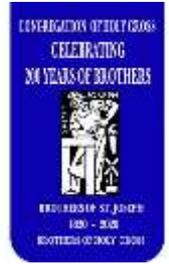


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

November 18, 2020



Brother Wilbert (Clarence) Leveling



I didn't know Brother Wilbert well, but I had heard about him over the years as a respected teacher who knew his material and who was, even in his nineties, a kind, articulate gentleman who kept up on current events and who definitely cared about others, especially his fellow Holy Cross religious. He also wanted to contribute, and when he retired from the classroom, he just began new duties by helping in the archives and letting some of his passion for history influence his sense of what should be saved and how to save it. He wanted us to preserve our heritage, so he helped

organize the physical records that would allow us to do it.

In order to gain a more complete sense of Brother Wilbert, we reached out to some of his former coworkers and to some of his former students.

From Bro Roy Smith we have this reflection:

When someone asks about Bro. Wilbert, the first thing I say is, yes, he was a gentleman and a scholar. He was a gentleman in that he listened to people, and respected others and their varied viewpoints, even if he did not agree. In conversation with Wilbert it soon became clear that if he spoke out on a topic he had as they say “done his homework.”

My first assignment out of the scholasticate was teaching government and religion at St. Joseph High School right down the road. Bro. Wilbert, as department chair of social studies talked to me the night before school began. He helped ease my jitters and assured me that I would be okay. Under his guidance, as I have said many times, I learned about teaching my first year, and actually taught the second year.

Brother Wilbert's awareness and sensitivity to the needs of students was shown by his assignment of extra reading books. He demanded students read books, in addition to text books, especially in world history. One day he shared with me that he had three tracks and assigned different books for each of the three academic levels. He found a book for the C students, another book for B students and one for those who were A and A+ students. He wanted his students to understand ideas and concepts. In class he was demanding and alert and yet he made a point to congratulate students when they performed well.

One day Wilbert approached me and said "Hey, Roy, would you like to go to the Morris Performing Arts Theatre?" I was sort of "yeah, okay." Later I found out that Wilbert did not have a driver's license – and I don't think he ever got one.

From Brother Robert Dierker we have some comments on Brother Wilbert's interests outside of the classroom.

Brothers Robert and Wilbert were good friends for years and they especially enjoyed working during summers at the Oratory of St. Joseph in Canada. They liked sharing the story of St. Brother André with the thousands of visitors who came during the summer. Though they often worked in different parts of the Oratory, they were able to spend time with each other, go sightseeing and check out some of the restaurants in Montreal.

Wilbert was always so gracious with a great sense of humor and a terrific memory. Robert admired how Wilbert kept up with world events, Holy Cross news, and life in general.

The rest of the memories come from some of Brother Wilbert's former students.

From Patrick Walker, we have the following:

Here is one of several distinct memories I have of Brother Wilbert in World History class. This would have been in 1968 at St. Joseph High School in South Bend, Indiana.

Brother Wilbert taught history as it had been taught since the beginning of the Enlightenment, that is, as a critical part of a classical education. Not only were we to learn about current affairs, but in Brother Wilbert's class we were taught how to put our lives into the stream of Western Civilization, which was in many ways our heritage. There were many dates to memorize, but always in context. One particular

example involved the lessons surrounding the Battle of Hastings in 1066, the beginning of Norman rule in England. This was the time of Feudalism, but the serfs were actually slaves under the English system. One of only a few major changes effected by the Normans was the elimination of slavery. Though serfs were still bound to their lords, they were not slaves. We learned words do have meaning!

At the end of Brother Wilbert's classes, you had a sense of history, not just those dates he had us memorize. It was a firm foundation for further education and lifelong learning. For this I am forever grateful to Brother Wilbert and all of my teachers at St. Joseph High School.

