



The NEWSETTE

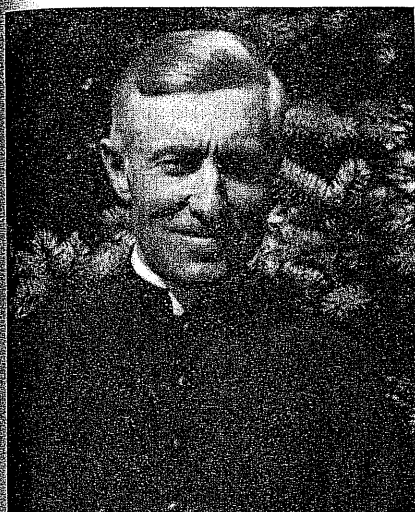
Vol. 11, No. 4

Midwest Province—Notre Dame, Indiana

January, 1959

Five Brothers Mark 25th Anniversaries

On February 2, 1959, five Brothers of the Midwest Province reach their 25th year as professed religious of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The jubilarians are: Brothers Sixtus Perzynski, Joseph Walter Olszowka, Eric Landers, Armand Amman, and Polycarp Newman. The *NEWSSETTE* extends best wishes on this occasion to these Brothers and presents herewith a little introduction of each to our readers.



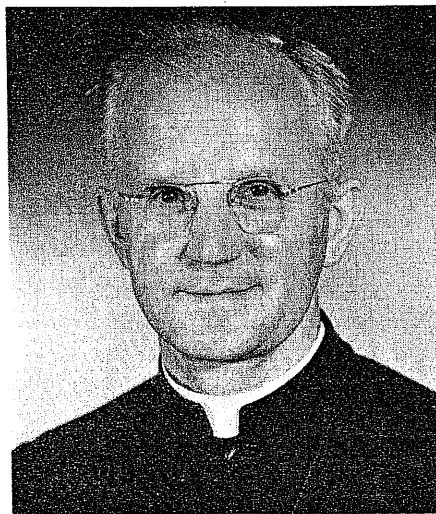
Brother Sixtus Perzynski

Now, as Brother Sixtus approaches the quarter century mark in Holy Cross, a certain grayish tinge is appearing in his blond hair, yet he keeps the perennially youthful look of a man whom hard, outdoor work has kept lean and trim. For all his years in Holy Cross except those as postulant and novice, Brother Sixtus has been doing general farm work—first at Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin, then, respectively, at the juniorate in Valatie, New York, at the novitiate in Indiana, at St. Joseph Farm near Notre Dame, and last, and currently, at the novitiate once more.

Brother Sixtus has gone, and goes, about his work so quietly that one ignorant of work on the land hardly knows what he is up to. Those with the skimpiest knowledge of farming, however, realize how busy the past twenty-five years have been for him.

Like the cook, the farmer too has an inexorable round. Cows have to be milked at certain hours, steady as the sun rises and sets; barns have to be cleaned; stock has to be fed; fields must be plowed, seed sown, land cultivated, crops harvested. In short, there are few "breaks" for the man who farms, and for Brother Sixtus the daily chores have seldom been interrupted.

From Gilman, Minnesota, Brother Sixtus came to Holy Cross as a boy of eighteen. In any house in the Community he has lived since, his quiet, unassuming presence and his ready smile—not to mention his devotion to duty as a religious—have planted only good seed in the memory of his fellows. In short, Brother Sixtus is one of those men it's a joy to have around.



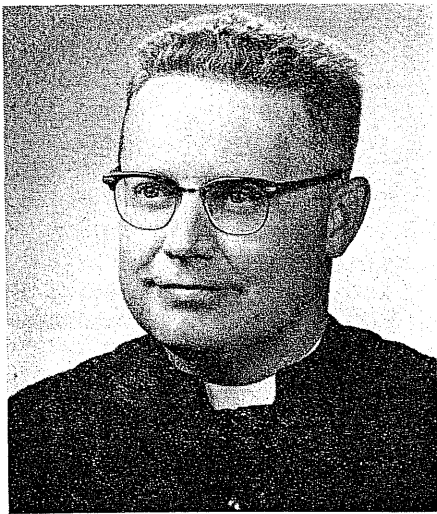
Brother Joseph Walter Olszowka

The photograph of Brother Joseph Walter Olszowka that appears in this issue shows him smiling—and rightly,

