today’s Challenges”

- 11:15 Panel: Associates, Sisters, Brothers, Priests on the gifts they bring to the Holy Cross Family
- 11:45 Lunch
- 1:00 Keynote Address – Father Anthony Gittins – (see biography)

“Pray, Reflect, Act

Tapping Inner Resources to Meet the Crisis at This Time in our Church, Country, World”

- 2:15 Closing

Panels for March 30th Conference – Pray, Reflect, Act

The Charisms of the Brothers of St. Joseph alive in the Holy Cross Brothers today

- Br. Ken Haders
- Br. Raymond Papenfuss
- Br. Carl Sternberg

The Gifts each branch brings to the family of Holy Cross

- Mr. Eddie Donnelly – Student Holy Cross Associates
- Sr. Helene Sharp – Sisters of the Holy Cross
- Fr. Matt Kuczora - Priests of Holy Cross
- Ms. Veronica Malone- Holy Cross Associates
- Br. Roy Smith – Brothers of Holy Cross

Reflection

If you can't *Forgive AND Forget*, pick *ONE*.

-Robert Breault



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This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics and Spirituality Office, www.emmanuelcare.ca


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Editor

Br. Kenneth Kane

Webmaster

Br. Richard Johnson

Proofreader

Br. George Klawitter

Please send material to the link below by Thursday the week before *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

Send material to this address:

Midwest-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com