From Tom Trace, we have this:

My recollection of Brother Wilbert goes back to the days of old Central Catholic in the St. Mathew's school. I am not sure whether he came in 1951 or 52, but he taught us an introductory class in economics. It might as well have been a foreign language course, as it was a lot of unfamiliar terminology and new information for our young minds to assimilate. Ergo, lots of questions were asked, which Brother Wilbert fielded with the utmost of patience. His even temperament served him well in dealing with our adolescent behavior and tended to bring out our better sides and focused our attention.

I didn't have Brother Wilbert for any classes after that. However, once you had him as a teacher, Brother Wilbert was a hallway friend. Likewise, he was among the band of Brothers who navigated us through the transition during the 1952-53 school year from Central Catholic to the opening of St. Joseph High School. The Brothers did a great job integrating the boys from South Bend Catholic with us from Central Catholic. As a result, we had a wonderful and memorable 1953-54 school year which I still treasure as a member of that first graduating class.

I don't recall seeing Brother Wilbert after graduating until 2004 when he attended a reunion with Father Grabner. It was amazing how many of us he remembered, including myself, after all those years. All in all, he was a pleasant, dedicated teacher and religious Brother who, along with his contemporaries, by counsel and by example, prepared us for the next educational step and implanted durable Catholic values that prepared us for adult life. May God reward him for his long and faithful service as a Holy Cross Brother.

This is from Don Hickey

I was among the numerous St. Joe sophomores who had Brother Wilbert for "Western Civ. "

Until that sophomore year and Brother Wilbert, I'd never even heard the word, hegemony, much less knew what it meant. He taught us about Charlemagne, Richelieu, Metternich, Napoleon and Bismarck ... by the end of May, we definitely had a better understanding of what hegemony meant!

Brother Wilbert was a very good lecturer, who was always prepared. He usually stood on the same spot in the front of class; and he always had one small piece of paper with notes that he'd occasionally glance at while speaking. Throughout the class period, he'd ask questions and often encouraged us to give opinions.

In my opinion, Brother Wilbert was **the best ambassador** Western Civilization will ever have,

Clearly, we can see that Brother Wilbert was a dedicated teacher who worked to assure that all of his students had a fighting chance for not only success but for feeling "important." This good friend of Brother André led a life we can certainly emulate. We now have a brother, a family member, and a friend who is calmly and faithfully praying for us as he enjoys his eternal reward. And as we face our daily challenges, we can remember one of Brother Wilbert's favorite sayings, "someone ought to do something about that."

Brother Kenneth Haders, C.S.C.

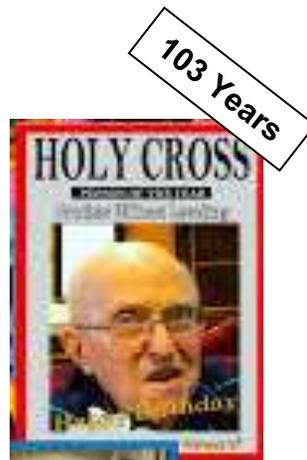


Photo by Brother Michael Brickman, C.S.C.

This Week

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

November 8 – 14 In 1824 on November 11 the Grand St. Joseph building opened in Ruille to be used for training new Brothers. In this week in 1835 Brother Andre Mottais wrote to Bishop Bouvier in Le Mans to suggest that the Brothers be transferred out of Father Dujarie's care because of Father Dujarie's age and health.

November 15 – 21 In this month Brother Louis Marchand was born. He drowned while swimming with orphans near Algiers. He was one of the first Brothers in Algeria.

Cocinando con el Hermano Donald Cooking with Brother Donald

Story sent in by Brother John Tryon, C.S.C.



Brother Donald Kuchenmeister, who is celebrating sixty years of vows this year, has not been sidelined by the Covid-19 Pandemic in Chile. In addition to his duties as both director of Casa San Juan XXIII (community residence) and director of La Fuente (senior citizen center in San Roque Parish), he offered a 12-week course in cooking and baking via ZOOM. Each Saturday afternoon, he guided nearly fifty students through the intricacies of creating savory dishes and delectable pastries. He concluded his popular course by leading his culinary students step by step, patiently taking questions, through the process--from flour origins to frosted treats--of baking and decorating Christmas cookies.

