

Midwest . . . NEWS NOTES

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556

VOLUME 14, ; Number 3

November 20, 1980

WASHINGTON at the END of the YEAR?

The Social Justice Commission is considering sponsoring a trip to Washington, D.C. December 28-31. Travel days might include December 27 and January 1. The purpose is to join with Jonah House of Baltimore in the conclusion of a year long presence at the Pentagon.

This year marks the beginning of the decade that will see the maturation of all first strike weapons. It is claimed that we have only four or five years to blunt the cutting edge of a first strike capability. Time is running out for humankind.

Our presence at the Pentagon would be a sign that we oppose the talk of peace and security while actually getting MX's, Tridents, Cruise Missiles, and less peace and less security. The role of government is the safety of its people, not their destruction while saving and providing safety for military weapons. Our presence can witness to a concern for our future, for the next generation, for shelter for the homeless, for food for the hungry, for work for the unemployed.

Jonah House asks of anyone coming: (a) a commitment of nonviolence - not simply as a tactic but as a guiding principle, (b) a respect for resistance and civil disobedience, (c) a willingness to work with others toward a deeper understanding and experience of community which is one of the sustaining forces in growth and peace witness.

Further details are not available at this time. Sleeping arrangements might include a private room and bed, or they might be a sleeping bag (which you furnish) in a gym. We envision the possibility of starting in Chicago, travelling on to Washington, with stops at South Bend, Monroe, Cleveland. If you are interested in making such a witness, please send your name to the executive secretary, along with information regarding your ability to make the complete time commitment or only part of it. (we might have two trips). Also, if you need to sleep in a bed or if a sleeping bag will do. We hope to complete most arrangements by mid-December, if possible.

Brother William Mewes

Brother Anton Mattingly has sent two special medals, symbolic of prayers being offered by a Mexican community of cloistered nuns, for Brother Armand Amman and Gilbert Scher, both suffering from cancer.

+++++

Brother Roy Smith was elected to the board of The National Association of Church Personnel (NACPA) at their annual conference in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky.

+++++

Annual vocations meeting: one was held at the Brothers' Center on Monday evening, November 10; and another will be held at Columba Hall on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:15 P.M. Any brothers living in the Notre Dame area are welcome.

+++++

Brothers Bruce Lescher and David Baltrinic enjoyed the hospitality of Brother Francis Rotsaert in Toronto on October 13 (Thanksgiving Day in Canada). Frank is a member of the Spiritual Integration Program, sponsored by Regis College. His program includes taking classes in the Toronto Theological Union, seminars in the Spiritual Integration Program, youth ministry in a nearby parish, spiritual direction, and formation of Christian community with the other members of the program.

+++++

Refugee students from the burnt-out St. Edward Hall at Notre Dame now live in the annex at Columba Hall. They have ingeniously converted rooms into two and three room apartments. For their first big social of the year, they decorated the floors in the themes of heaven, hell and purgatory. How's that for living spirituality?

+++++

Brother Donald Morrison has returned from Florida and has joined the staff at the Provincial House as secretary for the Provincial Team. With this issue he has also become instrumental in the production of these News Notes. His assistance is greatly appreciated (and much needed) by the Editor....Donald is living in the house on Blaine with Brother Lawrence Unfried.

+++++

Brother Douglas has sent us the first Lee County (Ft. Myers) edition (16 pages) of the VOICE - publication of the Senior Friendship Centers. Douglas is Executive Assistant of the Ft. Myers Centers. Ft. Myers is about 75 miles south of Sarasota, where Brothers William Geenen and Robert Woodward work in the "original" centers.

+++++

Mr. Francis Gentile, brother-in-law of Brother Armand Amman, died recently. Brother Julian Przybyla represented the Center at the funeral in Saginaw, Michigan.

+++++

A paper by Brother Bruce Lescher, written while he was studying in Berkeley, appears in the September, 1980 issue of Review for Religious (pp. 725-738). The title: Toward a Spirituality of Liminality. Congratulations to Bruce on his scholarly effort.

