



# The NEWSETTE

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Midwest Province—Notre Dame, Indiana

December, 1963

## NINETEEN IN PROVINCE EARN DEGREES

With the close of summer classes in August, three province members completed graduate studies and received the master's degree from the University of Notre Dame. Two others received degrees at other universities.

There are: Brothers Walter Davenport, James Everett, and George Koutch at University of Notre Dame, and Brothers Joseph Berg at Marquette and John Dobrogowski at John Carroll.

Granted the undergraduate degree by Notre Dame were Brothers John May, David Baltrinic, Arthur LeBon, Edward Gibbers, George Klawitter, Paul Ditter and Thomas Cunningham.

Undergraduate degrees earned at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, went to Brothers Donald Stabrow, Joseph Fellman, Michael Hauser, Charles Smith, Paul Clark, Paul Nolini.

Brother Philip Alessandro received the BA degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee.

## BROTHER COMES FROM PAKISTAN HOMELAND TO STUDY AT NOTRE DAME

Brother John Rozario, arrived at Pujarie Hall to pursue graduate studies in physics at the University of Notre Dame, beginning this fall.

A scholarship offered by Notre Dame to the Dacca Vicariate of the Holy Cross brought Brother John to the United States on what his first time away from his own country.

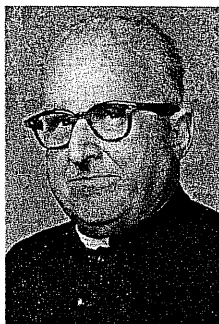
While a student at the Brothers' high school in Bandura, he left to enter the novitiate of the Congregation in Noakali, East Pakistan, then made his vows as a Brother of Holy Cross in 1954. After completing high school studies, he attended Notre Dame College in Dacca and then went to teach at the



Brother John Rozario,  
C.S.C.

## BROTHER GODFREY HAS GOLDEN JUBILEE

At Oregon's University of Portland, where he has been teaching for nearly thirty-five years, Brother Godfrey Vassallo, a Midwest province member, celebrates his fiftieth anniversary as a Holy Cross Religious on December 8.



Brother Godfrey  
Vassallo, C.S.C.

The university will honor him at a Solemn Mass and banquet, with Father Charles F. Hamel in charge of arrangements. Brother Godfrey has been at the university, which Holy Cross Fathers

Bandura school. He resumed his studies at the University of Dacca and completed the bachelor of science honors course last year.

Prior to Brother John's leaving for the United States, a bon voyage get-together of the Holy Cross Fathers and Brothers in Dacca was held at St. Gregory High School, with Bishop Theotonius Ganguly, C.S.C., also attending. Present also were the young Holy Cross Brothers, native to Pakistan, who are studying presently at Notre Dame College, a school conducted by the Holy Cross Fathers in Dacca.

In the Dacca Vicariate there are three Pakistani men who are perpetually professed Brothers of Holy Cross: Brother Patrick Ruram, electrical engineer at St. Joseph's School for Trades in Dacca; the above-mentioned Brother John Rozario; and Brother Daniel Rozario, who does accounting and clerical work at St. Joseph's English Medium School.

Three Pakistan-born Brothers are now studying at Notre Dame College in Dacca, preparing for teaching careers, and there are three other young men from Pakistan in juniorate training.

Brother John Rozario's introduction to Holy Cross came during his grade-school years at St. Nicholas Institution in Nagari, particularly through the good work and solicitude of Brother Andrew Steffes, a veteran missionary in the Dacca Vicariate.

conduct, since 1929 and is presently head of the physics department.

Now seventy years old, he was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, entered the Congregation when he was eighteen, studied at Notre Dame and earned his bachelor degrees there, then taught in Brothers' schools in New Orleans and Indianapolis until the assignment to Portland.

How deeply he is regarded at the university is evident in the following observation, slightly adapted, of Father Hamel:

Brother Godfrey is known affectionately to Community, faculty members, and old and present students as "B.G." He has occupied the same room on the third floor of Christie Hall, where most of the Priests and Brothers at the university live, for close to thirty-five years. The only sign on his door is: B.G.