The course ended on Saturday, 6 November, much to the disappointment of his students. If the course ended, however, Brother Donald's baking of Christmas cookies will soon resume; as in years past, he will begin baking nearly 5,000 holiday cookies to be sold as a fund-raiser for La Fuente.



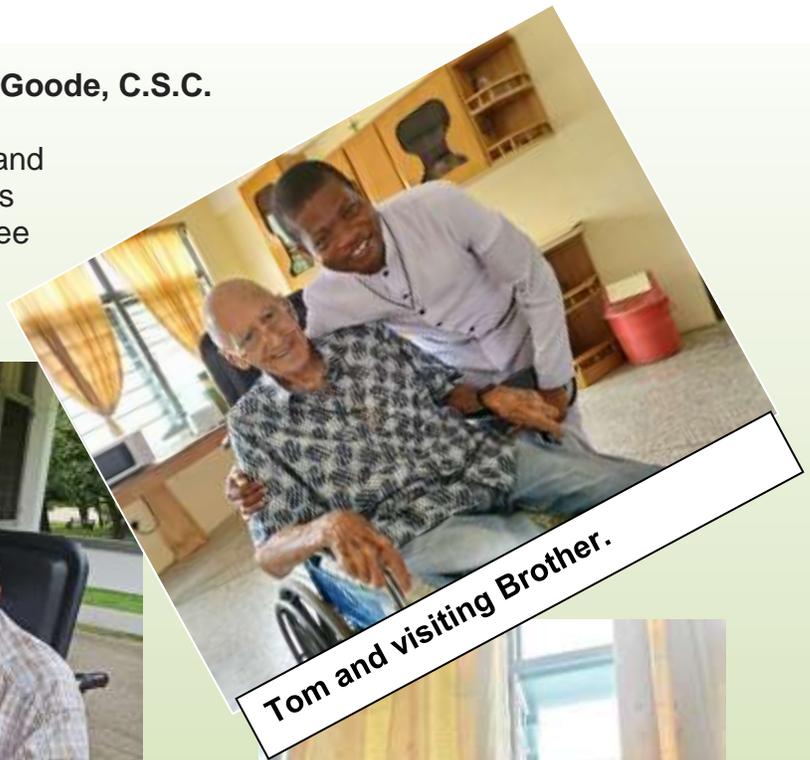
Ghana, West Africa

E-mail from Brother Emmanuel Goode, C.S.C.

Here are various pictures of time and activities involving Brother Thomas Dillman. He is always excited to see Brothers, visiting with him and spending quality time with him.



District Superior, Brother John Affum trims Brother Thomas Dillman's hair.



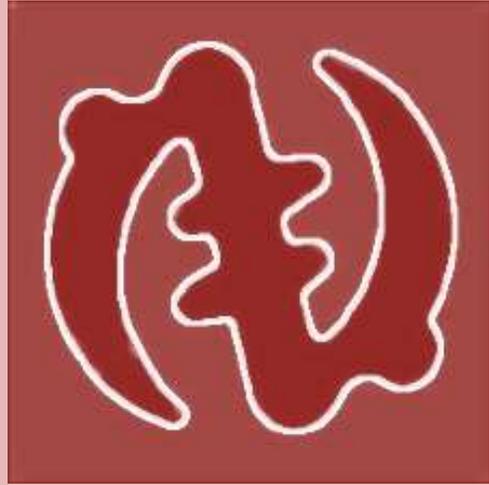
Tom and visiting Brother.



Brother Kenneth Goode and Brother Thomas Dillman.



