

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

February 14, 2024

Our Poets, Past and Present

Ash Wednesday

Well, that wasn't so bad—a powder thumbprint
on my skin to remind me somehow that
I'm a sinner or some such verbal sense.
I'm engaged to life, take it as it is.

The music drops for Lent to somber rumbling,
lots of sad stuff, minor chords, no fat
flourishes or trills. We brood on penance,
the priest reminding us how evil fits us.

You're part of this—you're just another worm
that has to be squashed into submissive yeses.
I squirm to fit my part into this whole.

But I don't really mind my church's storm—
as long as I anticipate its guesses
when it fuses gracious love into my soul.



—**Brother George Klawitter, CSC**



Khadija and her sister – both ND Cooks



Khadija and Columba Hall Head Cook

Columba Hall (Notre Dame) Cook, Khadija, Retires

Members from Columba Hall and ND's South Dining Hall celebrated two goodbye retirement parties at the end of January and the beginning of February here in Columba Hall..

Pictures from the parties





Brother Columba O'Neill, C.S.C.

Servant of God

Website

<https://brothercolumba.com/>



Brother Philip Smith, C.S.C.
Postulator of the cause for Brother Columba

Click
Link

Acrylic Art of Brother Raymond Papenfuss, C.S.C.





Bible Bites by Brother Robert Mosher, C.S.C.

Lent

For 2024 Lent begins February 14, the Christian traditional annual period of prayer, penance, and almsgiving.

Although there is no specific scripture references related to the observance of Lent, a number of Christians consider the Gospel accounts of Jesus' experience in the desert after his baptism and before beginning his public ministry as biblically connected with Lent: Jesus being prompted by the Holy Spirit and tempted by Satan (Mark 1:12-13) and his fasting forty days (Matthew 4:2), and, of course, the more detailed version of Jesus' entire ordeal (Luke 4:1-13).

The Ash Wednesday ritual – signing of foreheads, with which Catholics begin Lent, however, directly quotes Genesis 3:19: “For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”



Columba Hall Chapel Refreshed

On your next visit to Columba Hall, go to the third floor and see our newly painted chapel.



Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Kindness and Joy

Sometimes our days flow one into another taken up with routines that eventually become automatic. There seems to be no time to really appreciate what is truly happening. God has given us so much for which to be thankful.

It might take a celebration like Thanksgiving to draw us in to feeling thankfulness and joy. God has not created us to be in a constant state of anxiety. When we see the pure joy of a young child playing, when we experience the high emotion a dog has when it greets us at the door, we get an inkling of what God wants for us all.

There are many situations in our lives and in the world that we need to be concerned about. They might lead to some action on our part like caring for another or for the communities to which we belong. As good Christians we know that in the end “all will be well” either before the grave or on the other side. How sad it is to see Christians reveling in life’s difficulties with having no access to the good news that Jesus was sent to give us. “They will know we are Christians by our love.” The results of this kind of love will lead to gratefulness and joy. Pope Francis speaks of this love of Christ in his first letter to the Church: “The Joy of the Gospel.”

- Share some times when you have experienced thankfulness and joy.
- What brings joy to your heart now?
- Does experiencing God’s love for you have an effect on your gratefulness and joy?

O God, help me experience thankfulness and joy as a sign of your love.

Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.



For more reflections to grow spiritually
please visit our new blog
<https://weeklyspiritualinsights.org/>



Reflection sent in by Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



Only when we give joyfully,
Without hesitation or thought of gain,
Can we truly know what love means.

Leo Biscaglia



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