



News from the Province

Congregation of Holy Cross

Midwest Province of Brothers

March - April, 2002

General Visit to the Midwest Province

Father Hugh Cleary, C.S.C., superior general, Brother John Gleason, C.S.C., first assistant and vicar, with two members of the general council, Father James Mulligan and Father Arulraj Gali, C.S.C., will visit the members of the Midwest Province from June 1 to June 18, 2002. Six goals are set out for the visit and they will form the basis of the discussions during the course of the visit: ministry, religious life, interdependence, vocation recruitment, formation and administration. This visit comes at an important juncture in our province as we plan for the future. We extend a warm welcome to the superior general and the members of his council and look forward to the opportunity the visit provides to meet with the members of the general administration and to share our hopes and dreams for the Congregation of Holy Cross and for the Midwest Province.

The general visit will open officially with a holy hour to be held in St. Joseph Chapel, Notre Dame, Indiana, on Saturday evening, June 1st at 7:00 P.M. Following the holy hour there will be a reception and social in the Helen D. Schubert Villa. All province members are invited to come together to pray for the success of the general visit and to welcome the superior general and his council to our province.

As the general visit will coincide with the province retreat (June 10 to June 13), the province meeting (June 14) and jubilee celebration (June 15), province members living in areas outside the Midwest Province and who will be present for the retreat will have an opportunity to meet with one of the general visitors during this time. More precise information concerning the general visit will be sent out in a separate mailing later in April along with a document from the general administration that will explain in detail the nature of the general visit.

Father Cleary will also be the celebrant at the Mass for the province jubilee celebration and Brother John Gleason will give the homily.

Provincial Council

In its monthly meetings, the provincial and his council have been working on the development of a pastoral plan for the Midwest Province. Mr. Jerry Gumbleton and Ms. Susan Novak of the consulting firm, Plante and Moran, Southfield MI, are assisting the council in this important project for the province. Brother Donald and the members of the council will present a working version of the pastoral plan during the province meeting on Friday, June 15. This plan is not just the work of the provincial and his council for the province's future; it is the effort of all of us in the province. *Each one of us is called to make his contribution to this important development in the life of the Midwest Province. As the plan will impact our lives corporately as a province and as individual religious, every province member will be asked to share his thoughts and suggestions about the components of the plan. The province meeting will be the first opportunity for our initial reaction and input.* Regional

meetings will be held throughout the coming year for further discussion and refinements of the plan. The plan will then become a significant part of the agenda for the provincial chapter in June 2003, which, among other items, will prepare for the general chapter of the congregation in 2004.

The provincial and his council have approved a project proposed by the Board of Trustees of Holy Cross College to increase parking facilities to be used jointly by Holy Cross College and Holy Cross Village. The additional parking spaces, a part of the master plan for both Holy Cross College and Holy Cross Village, will provide greater accessibility to the College programs, ease the flow of traffic for both the College and the Village and enhance the overall development of the Village project.

In accordance with Decree One of the 2000 provincial chapter, Brother Donald Gibbs requested permission Father Hugh Cleary, superior general, to constitute the 2003 provincial chapter by self-selection. Father Cleary has granted this permission. Therefore, a process of self-selection will determine the delegates to the provincial chapter of 2003.

Brother Donald Gibbs will attend a meeting of the English-speaking provincials to be held in Canada, April 22 to April 25. This meeting will be a continuation of the ongoing discussions on restructuring in the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Holy Cross Educational Ministries

Holy Cross Educational Ministries held its third annual conference at Fatima Retreat House, Notre Dame, Indiana. This year's conference, which opened the evening of February 25 and ended on February 27, coincided with a typical Indiana winter storm that dropped upwards of eight inches of snow on the area. This has become a traditional conference event as a similar amount of snow fell during last year's conference held at Saint Edmond's Academy in Wilmington, Delaware. However, the storm did not deter provincials, presidents, principals and board chairs from fifteen Holy Cross sponsored educational institutions in the Midwest, East and Quebec from attending the sessions.

The conference, organized by Brother Thomas Dziekan, C.S.C. (EB), Director of Mission Effectiveness for Holy Cross Educational Ministries, had as its theme "Holy Cross Educators: Building a Legacy of Hope." Father Thomas O'Hara, C.S.C. (EP), President of King's College, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, and Sister Patricia Vandenberg, C.S.C., former CEO of Holy Cross Health Care and currently an Associate Professor and Director of the Health Care Executive MBA Program at Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, were

the keynote speakers for the conference. Father O'Hara delivered the Basil Moreau Lecture and reflected on common themes in his experience as a Holy Cross educator in the faith in North America, East Africa and Bangladesh, namely, collaboration, student-centered education and community. Delivering the James Dujarié Lecture, Sister Patricia focused her remarks on the evolving challenges in leadership presented to boards and administrators, specifically from the perspective of being faithful to the Mission of the Congregation and the institution.



