

BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross

June, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Friend of Holy Cross,

I am humbled and inspired – again!

Each year we celebrate the anniversaries of profession of our brothers. Each year the brothers we celebrate are impressive examples of men who have served Holy Cross and the Church so generously. Each year I am both humbled and inspired.

First let me tell you why I am inspired. I am inspired because I know these religious and they help me to see what I can still do. As it says in our constitutions, ***“The footsteps of those men who called us to walk in their company left deep prints, as of men carrying heavy burdens. But they did not trudge; they strode. For they had the hope.”*** (Constitution 122)

The lives of these exemplary men of hope give me hope. They are my teachers, my mentors, my examples and my inspiration. As I have observed how they stride as men of hope, with charity and hope in their lives, I get a real sense of how far Providence has brought them. With a relationship with God framed by their vows of celibacy, poverty and obedience and strengthened by prayer, I am humbled by their faithfulness to a life we are all still

learning to live with integrity.

Please join me in honoring these religious brothers whose lives have touched so many. As you read about their lives, be inspired with me and join me in thanking God for their 560 years of bringing the Kingdom of God to this world. They have been a part of God’s work across the United States and in Africa. They have been involved in teaching, farming, maintenance, administration, counseling, parish ministry, music, childcare, social work, retreats and more. They have been busy about imitating Jesus’ ministries of teaching and compassion. They are our brothers, and we have been blessed by their presence among us.



Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brother Ken Haders, CSC". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Brother Ken Haders, CSC
Provincial

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Celebrating jubilees and renewal of vows in June



“We should renew our vows with gratitude. What do the promises we renew recall to us? They recall our vocation to religious life and, consequently, all the graces that preceded it, accompany it, and will follow it.”

*—Blessed Basil Moreau
Essential Writings
Sermons*

A Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of the University of Notre Dame will celebrate the jubilee anniversaries for 10 Brothers of Holy Cross on Saturday, June 15, at 10:30 a.m. Immediately following the Mass there will be a jubilee banquet at Corbett Family Hall for invited guests.

Included in these 10 jubilarians are three celebrating 70 years of profession, six marking 60 years of profession and one celebrating his 50th year of profession.

The ministries of the jubilarians have been varied, interesting and enriching. Their diversity of service has been as teachers, social workers, farmers, administrators, maintenance directors, accountants, spiritual directors, formation personnel and vocation directors.

Likewise they have served in various locations such as Illinois, Indiana, New York, Texas, Kentucky, Ohio, California, Michigan, Liberia and Ghana.

The Rev. John Blazek, a member of the United States Province, will be the celebrant and homilist. Brother Ken Haders, provincial, will accept the brothers' renewal of vows. Brother Daniel Kane is the program director of music, with Mrs. Barb Ziliak as director of music and the choir and Mr. Andrew McShane as the organist. Brother Joseph Fox, of Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame, Ind., is coordinating the event.

Brother John Crowe of the Moreau Province, celebrating 60 years, will join in with the Midwest Province celebrations. He serves as chief executive officer of Rancho San Antonio, Chatsworth, Calif.

For more information on the

Brothers of Holy Cross

visit our website at:

www.brothersofholycross.com

The Brothers newsletter is a publication of the Development Office of the Midwest Province. For questions regarding the newsletter, address changes or other matters related to the development office please contact:

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Brother John Kuhn, CSC

One of three children born to John and Clara Kuhn, John was born in Evansville, Ind., on Feb. 11, 1930. While attending Reitz Memorial High School he was impressed by the work of the brothers, especially Brother Benedictus Secoy and Brother Leonardo Bebetu. He noticed how active they were in many of the school activities, and he was given the opportunity to work with them on some of the school projects. He remembers them for their generous enthusiasm and cheerfulness in their work.



After graduating from high school in June 1948, he entered the juniorate program of the Brothers of Holy Cross at Watertown, Wis. At the age of 19, he pronounced his vows as a brother on Aug. 16, 1949, at St. Joseph Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Ind. In 1952, Brother John graduated with a B.A. in education from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Later, in 1962, he received his master's degree in educational administration from the University of Notre Dame. In addition, in subsequent years, he earned two more master's degrees to supplement his professional years as an educator.

"I loved teaching world history and senior English," Brother John said. I was inspired to become a teacher by the other brothers around me. They were great to work with. They were excellent teachers and very intelligent. I also liked playing the piano in a number of programs both in and out of school; it gave me a real love of music. Overall, I am very blessed in these past 70 years by being surrounded by a group of very generous and great brothers."

Brother Richard Huber, CSC

Richard was born to Edward and Mary Huber on July 13, 1929, in Marion, Ohio. He was one of six boys; four went into the armed services after Pearl Harbor, while at 18 Richard entered the Brothers of Holy Cross and his twin brother William went into the seminary. After the

brothers had left home his sister Mary was born. "She had the whole place to herself!" Brother Richard said jokingly. Richard had looked at several different orders but he said that Brother Eymard Salzman had the best sales pitch, so he joined the Brothers of Holy Cross!