He rises without use of any alarm clock and serves the 5:30 Mass of Father Goodall, who must rise early. He retires promptly at 10:00 in the evening, which is usually the first time he has returned to his room since he left early in the morning. He practically lives in his office in the Engineering Building. He's never late for or absent from a Community exercise.

A much-sought-after speaker, particularly on physical science, radiation, and atomic matters, Brother salts both speeches and his class lectures with bits of his infectious humor. Well remembered is his remark to a group of learned scientists he was addressing: "Gentlemen, I'm here tonight to speak to you, and you're here to listen. If any of you get through before I do, just raise your hand and I'll stop."

He has spoken often to groups of doctors and at hospitals on isotope therapy, a specialty of his, and he is a voluntary, \$1-a-year government employee in charge of setting up and maintaining stations to measure fallout in the Northwest.

He has many friends, including his students past and present. He said once that he doubts he's ever made an enemy in class. "I've never made a serious correction so as to embarrass a

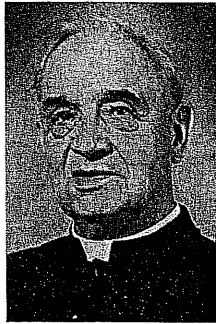
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## ELDEST PROVINCE MEMBER DIES AT AGE 82

Brother Bernard Gervais, a pioneer and veteran religious of the Congregation, died suddenly on October 19 while visiting relatives in Spokane, Washington.

He served for twenty-four years in the general administration of the Congregation of Holy Cross — from 1926 to 1938 as an assistant general, and from 1938 to 1950 as general steward and treasurer.

Brother Bernard was born January 12, 1881, in Momence, Illinois, and entered the Community in 1897 at Notre Dame, where he made his novitiate and made his perpetual vows in 1906.



Brother Bernard Gervais, C.S.C.

He taught in various schools until 1935, including terms as first superior at the juniorate in Watertown (1912) and as superior at Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, from 1925 to 1931 and again in the 1934-35 school year.

The next twenty-four years he spent as an officer of the general administration, a position in which he had a most important role in the development of the Congregation and particularly of the Brothers' Society. From 1950 until the time of his death he lived at Dumarie Hall, Notre Dame, where he looked after province statistical records.

Even in old age Brother Bernard had remarkable health. Almost every day, weather permitting, he would either take a long walk or do some weeding or hoeing. A most affable and genial man throughout life, he had a word of cheer or inquiry for nearly every priest or Brother he met, and he had a knack for making the person he

spoke to feel he was profoundly interested — and he always was.

As a personal hobby Brother Bernard many years ago began tracing his family ancestry, and this resulted finally in a 221-page book, packed with print, detailing the Gervais family forebears for the past four hundred years.

Among surviving relatives is Brother Benedict Gervais, the deceased's younger brother, who has been a Holy Cross Brother since his novitiate forty-nine years ago. Brother Benedict teaches physics at St. Joseph's High School, South Bend.

A striking fact about Brother Bernard is that when he entered Holy Cross back in 1896, he saw and met in person Brother Francis Xavier Patois, the last survivor of the band of six Brothers who came to the United States with Father Edward Sorin from France in 1841 to make the first foundation of the Community in this country.

## BROTHER MAXIMUS DIES AT AGE 82

On the Feast of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin, October 11, the beloved Brother Maximus Czyzewski died peacefully at Notre Dame.



Brother Maximus Czyzewski, C.S.C.

He was a professed Brother for 64 years and spent 54 of those years at a single school — Holy Trinity High in Chicago. During his lifetime he taught hundreds of boys, for all of whom he was a shining exemplar of Christian manhood.

His main teaching subjects were Latin and religion, and until a decade ago, the Polish language. As a religious and teacher, he was extraordinarily faithful to duty. He was loved and admired universally in the Congregation. Even in his old age he kept constantly on the alert to improve himself intellectually, not to mention spiritually. Indeed he was a holy, good man.