L. to R.: Brother William Dygert, Brother Donald Gibbs, Mr. Jerry Murphy, Chair of the Board at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, OH, Brother Gérard Dionne, CSC, Vice-Chair of the Board at Collège Notre-Dame, Montréal, Brother Kenneth Haders, Mr. Paul Neitman, Assistant Executive Director of Holy Cross Children's Services, Clinton, MI.

In addition to prayer and liturgy, there was time for quiet reflection and discussion. Participants were asked to come up with specific ways that they could focus on the mission in their decision-making and policies. Both speakers were well received and gave the participants a great deal to reflect on for the future.

Also sponsored by HCEM, on March 13, 2002, Development Personnel from Holy Cross Schools in the Midwest along with the Provincial Development Directors for the Midwest and Indiana Provinces met at Moreau Seminary. Brother Thomas Dziekan, C.S.C., gave an overview of the development of Holy Cross Educational Ministries and a presentation on the educational mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross. There was also time for discussion of agenda items proposed by the participants. They all agreed that this was a valuable and worthwhile experience and have decided to meet annually.

**Province Week
June 10 to June 16**

**June 10 to June 13
Province Retreat
Rev. Howard Gray, S.J., retreat master**

**June 14
Province Meeting**

**Both at
Regina Hall
Saint Mary's College
Notre Dame, Indiana**

**June 15
Jubilee Celebration
Sacred Heart Basilica
Notre Dame, Indiana**

**Rev. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C., celebrant
Bro. John Gleason, C.S.C., homilist**

Please return your registration form.



**The Brothers
of the
Midwest Province
congratulate and
extend best wishes to**

Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.

**on his appointment
as Ordinary of the
Diocese of Peoria, Illinois.**

**Young People Want to Belong to
Something That Has Meaning.**

Brother Donald Gibbs attended a meeting of Region Five of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) held at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, Illinois. During the meeting four religious spoke about their backgrounds, what brought them to religious life and their experiences of living in community. Their former occupations were varied: computer engineer, exotic animal trainer, reporter and college graduate. Below are a few excerpts from their conversations with the members attending the meeting.

On spirituality, Viatorian Corey Brost said, "There seems to be more of a thirst in my peers and me for the experience of the transcendence. It is a thirst for wonder. It's a sense of a transcendent God. I like adoration. They say we like 'smells and bells.'"

Jesuit Frank Buckley said, "It's not conservative or liberal. It's meaning that young people want. Chicago is more Catholic than

Los Angeles. Kids want answers. There's more interest in spiritual direction."

On multiculturalism, Franciscan Due Pham encouraged leaders to spend time "acculturating members." Due was born in Vietnam and came to the United States when he was three. "Live in other cultures. Try the food." Due never felt anything but positive about his experiences. "My community asks me to share and speak my mind. They don't ask me to become Anglo."

"We are all called to cross into another culture," Due said. "My community sent me to Guatemala. Young people are good at multicultural conversation."

On vocations, the young religious asked questions of a community: Is the community involved in a *meaningful* ministry? Young people want to effect change. Does the group have an *identity*? Young people want to belong to something that has meaning and is bigger themselves. Are we *inviting* young people to join? Most young people come to religious life after knowing religious and being asked to join.

When asked, "What do we, as leaders, need to be aware of?" one of the young religious spoke of the "grace of presence." "Take time to meet young people. Look one on one at discernment." The suggestion was also made "to be normal." "Young people want to see that you're normal."

On community, Corey said, "Two Viatorians touched my life. The men in community have the same struggles as in any committed relationship."

Frank said, "The oldest member of the house was 85. I grew to love the older guys in ways I never expected. Their lives had meaning. They lived lives of service. There was meaning in their relationships."

Jeff Kertz, from the Society of the Precious Blood, said, "You need to invite young people into meaningful community. Let them see the sense of calm. To see that God still calls them after 30 or 40 years of religious life is inspiring."

The members of Region Five found this dialogue helpful and want to carry the conversation forward with brothers from other cultures.