From the first, Brother Richard wanted to be a farmer. The brothers had 10 farms at that time in history. From 1949 until 1992 Brother Richard worked at farms in the Midwest Province. After a serious fall at St. Joe Farm in 1992, Brother Richard was forced to change his plan of work. He moved to the Brothers Center at Notre Dame and has worked at the Brothers Center and Columba



Hall until the present. Brother Richard has made it his mission to make single-decade rosaries for the wrist to be given to the poor and the elderly. For more than 20 years he would pray the rosary at the Notre Dame grotto, but, more recently, health problems have kept him closer to Columba Hall.

He feels very blessed and enthusiastically recounts his work at Silver Lake Farm in Rolling Prairie, Ind., and St. Joe Farm in Granger, Ind. "The farm was like a second novitiate that kept a strict adherence to religious life: work eight hours, sleep eight hours, and prayer, real prayer with a large community of brothers. It was wonderful."

Brother Robert Mosher, CSC

Robert was born in Evanston, Ill., on Jan. 21, 1928. He was one of four children born to Timothy and Katherine Mosher. In grade school he remembers Brother Theophane Schmitt speaking to his eighth grade class about a teaching community of brothers and their devotion to St. Joseph. Robert was interested and has had a lifelong devotion to St. Joseph. After



Brother Robert Mosher continued from page 3

attending Sacred Heart Juniorate for his high school years, he was received as a novice into the Brothers of Holy Cross.

Later, he earned a bachelor's degree from St. John's University in New York, a master's degree in English from St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn., and a master's in humanities from the University of Dallas. Brother Robert has been a teacher in Catholic schools for 60 years. He is the recipient of teaching awards

from the Catholic Diocese of Dallas and the Catholic Foundation of Dallas and, for his enduring commitment to Catholic education, a Letter of Commendation from the National Catholic Education Association.

Since Vatican II, Brother Robert has been energized to "think outside the box and to act outside the box. It is great that we have gone back to our founder, Father Moreau, to reflect on our active lifestyle coupled with contemplative prayer. Today's theology has been an opening experience of God's love."

60-year Jubilarians

Brother Vincent Gross, CSC

For the past 43 years Brother Vincent Gross has been a missionary to Liberia and Ghana. Vincent was born in Conklin, Mich., on May 18, 1939, to Carl and Catherine Gross. Vincent attended Conklin grade school and Coopersville High School. He worked for Lays Farm Equipment Company in Conklin until he entered the juniorate in Watertown, Wis., on Nov. 20, 1957. He made first vows at St. Joseph Novitiate, Rolling Prairie, Ind., on Jan. 26, 1959.



The rule at the time required a brother to spend a year in a house of formation before going out on assignment. Brother Vincent spent his year at Dujarie Scholasticate, Notre Dame, Ind., before being assigned for the next three years to Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio. At Hoban, Brother Vincent helped teach welding and was the maintenance man for the school.

Brother Vincent's first attempt to be a missionary was cut short by a civil war in Monrovia, Liberia, where St. Patrick's School was located. After three years Brother Vincent came back to the States and was assigned from 1965 to 1968 to do maintenance at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Ill.

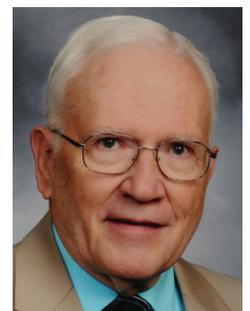
For the past 41 years Brother Vincent has been a missionary in Ghana, West Africa. For 21 years (1968-

1989) he was on the staff of St. John's Secondary School in Sekondi, Ghana. He served as the community director of St. John's from 1981 to 1989. From 1986 to 1989 he was steward of the District of West Africa. Brother Vincent was on sick leave from 1989 to 1990 at the Holy Cross Brothers Center at Notre Dame. Upon returning to Ghana, he served for a year as community director and staff member of the Holy Cross District Center in Cape Coast.

From 1991 to 1999 he was Institutional Director at the Center for Continuing Formation in Cape Coast. Since 1999 Brother Vincent has served as community director at the Holy Cross District Center in Cape Coast.

Brother Kenneth Kane, CSC

Kenneth was born in 1940, just a year before the start of America's involvement in World War II and remembers, even as a toddler, the family household "dropping from seven to four when the older boys enlisted." Attending St. Clement School and St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, he felt sustained by family within the Catholic community.



Active in music and publications at St. Edward, he was also attracted to the sciences. He entered Notre Dame as a chemistry major following

first vows in 1959. He then taught such subjects as mathematics, music, dramatics, chemistry and physics at various schools, including Archbishop Hoban High School, Monroe Catholic Central High School, St. Edward High School and Gilmour Academy. He has served as community director at St. Edward and at Gilmour.