When Brother Maximus celebrated his golden jubilee in 1958, the then Superior General wrote of him in part as follows:

"I know Brother Maximus personally, have known him for a long time, and I hear nothing but praises of him ever since I entered the Congregation. . . . He has spent every moment of his life, even his better self, in the instruction of youth . . . with sure knowledge

and methods always perfected by experience, above all from his truly religious and apostolic heart, without ever diminishing his ever-renewed enthusiasm. He certainly is the spiritual son of the late and lamented Father Casimir Sztuczko, that holy priest, the memory of whom is imperishable; he is the worthy descendant of that martyred Poland that holds an envied place among nations devoted to the glory of Christ and of His Church."

Brother Maximus was born March 6, 1881, in Talkuny, Lithuania. When he was sixteen, he came to the United States to enter the Brothers of Holy Cross at Notre Dame. In 1899 he took his first vows, then went to teach first in South Bend and then in Fort Wayne. In 1907 he was assigned to teach in the grammar school at Holy Trinity Parish, Chicago. There, three years later, he helped establish the high school, and there he taught and lived for the next fifty-one years, with interruptions only during various summers when he studied at Notre Dame. At Holy Trinity he served two terms as principal, 1917-20 and 1928-34. He retired to the Brothers' House at Notre Dame in 1961, but even then he insisted on doing light chores.

Those last years of his at Columba Hall, Notre Dame, edified everyone else in the house. How touching it was, for example, to see this lean, quiet man of eighty years pushing a dust mop up and down a long corridor, or to see him — very shortly after breakfast — wiping and dusting and filling sugar

bowls in the refectory.

When Brother Maximus entered the Congregation, he had been in this country only a few months, knew little English, and of his large immediate family had left them all except for a younger brother and a sister who had come from Lithuania with him. By hard work he learned the language as he went along and soon was versed in it. With his nephew Francis, who lives in South Bend, he wrote in 1927 a long history of the Polish-American settlement in South Bend for the golden jubilee of St. Hedwig Church of that city. During his earlier years as teacher he took late afternoon and evening courses at Loyola and De Paul universities and spent many summer sessions at Notre Dame.

For many years in the Community one could hardly mention Brother Maximus without also recalling Brother Victor Czerwinski, for both these men were not only the best of friends but seemed to be permanent fixtures at Holy Trinity High.

At Brother Victor's death a few years ago, everyone was deeply concerned how the loss would affect Brother Maximus, yet he stayed on at Holy Trinity High as before, doing every bit of work he possibly could, always friendly and kind, and giving no evidence of the blow the loss of a lifetime friend and companion must have been.

Of Brother Maximus even those who knew him only slightly — and who does really know such a person — can only say: What a dear old man!

We'll miss him.



## Well-Known Brother Lambert Buried On All Souls' Day At Notre Dame

Brother Lambert Barbier died in his sleep during the early morning hours of October 30 at Dujarie Hall, Notre Dame, where he lived. Cause of death was a heart attack. He was seventy-two years of age.

He was as popular as he was portly, and he will be sorely missed by hundreds of people who benefited from his visits and kindly concern for their welfare.

A close friend of the late Father James Donahue, former Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Brother Lambert served as general steward and treasurer for the Community from 1932 to 1938 and accompanied Father Donahue on many business trips.

Brother Lambert was born July 5, 1891, in Avon, Ohio. He entered the Brothers of Holy Cross in 1916 and made his perpetual vows in 1922. He spent forty-six years of his life as a Brother of Holy Cross.

Shortly after his novitiate he was assigned to Columba Hall to do various jobs including that of assistant to the University Steward. In 1920 he returned to the Novitiate as assistant Master of Novices, which position he held under Father Donahue and Father Collentine. He was also assigned to Sacred Heart Juniorate, Watertown, Wis., where he stayed for sixteen years, whereupon he went to St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, as steward

and maintenance supervisor. After his service with the general administration and another assignment as steward to the Watertown house from 1952 to 1958, he took up residence at Dujarie Hall, where again he handled the steward's duties and did many chores for the cooks.