since a gentle smile is one of the most characteristic expressions of this silver jubilarian. Nearly twenty years ago Brother Joseph suffered nearly fatal injuries in a car accident in which two other Brothers were killed and another injured, and the composure and bravery with which Brother Joseph endured the months he spent in painful recovering in the hospital are, one likes to think, a reflection of the calm, steady way he looks on life.

Last year Brother Joseph completed a six-year term as Superior and principal at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, and it was a relief for him to go last September to Cathedral High in Indianapolis to resume his role as teacher only. Except for the formation period and the time he spend recuperating, all of Brother Joseph Walter's quarter century in Holy Cross have been spent in various high schools of the Community—New Orleans, Albany, and Chicago—where he has introduced students to the intricacies of business law and practice and taught them skills in many other commercial subjects. With his master's degree in economics, received in 1949 from Notre Dame, he is a "legal eagle" eminently qualified for teaching because he not only knows his subject but has respect and regard for the boys he teaches.

The silver jubilee celebration for Brother Joseph Walter will take place soon at Cathedral High School, where he is Director of Studies as well as a regular teacher, and where with a kind and gentle hand he deals with the sometimes difficult problems that salt the daily round.



Brother Eric Landers

Brother Eric Landers, another of our 25-year men, is a living example of how work with youth keeps a man perennially young. In the classroom he continues to communicate his own enthusiastic drive for mathematics, physics, and other sciences, to class after class of high school boys. Outside school, he is an avid ham radio operator, built much of his own equipment at whatever school he happened to be stationed, and kept, as he still keeps, in close radio contact with Holy Cross missions overseas. An accomplished athlete in nearly all sports, Brother Eric knows how to inspire others to like athletic prowess. No spoil sport by any stretch of the imagination, he has a knack of enlivening unpromising situations with witty sallies that bring good humor back to the scene.

An Indianapolis man and taught in high school by Brothers, Brother Eric received his master's degree in science from Notre Dame, and has taught at Vincentian in Albany, at Reitz Memorial in Evansville, and since 1950, at St. Edward High in Cleveland. He served one term as Superior and principal of the Boys' Department in the Albany school, and served also as assistant Superior for a time at the Cleveland school.

Because he is a faithful and loyal Holy Cross man, Brother Eric gives no quarter to gloom or purposeless anxieties. Cheerful and dependable, he "goes about doing good," continuing the course he began a quarter century ago. The "champagne music" of Lawrence Welk, which he particularly likes, is analogous to his own good spirits, which for twenty-five years now have remained at an irrepressible bubble.

Brother Polycarp Newman

Brother Polycarp Newman, who came to Holy Cross from Winona, Minnesota, is this Province's veteran cook. Except for an eight-year interruption when he worked as a farmer at two of our houses, he has since 1935 been "tied," as it were, to the stove, the sink, and the refrigerator. As any housewife knows, cooking three meals a day for years on end adds up to one of life's most inexorable tasks. Deciding *what* to cook is in itself no small thing, without adding everything that follows—the heterogeneous tastes to be appeased, the short-lived satisfaction the cook might find in a well-prepared dish (which vanishes, after all, almost as fast as snow in a fire), the pots and pans and ladles and scoops to be cleaned up after the cooking is done. Cooking, then, is not an easy job, yet it is one of the most constant. On Sundays, feastdays, or holidays, when other men might be free, the religious who works in the kitchen probably has a little more work to do than usual, puts in a few extra hours, makes special efforts to make the occasion festive.