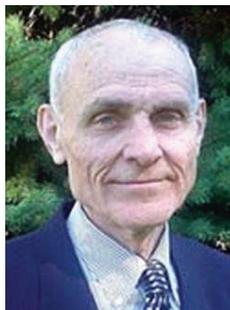
A sabbatical opportunity in 1983-84 brought Brother Ken into contact with Matt Fox in Oakland, Calif., to study creation-centered spirituality. Describing himself as a “two-humped camel” with strong career interests in both the performing arts and the physical sciences, Brother Ken served as chair of the fine arts department at St. Ed’s and later as chair of the science department at Gilmour.

Brother Ken now serves Gilmour in instructional support, assisting with faculty and with archives, coordinating senior projects, and moderating the amateur radio club at the school. “I feel a lot of compassion for high school students,” Brother Ken said, “because I sense the many challenges they face as they grow.”

During his lifetime, Brother Ken has been most affected by servant leadership in all the ways it has been modeled by others. “I am most keenly grateful for the support and example of my family and my colleagues throughout these years.”

Brother Paul Kelly, CSC

Paul and his five siblings were born and raised on a farm in McCordsville, Ind., which is halfway between Anderson and Indianapolis. The home he was born in is still in the family. Following his graduation from McCordsville High School, Paul farmed a 93-acre dairy farm for four years. In the fall of 1957 he went to the juniorate in Watertown, Wis. After completion of the novitiate in 1958, he went to St. Edward’s University and earned a bachelor’s in business.



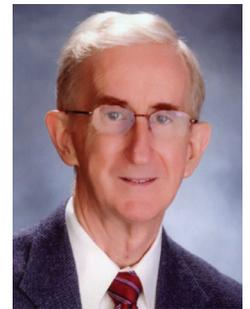
Then he was off to Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, in January 1962. Brother Paul graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1966 with an MBA. He taught and served as treasurer of most of the Holy Cross high schools. In the fall of 1980, right after

Pope John Paul II came to Chicago, Brother Paul moved to Notre Dame to serve as assistant treasurer of the Midwest Province and superior of Columba Hall. Next he served as assistant provincial under Brother Thomas Moser for six years. Then he was assigned as president of Hoban, where the children of his former students were then studying.

During the next several years serving as an administrator, Brother Paul sold the novitiate property, Holy Cross High School and St. Joseph Farm. “I was lucky to minister in Santa Fe, N.M., four different times, serving as treasurer of Sangre de Cristo the last time. Currently Brother Paul ministers in the Pulte Hall formation house, is treasurer of the Midwest Province and a member the board of trustees for St. Adalbert Catholic School and Forever Learning Institute.

Brother Robert Lavelle, CSC

Robert’s association with Holy Cross began as a student entering St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio. A variety of influences, including family, friends and brothers he met, along with an inner desire to explore a life of religious commitment to God, prompted Robert’s decision to explore the religious life. He decided to seek entrance into the Congregation of Holy Cross immediately following high school. While his aspirations were tentative at the time, he felt called to test them out.



His journey began with about 40 other young men from around the country who assembled in June of 1958 to begin the six-week juniorate program. A few decided not to continue, but the majority of them moved on to the novitiate. This intensive program provided a year of silence, prayer, reflection and self-examination in preparation for first vows.

While Robert continued to explore, discern and reflect, the “next step” seemed to resonate well.

In August of 1959, Brother Robert and a large number of confreres made first profession of vows to God as members of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Thus began a new phase in his life’s journey—now some

Brother Robert Lavelle continued from page 5

60 years in progress.

“That life’s journey continues to be a work in progress,” he said. “It is a growing commitment to reflect on the call to follow an inner voice which becomes discernible through graced insight, dialogue, the support of friends, and a willingness to respond to needs in the world around me. All of us are called to follow Christ. *Where* we are to follow Him is discovered and shaped daily through the call of faith in God, in the gospel message and a willingness to be engaged in giving of ourselves.”

Brother Robert’s years of ministry at Sacred Heart Military Academy, Archbishop Hoban High School and Gilmour Academy provided plenty of opportunities and challenges. Friends encouraged and challenged him to aspire to a personal best. Building upon these experiences, alternate ways of serving others continue to captivate his interest and attention.

“I am thankful for a less-than-perfect past, and I hope that whatever good I may have participated in accomplishing will be multiplied by others,” Brother Robert said. “In the days that lie ahead, I am inspired by the words of the prophet Micah: ‘This is what Yahweh asks of you, only this: to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.’ (Micah 6:8)

“I hope that young people, to whom we adults are gradually passing our world, will listen for the voice our loving God whispered in their hearts, discover their voice and courageously reach out in service to others,” Brother Robert said. “We all are needed to bring about that caring, justice and peace for which all human beings hunger. May all of us be blessed with the courage to join in that task.”