Throughout his religious life Brother Lambert pursued a kind of one-man apostolate among the poor as well as among the aged or infirm persons confined indoors most of the time. During the Depression when he was at Austin, he would gather whatever food he could at the university and distribute it among the colored families in the city. One group even wanted to name a Baptist church after him, but Brother Lambert persuaded them to give up the idea; still, out of gratitude the group named the church after the university, calling it "St. Edward's Baptist Church."

A friend who knew Brother Lambert well during his assignments at Watertown said of him when he left the city to come back to Notre Dame: "To have known Brother Lambert was to esteem and admire him and to desire and cherish his friendship. All of his friends over the years have admired his kindness and thoughtfulness which he has manifested on so many occasions. He has accomplished much, but we need not speak of his deeds. . . . He leaves this city as a man who has only friends and no enemies."

In Holy Cross, too, its members no longer see that unmistakable figure of Brother Lambert progressing hither and yon by car or by foot; it can be said also: he leaves as a man who has only friends and no enemies.

## THE HOLY CROSS MAN'S "WAY OF DEATH"

Two recent books examine American funeral and burial customs, finding much to condemn.

What happens at the death of a Holy Cross Father or Brother? Brother Thomas Sawyer, a student at Notre Dame, described recently a typical funeral in the Congregation, as follows:

The first news of a death in the Community is usually the tolling of the big bell at Sacred Heart Church on the Notre Dame campus.

"No matter how many times you hear the slow steady beats," the young Brother Thomas wrote, "it still makes our insides tie up in a knot. But you know someone in the family has died, and it's prayer for the soul's entry into

and that he should live only to prepare for the next life.

The wake for the deceased continues from the time of death until burial. There are always two Community members watching at the body and praying for the soul. Younger religious, seminarians or Brothers, take the night watches.

In the parlor, or chapel in the case of a priest, everything reflects the poverty and simplicity of the religious life. The body, dressed in the habit (and Mass vestments, if a priest), with a rosary in the hands, lies in a black cloth-covered wooden coffin with white interior. Behind the coffin are six tall candles flanking a crucifix at center. Prie-dieus are set nearby.

The funeral Mass is held in Sacred Heart Church. For a priest's funeral, the seminarians sing; for a Brother's, the student Brothers sing. The body of the deceased is accompanied up the main aisle by the celebrant and his assistants, while the choir sings the *Miserere* and the *Sub Venite*. A Solemn High Mass follows. Afterwards the Community gathers about the coffin for the final absolutions as the choir sings the *Libera Me*, whereupon all form ranks to accompany the body to the cemetery.

From church to cemetery is about a half-mile, past various campus buildings and through a small woods. All march along silently, the only sound a shuffling of steps. Soon the coffin rests above the open grave, with the religious and lay people related to the deceased standing in a circle around it. The celebrant blesses and incenses the deceased for the last time and then says the final prayers. The choir concludes the service with *In Paradisum*.

### GOLDEN JUBILEE

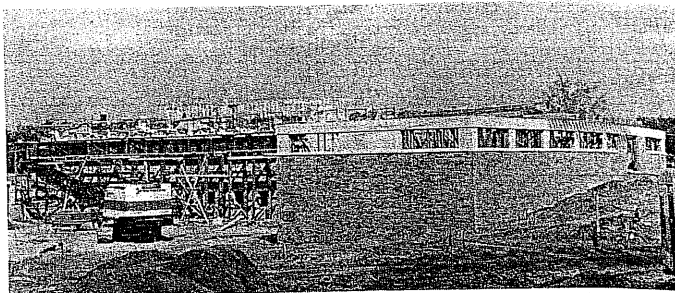
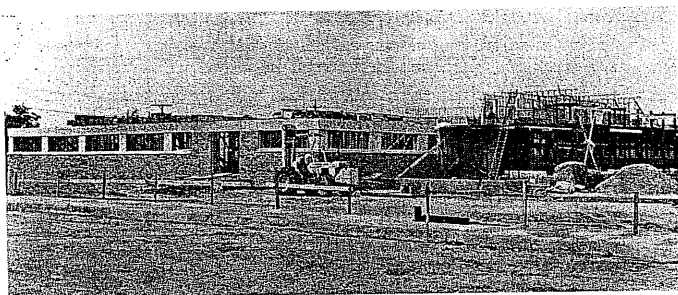
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student in class," he once pointed out. "I always make necessary and serious corrections in private and in my office."