All these vicissitudes of the kitchen Brother Polycarp has endured with a smile for these many years. He has trained several young Brother cooks—a group that grows smaller every year, it seems—to handle the culinary department in this or that house by themselves. At St. Joseph Novitiate, where Brother Polycarp has been working for the past four years, he continues to exercise both his own talents and those of his apprentices. Needless to point out, Brother Polycarp's devotion to duty grows from his qualities as a good religious of Holy Cross. His good humor in a sometimes trying milieu is as famed as the finished product served from it.

Brother Armand Amman

Brother Armand Amman, current Superior at Father Gibault School for Boys in Terre Haute, Indiana, is another of our silver jubiliarians. Because he went to Gibault as soon as his years of formation were over, that in 1937, and remained there until 1953, it can be said that few besides Brothers assigned to the school knew much about him. Sixteen years is a long time, after all, to be "out of circulation," as it were. Brother Armand spent those years in a variety of tasks, among them farm director, steward, elementary school teacher, prefect of



Brother Armand Amman

the junior department. Occupied in one or the other of these posts, he was at the same time given charge of the school's grounds and orchards; not least, it was his job for these sixteen years to haul coal for the entire institution. Brother Armand would not supply details about this latter task, but one can be certain it was not a sine cure.

In 1953 he was assigned to another home for boys, the Rancho San Antonio, in Chatsworth, California, where his work included much the same kind of thing as at Gibault. When the so-called "obediencies" appeared in 1954 he was directed to continue studies at St. Edward University, in Austin, Texas, and there he remained—on the student's side of the desk—for three years. His reassignment to the Terre Haute school followed in May, 1957, with this onus added, however: he became Superior and Director of the Home, a sprawling and highly active place where wayward boys come for a year or two to be rehabilitated.

Brother Armand speaks of his twenty-one years' work most sparingly, leaving us only to imagine the problems and heartbreaks, and consolations, too, that accompany work with boys who have gone wrong. Silence always accompanies the man of real depth. We wish him another quarter century and more of the great work he has been doing already for so long a time.

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Here and There

Boysville: Reitz Memorial, the Brothers' Evansville school, took on the ball luster it had in the 1930's this year by its capture of the city title. The team's perfect 10-wins record also brought the SIAC title and a claim to the mythical state championship. It was Reitz Memorial's first perfect football season since 1937. The coach, Mr. Gene Logel, is a Memorial graduate class of 1945. . . . Sale of Christmas cards, for benefit Holy Cross missions, netted \$500.

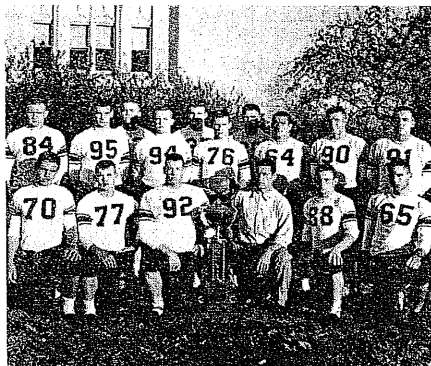
Archbishop Hoban High, a relatively new school in the Province, concluded its best football season thus far by compiling a record of 8 wins and 1 loss, topping all other school teams in the district. . . . Donald Anthony, a junior at Hoban, won a county-wide chess contest and now enters the state-wide competition among finalists in fourteen schools. . . . In the past year with the school's Mothers Club sponsoring a card party, and not to be outdone, the Fathers Club later held one of its own—for the first time. Both well.

While doing vocation work in the area, Father Walter O'Donnell, of the Missionary Servants of the Holy Trinity, lived with the Brothers, who, having no resident chaplain, appreciated attending Mass in their own chapel for a change.

Boysville received recently a sewing machine, a shaper, a lathe, and many hand tools from Mr. and Mrs. John Hillabrand, of Detroit, who made the gift in memory of their son, John, who died some time ago.

Brothers on the faculty at Holy Trinity High played the varsity football squad in a mission-benefit game about a month ago, but lost 49-0. Despite poor weather, a near-capacity crowd contributed nearly \$100 for Holy Cross missions. Spectators were as spirited as the players, and members of Trinity boys served as cheerleaders.