60th Jubilee Moreau Province

Brother John Crowe, CSC

*CEO of Rancho San Antonio
Chatsworth, California*



Brother Carl Sternberg, CSC

Carl was born on June 27, 1940, in Louisville, Ky. He has one beloved sister, Betty, and a great friend and cousin, Jane, who donated a kidney to him when both of his had failed.

Carl entered Holy Cross after high school, having confirmed his calling at a senior retreat at the Gethsemane Monastery. His relationship with Holy Cross could be summed up in his ever-growing understanding of his brotherhood.



Carl became a brother to fellow community members in his formation at the novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Ind., and at St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas. Brotherhood could also apply to his teaching experience with students and parents in grade school (Sacred Heart Academy), high schools (Cathedral and Hoban) and colleges (Spaulding and Loyola Universities, where he was an adjunct faculty member).

His brotherhood expanded when he helped bring youth ministry to the Archdiocese of Louisville as a catechetical consultant. He trained potential youth ministers and was a part of major events for youth in the archdiocese.

Then his brotherhood took another turn when he ended up in Palm Desert, Calif., and established Spiritual Life Ministries, which brought people of different faiths together to get to know one another and learn from one another. A highlight during this time was receiving the “Amar Es emtergarse” award from the Diocese of San Bernardino, which Bishop Gerald Richard Barnes gives to those who give of themselves out of love. It was also during this time that the rest of his life’s work had its beginning.

“It was there that we began a version of Holy Cross Associates that has blossomed to become an important ministry of the Midwest Province, offering lay people an opportunity to answer a call to grow spiritually, create community and serve others,” Brother Carl said.

“Walking side by side with people as a brother has given me a wonderful gift for friendships and for participating in an essential part of Church’s mission – calling people to missionary discipleship. Being brother in a large family leads to a very fulfilling life.”

Brother Chester Freel, CSC

Brother Chester is the son of Marvin and Mary Freel. He grew up in St. Monica's parish, Mishawaka, and graduated from St. Joseph High School in South Bend. He says he joined Holy Cross "because of the positive influence of the Brothers of Holy Cross at St. Joseph High School, my desire to participate in the ministry of teaching and a gentle calling to follow the Lord and witness to the Gospel message."



St. André Bessette has been a great influence in Brother Chester's life. He believes that it is due to the intercession of Brother André he's alive today. In 1991 he suffered an accident while playing basketball, resulting in his being in a coma for several weeks. Brother Chester's health improved only after many prayers by community members, friends and relatives. When a Brother André relic was placed at his side, the very next day he began to recover, with doctors at a loss for an explanation.

After his novitiate year and taking first vows in 1969, he went to St. Edward's University in Texas and graduated with a degree in mathematics and education. Later on he

would earn a master's in social work from Wayne State University in Detroit. Brother Chester began working at Boysville of Michigan in 1970, teaching mathematics and typing. He continued to serve at Boysville (now called Holy Cross Services) for 37 years. After completion of his MSW in 1981, he became program director and later regional director.

In 2007, Brother Chester left Holy Cross Services to serve as the Midwest Province vocations promoter. At the same time he taught at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, and directed the Bessette House intentional community at Columba Hall. In 2009, he began a six-year term as provincial superior and was re-elected for three additional years in 2015. He cites this experience as one of great privilege, being able to serve his brothers in leadership, witness the good works performed in their various ministries and be afforded opportunities to interact with all engaged at the brothers' schools and sponsored ministries.

Brother Chester looks forward to his next career, most likely accompanying young men preparing themselves for service in Holy Cross. "Hopefully I will be able to share with others the calling I received, and assist others in following that 'great band of men' I have been so blessed to call my brothers."



Progress being made in construction of student dormitory in Ghana

A new dormitory at St. Brother André High School in Kasoa, Ghana, West Africa, is nearing completion and will be able to accommodate 400 students.

Three stories have been completed at the dormitory. A fourth floor is planned in the future to meet the growing need.

Brother Raymond Papenfuss, mission promoter for the Midwest Province, has been working hard to secure funds for the dormitory.

He served in Ghana for 28 years as teacher, novice master, district superior and originator of the "Skills Project" for students who wanted to enter the trades profession.



Three stories are nearing completion on the dormitory at St. Brother André Senior High School, Kasoa, Ghana, West Africa. Plans are to add one more floor in the future.

Brother Raymond Papenfuss is surrounded by some of the first and second year students from St. Brother André High School in Kasoa, Ghana.





*“There is so little
distance between
heaven and earth
that God always
hears us.
Nothing but a thin
veil separates us
from God.”*

—St. André Bessette