(left) Through the efforts of the Development office, a Professor, Prof. Awusabo Asare, from the University of Cape Coast, makes a donation of a 4-burner gas stove and oven.



Except God

Only God

Congratulations to Brother Patrick Mbroh Baidoo, CSC and Brother Evans Akwasi Mensah, CSC



Education is seen as one of the agents of development of every society. As part of enriching, the Brothers for the mission and ministry in the District of West Africa and beyond, two Brothers, Patrick and Evans, were given the chance to read Master of Art in Religion and Pastoral Ministry from the Catholic University College of Ghana. To the glory of God, they graduated on 31st October, 2020. According to them, the acquisition of this degree will really help them in their ministry and wherever the vow of obedience takes them. They are much grateful to all the Brothers in the Province, particularly the Brothers in the District of West Africa, for their support and encouragement.

We congratulate Bros. Evans and Patrick
Ayekoo!!!



The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed

During the month of November, we are called in a special way to remember our Brothers and Sisters who have gone before us in the hope of the resurrection. Our faith and culture teach us that even the dead have hope, the dead have something to hope for - resurrection.

The members at the District Centre and the Novitiate

communities gathered in the evening of the 2nd day of November to celebrate the Feast of All Souls with prayers at the graveside of Brother Vincent Gross. After Mass in the morning with the Jesuit and OLA communities, the Brothers gathered at the graveside of Brother Vincent Gross in the evening to pray with him and for him.

The prayer service was led by Brother John Affum, CSC, after which the members blessed the grave of Uncle with Holy Water.



May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, Amen!

Brother Vincent Ntsiful, CSC



Congratulations to Brother Vincent Ntsiful, CSC. He has been named the coordinator for the Science and Math Quiz Competition for St. Augustine's College Math and Science Quiz team.

A Columba Hall Notice

Previous years we (Columba Hall members) have had a practice of going out for “fine dining” at a selected restaurant. Due to the virus we will not be able to do that this year. However we had a rather formal meal in the dining room on, Wednesday, November 11, Veteran’s Day. We had filet mignon and crab cakes as the main entre. There was after dinner drinks.

Pictures next page of the event:



Holy Cross Roads
Writings for the Journey

Healing Every Part of You

Dear Associates and Friends,

Pope Francis is calling us to recognize and love the humanity of every woman and man in our world today. This does not mean all women and men are good – that all are living praiseworthy lives. What it does mean is that the Creator who is the source of each person had put in every person some of God’s own self. Our faith tells us that God could not be the author of pure evil.

Maybe we can get to the point of accepting and loving one another if we can begin accepting and loving that part of ourselves that we are not proud of. It is with humility, which is the beginning of the spiritual journey, that we can say about the parts of our life that are undeserving of praise that without the “grace of God there go I.” Self knowledge is the key to compassion. It is with compassion that the shepherd goes after the lost sheep. God knew what God was getting when God created us. We are called to accept others with all of their humanness in the way that God accepts us.

Is it hard for you to accept and love every human being?

Is God helping you to accept and love all parts of your personality?

Does accepting and loving yourself help you to accept and love others?

O God, help me love and accept myself the way you have loved me and help me to accept and love others in gratitude.

“It is my desire that in this time, by acknowledging the dignity of each person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to sisterhood and brotherhood of all women and men. Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can live

in isolation. We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together! Let us dream, each of us bringing the resources of her or his beliefs and convictions, each of us with her or his own voice, sisters and brothers all.”

“Fratelli Tutti” Paragraph 8 of the new encyclical of Pope Francis

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



Past Copies of *Midwest-Midweek*

Since February 2006

Past copies of *Midwest-Midweek* may be viewed by scanning the icon or clicking on the link below.

<http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/archived-publications/>



View Website at:
www.brothersofholycross.com

View *Midwest-Midweek* at:
<http://brothersofholycross.com/publications/midwest-midweek-newsletter/>

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:
Midwest-Midweek@brothersofholycross.com