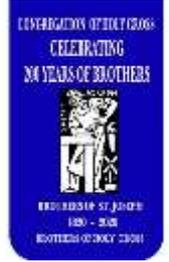


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

December 2, 2020



1st Week of Advent

Hope

This Week

Information on individual early Brothers of St. Joseph for posting week by week in 2020.

November 22 – 28 In November, 1835, Brother Leonard Guittoger traveled to Ploërmel to visit the Christian Brothers and study their rules.

November 29 – December 5 In this week Brother Etienne Gauffre, the fourth man to become a Brother, opened a school at St. Denis d'Orques in 1821. In this same week Brother Louis Duchene opened a school at Larchamp, birthplace of the great Brother Andre Mottais.

Visit early Saint Joseph Brother member information by clicking on the following link. After pictures appear, click on an individual picture.

<https://holycrosscongregation.org/spirituality/brotherss-200th-anniversary/photo-galleries/early-brothers-of-st-joseph/>

**Date of Death for Brothers of Saint Joseph
who entered before the 1837 Fundamental Act of Union
and died in the Community.**

(Age in italics. Rank after year of death.)

Dec 2	<i>Antonin (Pierre Lefebvre) 77</i>	1882
Dec 3	<i>Augustin (Jean-Baptiste Riet) 60</i>	1860
Dec 13	<i>Basile (Michel Gary) 76</i>	1888
Dec 18	<i>Valery (Jean Bruneau) 65</i>	1883
Dec 20	<i>Justin (Louis Gautier) 69</i>	1870
Dec 23	<i>Francois Xavier (Joseph Menand) 64</i>	1888
Dec 29	<i>Narcisse (Jean-Francois Hulot) 70</i>	1887



**Brother Thomas, Nurse Robyn,
and Brother George.**

Pie in a Cake!

A special Robyn treat for Columba Hall Brothers. Hopefully this is an annual event.

Thank you!



Preparations Continue Columba Hall Dining Room



A collection of decorations garnered by Brother James Kozak is on display along the windowsills of the dining hall. A large bow hovers over the entrance and an advent wreath is placed to the right of the doors.





And Winter Snow Begins



Two days before Thanksgiving Brother Nicholas Thielman had enough snow on the ground to build a snowman. The snow moisture was perfect for packing.



St. Brother Andre Residence Sarasota, Florida

Our local community, **Brothers Lawrence Skitzki, William Dygert, and Michael Brickman** enjoyed a full Thanksgiving feast at their Howard Court residence.

The repast featured a number of traditional holiday dishes with the distinctive Holy Cross dash. Fresh Cranberry Relish (à la Brother Daniel Durig); Sage sausage stuffing (Brother Polycarp); and Pumpkin Pie (Brother Thomas Rock).





Following our Thanksgiving Day Mass, Brother Douglas Roach presented this prayer as our grace before a meal.



A Columba Hall Thanksgiving

A Thanksgiving Prayer in Time of Pandemic

On this Thanksgiving Day like no other,
even now, O God, your name is worthy to be praised.
For in your mercy and kindness
no thought of ours is left unguarded,
no tear unheeded, and no joy unnoticed.

For the blessings we have known
and for those we have yet to recognize,
to you we give our grateful thanks.

For life that reminds us how fragile we are
and also how strong we can be: We thank you, O God.
For sheltering that urges us
to rediscover what truly matters: We thank you, O God.
For communication that allows us
to connect in ways new and old: We thank you, O God.
And for mindfulness that shows us
how much we rely on one another: We thank you, O God.

Watch over your family, Lord, gathered here
and at tables separated by miles,
and bless those who work tirelessly to keep us all safe.
Though we may be kept apart
on this day that calls us together,
we know your Spirit draws us close.

Lord, we ask you to ease the pain of empty chairs
that bring to mind our beloved dead.
Let our grieving find its rest in your Son, Jesus,
in whose Resurrection is our hope.

Grant your Spirit to be present here
that this meal may become a foretaste of your heavenly table
where every tear shall be wiped away, every hunger fed,
and no distance can separate us from your love in Christ,
from whom all good things come.
Amen.

"A Thanksgiving Prayer in Time of Pandemic."
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A friend of Holy Cross sent each Brother a box of *Bakers Candies*, filled with assorted *Chocolate Meltaways*.



Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Finding God

Dear Associates and Friends,

Most of the time, we pilgrims feel that we are in a constant search for God hoping that God is at the end of our pilgrimage. We need to keep on the road to finally reach the place where God is present to us in a very special way.

Maybe our journey is of a different kind. It comes with the realization that God is already present in us. St. Paul says, "It is no longer I that live but Christ who lives within me." The journey then becomes the difficult task of letting go of all that gets in the way of finding God present to our most authentic self. Thomas Merton calls it our "So, what do we need to let go of?" Maybe we need to set aside for a time our thoughts and feelings that wed us to the past or what might be ahead in our future so that we can get in touch with God in the here and now. It involves in saying a fundamental "yes" to the God who is the source of our being. It is saying "yes" to the Christ who wants to dwell in our hearts. We are on a journey which leads to a coming home to our true selves.

- Do you experience God's presence in your life?
- What gets in the way of getting closer to God?
- Would you say that your life is saying a fundamental "yes" to God?

God, help me to experience your presence in my life.

Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.



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

From the *Voice of Moreau Website*

The website features a Holy Cross sister, a brother, and a priest, with a weekly story on the blog. Check the following link below.

Website: <http://www.voiceofmoreau.org/>



**Brother
Philip
Smith**



**Brother
Ben
Rossi**

Reflection



Reflection(s) sent in by
Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



Emmanuel Care...With you on your journey toward health, healing and a better quality of life.
emmanuelcare.ca



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Since February 2006

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Editor
Webmaster
Proofreader

Br. Kenneth Kane
Br. Richard Johnson
Br. George Klawitter

Please send material to the link below by Thursday the week before *Midwest-Midweek* is published.

Send material to this address:
Midweek-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com