+++++

Our Province's only novice, Brother Joe Barry, is doing well and finding the program at Waterford (N.Y.) to be enriching and challenging. The novices recently participated in a Prayer of Centering workshop.

+++++

Brother Philip Alessandro is teaching religious classes full-time at Providence - St. Mel High School in Chicago. He is excited about his work: "It is great teaching in a secondary school where inter-school sports are secondary and studies are first." Keep up the good work, Phil.

+++++

The annual drive at Akron Hoban to sell The World's Finest Chocolate succeeded in grossing nearly \$45,000.00 from 7,969 pounds of chocolate. Brother Robert Siegel organized and conducted the drive.

+++++

FROM MIAMI

Brother Carl Shonk writes all goes well in his apostolate in "Little Havana," working with the Cuban students at Immaculata-LaSalle High School.

On November 3 Carl conducted a successful workshop for the teachers of English of the Archdiocese of Miami. His own presentation at the meetings was "Outside Readings: A Possible Paper." It was very well received.

Carl adds: "There is much work to be done with our Cuban Americans and the refugees from Central America. I have learned much from them: their concept of church, of family, of relationships."

The Catholic Church in the U.S. is losing Hispanics, who make up one-fourth of its membership, at an alarming rate.

FROM CENTRAL CATHOLIC, MONROE

Brother Celestis Mueller was initiated into the 2nd and 3rd degrees of the Knights of Columbus in Trenton, MI.

Green-thumbers, Brothers Walter Davenport and Philip Smith were engaged in the annual CC vegetable garden last summer. One acre grew a variety of vegetables...the autumn canning and freezing project was a jovial house operation in the sub-kitchen..... thanks to the Verona Fathers for the use of their land; praise the Lord for an abundant harvest.

A testimonial will be held in the spring to mark the 25th year of service of Mrs. Bernice Leidel, school accountant and secretary.

A cancelled stamp drive, started at the school by Brother Celestis, will aid the scholarship fund. So far the response has been encouraging.

ADVISORY BOARD MEETS

The Provincial Administration Advisory Board held its first meeting of the school and fiscal year on October 25 at the Provincial House. Brother John Benesh chaired the meeting. Other board members present included William Verstraete, Walter Davenport, Paul Kelly, Robert Dailey, Thomas Moser, Herman Ryan, William Mewes, Joseph McTaggart (replacement for Frank Rotsaert) and Pedro Berling (secretary).

- A proposal concerning ownership of house furnishings.
- Consideration of Decree 9 of the 1980 General Chapter.
- Vocations.
- Province medical plan.
- Proposed procedure for budgets.
- Thanksgiving forum.
- Long range goals and matters to be addressed by the 1982 Provincial Chapter.

Matters discussed at the all-day session included:

A probable date of April 4, 1981 was suggested for the next meeting.

FROM LE MANS - on the PRAIRIE

On October 25 and 26, LeMans Academy celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary of existence. Dinner was served to 400 guests. Brother Edward Grams was the Master of Ceremonies. He gave special mention of Brother Dominic Elder who was the first Headmaster. He then introduced the past Headmasters who were present: Brothers Remigius Bullinger, James Newberry, Jerome Schwabe, Mr. Carl Englert and the present Headmaster, Brother Peter Graham. Brother Leo Kowalski, who was with the Academy since its founding, was introduced and received a standing ovation from all present. After the meal and ceremony, dancing continued until the wee hours.

On Sunday, the gym was converted to a chapel where a special Mass was celebrated commemorating 25 years of Academy growth. Bishop Andrew Grutka, Gary Diocese, was to preside but was stranded in Rome because of an airplane strike. His Vicar General, Monsignor Casmir E. Senderak substituted.

Some other news: The tennis courts which were completed at the end of September are used quite extensively. LeMans Academy has just completed its first quarterly grading period with a full enrollment of 125 boys. (There is a waiting list.)

Brothers Charles Beck, Edwin Mattingly, Basil Thomas, James O'Donnell, and James Blaszak serve each Sunday as extraordinary ministers at the local St. John Kanty Church and at Sacred Heart Church in LaPorte.