Despite many hobbies and much time given to helping others, he still finds the means to do some favor when asked by student, religious, or lay faculty member. No one spends a longer day on the job.

And no one who has had Brother Godfrey for a teacher will ever forget him. His enthusiasm for any subject he teaches, and his interest in and love for his students are obvious and beget enthusiasm and loyalty in return.

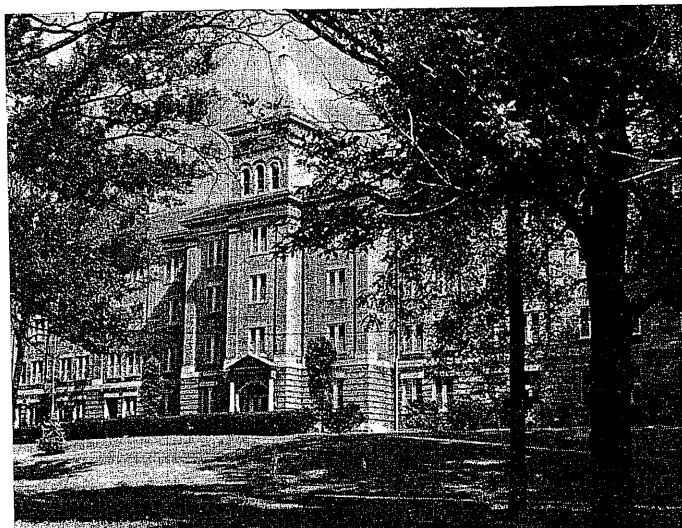
In a world of turmoil, in a world where youth is in a state of revolution for intellectual freedom and often license, Brother Godfrey can say, as he did to me recently, "I love teaching. I can't think of a field where one can be so at peace with God and his fellow-men."



Photos by Bro. Martinus, C.S.C.

**PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS CONSTRUCTION TAKES BIG STEP FORWARD**—Construction of the Provincial Office and residence at Notre Dame has moved along at a rapid pace during the past month. If you will compare these pictures, taken by Brother Martinus Bombardier, C.S.C., with those in previous issues of the

**NEWSETTE**, all of them taken about a month apart, you will observe that above-ground-level progress has been more rapid. It is anticipated that the entire building will be under roof shortly. Observe that roof section on office wing is getting started as this picture was taken. Grounds improvements are also under way.



**COLUMBA HALL AT NOTRE DAME HAS A NEW LOOK**—Columba Hall, monastery-like and old residence for Brothers who work and teach at Notre Dame and St. Joseph High School, has a new look. This new look results from the installation of 317 combination screen and storm windows—three-track anodized aluminum. The storm-window feature especially is intended to help keep the building warm during the winter months. Work on this project to keep leaky windows tight and the building warm was completed just as the October record-breaking heat wave set in! The bill was paid by the Association of St. Joseph.

### DURABLE IN INEXORABLE ROUND

For thirty years Brother Polycarp Newman has served Holy Cross in the kitchen of this or that house, preparing the meals, canning, cooking up batches of jam or jelly to cover the winter's bread. And speaking of bread — his loaves taste as good as they look.

Brother came to the Community in 1933, and a year after his profession began the succession of assignments as cook that continues to this day. Presently he "commands the range" at Dujarie Hall, the Brothers' house of studies at Notre Dame. Under his hands meals appear which are substantial, delightfully unpredictable and thus of no monotony.

During those bits and pieces of the day a Brother cook hardly manages to snatch away from the pots and pans, Brother Polycarp spends some of the time, sometimes, at his main hobby — fishing. Magic tricks are another of his sidelines, and the two-hour-long magician's show he delights to put on has suspense along with humor. His staging and presentation have the "old pro" touch.

Though he's been around a long time, he is little known outside the Community houses in which he's worked simply because he has no element of the gadabout. Unassuming and quiet, he gets along with his job and attends to his prayers, having no yen to be noticed, praised, or "off the job."

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