Cathedral High owes continuous gratitude to its Mothers Club, which gives no end of help to the Brothers and the school. Members sponsor dances, make favors and decorations, recently gave new cheerleaders' uniforms, and—along with the Boosters Club—assure that the annual drive for extra funds for the school succeeds. The Mothers Club's recent pro-



The football squad of Reitz Memorial in Evansville display the city championship trophy won this year. Coach Gene Logel is at right of trophy.

Projects included arranging for a new secretarial office and the remodeling of the kitchen in the Brothers' residence. Special thanks go to all, in particular the president, Mrs. Floyd Gigax, and Mr. William J. Ash, president of the Boosters Club.

Gates Mills: The Gilmour Academy Women's Club last fall inaugurated a "Home and School Forum," of which there have been three programs thus far. Open to mothers of Gilmour students, the meetings each feature an authoritative speaker on academic problems, the talk being followed by informal discussion.

Fourteen young men aspiring to become Brothers of Holy Cross entered the juniorate at Sacred Heart Military Academy, Watertown, Wisconsin, during November. They are now undergoing their first introduction to the religious life in Holy Cross, preparatory to possible admittance to the novitiate in mid-January.

Brother James Moroney, a teacher at St. Joseph High School, South Bend, spoke on "Planning the Yearbook" at one of the sectional meetings of the National Catholic Press Congress in Milwaukee a few weeks ago.

Open house at the new Moreau Seminary at Notre Dame was held for the Brothers here on January 1st.

The issue of Boysville's school paper dedicated to the late Cardinal Mooney received plaudits from Detroit's Archdiocesan Superintendent of Schools, from a spokesman of the school's Committee of 100, and from Father John Reedy, editor of *The Ave Maria* magazine.

An 85-foot high water tower, with spheroid tank, will grace the Boysville campus by March. The tank will hold 50,000 gallons and will serve to maintain water pressure for present buildings and those being planned. A new dormitory building is nearly complete.

460 parents answered the roll call for the PTA's open house held recently at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago. They attended 10-minute long classes in subjects taught their sons.

MIDWEST'S IN-SERVICE TRAINING CONTINUES

For the second year Brother Majella Hegarty will continue visiting schools of the Midwest Province to supervise work of beginning teachers and suggest improved techniques, where needed. The program of classroom visitations and consultations with individual teachers to discuss problems has aroused much interest throughout the Province. Especially has it given young teachers in their first year of facing a roomful of boys a real prop to fall back on.

In knowledge of classroom techniques, of practice in the field of education, of teacher training, and much else, Brother Majella has few peers inside or outside Holy Cross schools. Summer after summer he has taught education courses — at Notre Dame, at St. Edward University in Austin, Texas, and the summer past, at Portland University in Oregon. He earned his M.A. in education at Columbia University, New York. The super-charged little book, *Techniques of Teaching*, that he wrote some years ago, currently reprinted by Dujarie Press is now available. It has been the mainstay of dozens of Holy Cross teachers and has been an indispensable handbook for hundreds of educators outside the Community.

The reports Brother Majella draws up after visiting one or another classroom sometimes number more than a dozen single-space typed pages. They include matters such as presentation of the specific subject being taught, techniques of discipline, of motivation, of personality traits that appeal to or jar on students, and a score of others. The reports are just one indication of the thoroughness with which he attacks any job, whether it be teaching philosophy, doing library research, or guiding the tyro who, with quaking knees, takes his first step into the classroom.

+ Requiesscant in Pace +

- Rev. Elias H. Vanier, C.S.C.
- Rev. Victor F. Dean, C.S.C.
- Brother Peter Hozinski, C.S.C.
- Sister Miriam Rose Ryan, C.S.C.