WANTED:

Brother Walter's (John Remlinger) diary. Brother Walter came from Bengal for the 1938 Chapter, entered the infirmary early in 1939, and died of cancer at Notre Dame on August 16, 1939.

His diary has been quoted in old issues of St. Gregory's High School in Dacca. The diary is known to have been at Dujarie Scholasticate in the '40s.

Brother James Talarovic is searching for it. He is in the States on leave from Bangladesh until early January.

Anyone who may know anything about this diary is asked to contact James - or the News Notes.

FROM DUJARIE HOUSE

Mass was offered by Fr. Raymond Cour on November 6 commemorating the second anniversary of the death of Brother Donatus Schmitz. Brother Pedro gave a short homily emphasizing the inspiration Brother Donatus gave during the last two years in the home when he knew his death was imminent.

While Brother Gilbert's condition does not improve his good spirit serves as an inspiration to us during the past six weeks. He has had many visitors, including members of his family and his sister, Sister Yvonne, who has made two extended visits in the last months. Visitors are especially numerous on weekends and local visitors are requested to come during the week rather than weekends, if possible.

Brother Henry O'Rourke (S-W), Matthew Gara (E), Myron Roes (S-W), and John Shea (E) continue their unflagging support of the Notre Dame football team.

A Halloween party was held on October 31 beginning with Mass and followed by a buffet. We were joined by Brothers James Moroney and Francis Englert and the family (and children) of the cook and several of the nurses.

Brother John Harrington (E) has been assisting us recently in replacing lights and cleaning the woodwork. We are grateful to him - and also to Brother Richard Weir who always responds to our occasional emergencies in matters electrical and mechanical.

Volunteers would be welcome if any of the Brothers in the area would be willing to give an hour or two a month to give to taking the Brothers here for a ride, or walk (in nice weather), or organize any activity they would enjoy. Please contact the Director in advance. Incidentally, Brother Pedro has now had his interim position as Director made permanent (three years).

PERSONNEL OPENINGS:

Brother Roy Smith will be happy to supply anyone with additional information concerning the following openings available to qualified members of the province:

- President of King's College
(Wilkes-Barre,
- Dean of Students, King's College
- Director of Development, Monrath Catholic Central High School

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Brother Maximus Czyzewski, who spent more than fifty years at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, had a fine sense of history. During his years there he kept a very careful record of all the Brothers who taught at Trinity. In the archives now, the community has the chart on which he recorded the names of the Brothers, both religious and family names, and the years each one spent at the school.

Brother Victor Czerwinski, another veteran of more than fifty years at Holy Trinity High School, kept a scrap book of the various events at the school during his tenure. The scrap book was found in his trunk after his death and is now an historical treasure in the archives.

Occasionally, requests come to the archives about Brothers who taught in our various schools, and about events that transpired in those schools. Sometimes, we are able to afford complete satisfaction to the requests. At other times there is great disappointment because of the meagerness or even lack of information available here.

The archives department will welcome school year books, scrap books, chronicles, photocopies of special items recorded in the local newspapers, a detailed record of the early days of the school - and photos of individual Brothers on the staff.

Brother Edward Sniatecki

CASE OF BROTHER ANDRE

Brother Robert Montcalm, until last summer member of the General Administration in Montreal, has been appointed to the "Centre of Brother Andre's Cause" at the Oratory in Montreal.

Brother Robert has written to Brother Philip requesting assistance of the community at large: He writes in part:

"...I know we have Fathers, Brothers, Sisters who are zealous for the beatification of Brother Andre. I want to get in touch with them and together we will try and organize an appropriate structured promotion over America and abroad."

Could you please communicate this information to all the members of your province so that anyone who is interested in this cause may communicate with me for all kinds of promotion."

Brother Robert is particularly seeking information on favors and healings declared to have been obtained through the intercession of Brother Andre.