Please remember in your prayers the following who have died recently: Brother Remigius Bullinger, Brother Liguori Denier, Father Louis Kelcher (EC), Edward Coe, father of Brother Louis Coe (SW), Martin Englert, brother of Brother Francis Englert, Mr. Earl Armstrong, father of Brother Richard Armstrong, Mary Kissane, sister of Brother Isaac Jogues Motz, Mary McGill, sister of Brother Barry Lambour and the grandmother of candidate Robbie Davidson.

Let us remember also those who are ill or recovering from surgery, in particular Brother Donald McIntyre, Brother John May and Brother Leo Kowalski.

Book Review

THIS BLESSED MESS
Finding Hope Amid Life's Chaos
Patricia H. Livingston
Sorin Books, Notre Dame, IN 2000

The late Henri Nowen said of the author, "Pat Livingston gives us eyes for the hidden treasures of our lives."

Often those treasures are found in the most ordinary events of our day, even those we consider chaotic. They too need to be welcomed because, as the dust jacket claims, "the chaos of ordinary life can be just another name for energy and power, untamed and unformed, but not bad. It can be shaped and channeled, tamed and reinterpreted in ways that unleash our creativity."

Through numerous anecdotes and stories arising out of her experience, Livingston assists readers to understand "The Interplay of Chaos and Creation" (Part One) and appreciate "What Helps Us Move to Creation"

(Part Two). Or, more simply put, from theory to practice.

Pat Livingston was for seven years in the late eighties and nineties associate director under Fr. Gene Lauer of the Center for Continuing Formation in Ministry (C.C.F.M) renewal program housed in James Hall at the Holy Cross Brothers Center, Notre Dame, Indiana. She is therefore no stranger to many brothers.

With Pat, the computer cliché fits: what you see is what you get. So her down-to-earth reflections on "this blessed mess" life often seems to be contain credible approaches to accepting and using all circumstances creatively to maintain personal equilibrium and a positive outlook, especially in one's relationship with God. She writes primarily out of her situation as wife and mother, but liberally plumbs her experiences with the renewal program as well.

Logically and discernibly organized, yet beautifully written as well, this easily read volume, Livingston's second, can contribute out of the rich simplicity of its content helpful hints even those somewhat advanced in spiritual development can use to advantage. The mirror image of the vivacious woman Livingston is shines out of the pages of the book and invites readers to use it in a similar way by gazing into their own lives and, with "eyes for the hidden treasures," finding reflections there than encourage our ongoing search for order and creative purpose among the seemingly chaotic elements that challenge and confront us constantly.

Brother Philip Armstrong, C.S.C.

Opportunities for Continuing Formation

Orientations and Transitions

August 4-9, 2002

This is a five-day program experience for priests, female and male religious ages 60-75. Designed to address the expressed needs of many communities and dioceses, components include inter-active conferences on the conscious transitions of aging, retirement, and personal salvation history. A daily schedule encourages time and space for personal prayer, reading, leisure and Eucharist.

12 Day Spiritual Direction Workshop

June 17-28, 2002

This workshop integrates academic with experiential; focus upon the dynamics of spiritualization process. The content and process is for anyone desiring greater knowledge of spiritual direction, whether for one's self or for those who feel called to direct others.

Both programs are offered by the Oblate School of theology, San Antonio, TX. For information, call 210-732-8024 or e-mail: gmaw@concentric.net.

Lilly Foundation

The Lilly Foundation is making available grants between \$250,000 and \$2,000,000 for use over five years for programs that hold the most promise for sustaining excellence in pastoral ministry. The grants are meant to spur and develop programs to help those in full-time pastoral ministry for continuing education, continuing formation, and other programs that help sustain excellence in ministry. If you have ideas, plans, or projects in mind, check the dedicated website for the project as: www.pastoralexcellence.org.

Institute on Sacred Scripture.

A week of inspiring and thought-provoking scripture study at a location of quiet beauty and seclusion for meditation and respite, with many recreational activities on campus and nearby. Presenters include: Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., John R. Donahue, S.J., Dr. Edgar M. Krentz. This institute will be held July 28 to August 2 at College Misericordia, Dallas, PA. For information, contact 570-674-6161 or www.misericordia.edu/adult_ed

Summer at Deer Park

Deer Park is open to all Community members for vacation and private retreats from Memorial Day Weekend to August 10, 2002

Preliminary Listing of Programs

Memorial Day Weekend (May 25)

July 7-11

July 15-18

July 26-28

Camp Opens

Annual Community Retreat
(Fr. Ken Grabner, C.S.C., Director)

**The 12 Keys to Spiritual Vitality:
Living Agelessly**
(Richard Johnson, Presenter)

Social Ministries Workshop