Board of Advisors Formed

Last month the first Board of Advisors for Gilmour Academy, in Gates Mills, Ohio, was formed by a group of prominent laymen. President of the Board is Mr. Roger P. Brennan, a Cleveland attorney. Other members are: Mr. William R. Daley, president of Otis and Company, Cleveland; Mr. James P. Fordyce, chairman of the board of New York's The Manhattan Life Insurance Company; Mr. James T. Griffin, area manager of Sears Roebuck and Company, Cleveland; Charles C. Higgins, M.D., head of the Department of Urology at Cleveland Clinic; Mrs. R. Livingston Ireland, of Shaker Heights, Ohio; Mr. James R. McArdle, an attorney in Pittsburgh; Mr. John P. Murphy, president of the Higbee Company, Cleveland; Mr. Paul L. Mullaney, of Mullaney Wells & Co., Chicago; and Mr. J. W. Shocknessy, attorney, of Shocknessy, Summers, and Denton, of Columbus, Ohio. Ex-officio members of the Board are Brother Alfonso Comeau, headmaster of Gilmour Academy, and Brother Kieran Ryan, Midwest Province treasurer and steward.

Announcement

The Chicago Auxiliary of the Brothers of Holy Cross will have its annual social on Sunday, January 18, at Marillac House. The party begins at 3:00 P.M. All members and their families are invited to attend. There will be card games, bunco, and a buffet supper.

Arrangements for this annual social are being handled by Mrs. Robert Schenk.

Second of Vocation Workshops Held

Fifteen Brothers from various schools in the Midwest Province met on December 21 at Dujarie Hall, Notre Dame, for the second of this year's Vocation Workshops. Purpose of the meeting was to evaluate vocation programs in all schools of the Province and to lay plans to interest more young men in becoming priests or religious.

Reports by members of the Workshop showed that vocation-mindedness has grown in every school where a program was inaugurated to stimulate interest. From a half dozen to a dozen boys in each school have expressed interest in the Brotherhood — an interest that must be fostered by the vocation recruiters.

Contrary to the notion that parents hesitate or refuse to allow their children to enter the religious life, it was disclosed at the Workshop that most parents are honored when their sons show a leaning for the priesthood or religious life and are only too eager to do what they can to help their sons give their lives to God.

Another finding at the meeting came from a report which stated that many Catholic boys in public schools would readily embrace the Brothers' life, could they but learn something about it. It was mentioned that Catholic teachers in public schools might be contacted regarding this matter.

Say three Hail Marys a day for Vocations.

Benefactors

Mrs. Wm. E. Wickham, Indianapolis, Indiana; John B. Simon, Pewamo, Michigan; Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Walsh, Portland, Maine; Mrs. Frances Dudek, Harvey, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Niemietz, Old Forge, Pa.; Mr. Hilaire Ellett, Attleboro, Mass.; Mrs. Martha A. Romanak, DuBois, Pa.; Zulma DeVehiger, Mishawaka, Ind.; Mrs. S. Giebuszewski, Chicago, Ill.; Helen L. Agras, Yonkers, N. Y.; Mrs. Sadie Johnston, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. A. Carey, Randolph, N. Y.; W. B. Quinn, Randolph, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. H. Lussier, Cohoes, N. Y.; Mrs. J. Rabidoux, Bay City, Mich.; Mrs. Martha Davis, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Olivia Winiger, Evansville, Ind.; Mrs. Louis Knue, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. I. Grzeskowiak, Cicero, Ill.; Most Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons, D.D., Mater Christi Seminary, Albany, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. John Gluhm, Hamilton, Ohio; Mrs. Leo Lee Forge, Bay City, Mich.; Mrs. Walter Gates, Wayne, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cole, Manchester, N. H.; Mrs. Pauline Carberry, Fort Dodge, Iowa; Armand C. Paulsen, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Flora Lavalle, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cheston, Detroit, Mich.; Stanley Ptaszek, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Stella Proskorec, Omaha, Nebr.; Mrs. Anthony Sochacki, Detroit, Mich.; Ed. A. McGannon family, Muenster, Texas; Mr. Jos. Owen, Mimico, Ont., Canada; Mrs. R. J. Schubmehl, South Bend, Ind.; M. Ruplinger, Milwaukee, Wis.; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sullivan, Chicago, Ill.; Edward Salzman, Newburgh, Indiana; D. M. Costello, Peoria, Ill.

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Brother Lawrence Miller, C.S.C.
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