Brother Robert can write to Robert at:

3800 Queen Mary
Montreal, Quebec H3V 1H6

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

The second meeting of the new year began at 9:30 Saturday morning, November 8, at Columba Hall. Members present included Brothers Pedro Haering (Chairman), William Mewes (Executive Secretary), Terence Muehlenkamp, Isaac Jogues Motz, Chris Dreyer, Albin Kuzminski, Maynard Rabidoux and Marius Wittner.

Following the opening prayer and approval of the September minutes, the following matters were discussed:

- "Enabler Role" of the Commission especially with respect to financing expenses of brothers wishing to do social justice work in the summer of 1981.
- Support of tax credits or vouchers for tuition and support of Citizens for Educational Freedom.
- Possible Washington, D.C. trip in December in connection with protesting the nuclear arms race.
- Registration for draft and C.O. counseling.
- Scheduling of regional meetings in Akron, River Grove and Notre Dame - probably in February.
- Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility.
- The Foodbank program in larger cities.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES MEET IN CONNECTICUT

Brothers David Baltrinic and Bruce Lescher participated in a "Consultation on Christian Community" held at Ivoryton, CT, October 19 - 24.

The consultation was an effort to initiate a dialogue between traditional religious orders and the new, alternate-life-style communities which are springing up around the country. Twenty-four communities were represented among the fifty participants: twelve religious orders (both Anglican and Roman Catholic) and twelve new communities. The four persons making presentations were:

- Theophane Boyd, a Trappist from St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, MA
- Graham Pulkingham, an Episcopal priest from Houston, TX
- Joan Chittester, Prioress of the Benedictines of Erie, PA and president of LCWR
- Jim Wallis, editor of Sojourners magazine, from Washington, D.C.

The participants represented a very wide range of Theological viewpoints and communal experience, and everyone found the dialogue to be enriching. The alternate-life-style communities have a rich experience in democratic communal sharing of authority and political involvement. The traditional orders have a rich experience in personal prayer and the kind of discipline needed to sustain a community over the "long haul."

FROM BOYSVILLE

Quick witted Brother James (Alex) Buckley is the remaining corner-stone of the Boysville community. Alex still practices cheer-ups, put-ups, and appropriate wise-cracks with students and staff, keeping up his wonderful presence here.

Brother Albin Kuzminski, Thomas Kavanagh, and Paschel Pesce (EP) are engaged in weekly CCD instruction. The smiling faces of the students imply a good sign - no sad saints. The Brothers keep the Spirit working and lively.

Brother Gerald Nettesheim is entering his third year of operating the monthly Boysville fund-raising activity. Donors receive a monthly newsletter. Gerald's work stands out as efficient, neat and prompt. Congratulations!

STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE

About 75 students are actively involved in the service program at Holy Cross in River Grove.

The program is co-ordinated by Brother Fillmore, director of the Christian Life Office.

The various service "outlets" include weekly visits to the Royal Elm Convalescent Home, Elmwood Park, a Red Cross club, The CAL tutoring program for grade school aged children in the Maywood area, and a new project in which students help in an Uptown soup kitchen each Wednesday.

The program is based on the gospel teaching that each person has been given a unique personality and special talents which are to be used to serve others.

Those who have become involved agree, to their surprise, that they get more than they give. Many feel they learn a great deal about themselves. Some realize for the first time they can make a difference in the lives of others.

FROM HOLY CROSS, RIVER GROVE

New telephone numbers are in effect for Brothers' Residence after 3:00 P.M. (and on weekends and holidays:

452 - 5535

452 - 5536

Brother James Reddy finished in the top 10 of participants in America's Marathon in Chicago. Jim's time for the 26-mile race was three hours, 22 minutes.

Holy Cross' 20th annual fund drive ended with two Las Vegas nights - on November 7th and 8th.

The cross-country team won the Eastern Suburban Catholic Conference championship.

The Class of 1970 held a reunion on November 1 with a dinner and dance at The Casa Banquet hall. Brother Quentin Hegarty was in charge of arrangements.

State Representative Ted Leverenz recently addressed 270 senior social studies students.