

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

February 7, 2024

Our Poets, Past and Present

An Older Lazarus

These latter years when tears are
more frequent,
laughter running closer to the heart,
pain more vibrant,
joy so abundant,
I hear again those words,
“Lazarus, come out!”

Three days dead, my soul seemed to
awaken
from a fitful slumber—
a bear emerging from a long winter:
lean with matted coat and terrible
hunger.

How long had I dreamed
the life of others—
their wishes and disapprovals?
When my friend spoke, I changed
from bear to—pause—brightness—
suffused with light
all unprisoned by the cave.
Martha rushed to embrace;
Mary offered endearments;

the voice of my friend said,
“Lazarus, come out!”
Now, I sit in quiet to speak the word
in my heart—the name
which informs the Lord
of my presence.

He awaits my second coming.
We will greet each other
from the other side of the tomb.
I will not forget that
while I dreamed, fretted, cried—
slept the seasons of life,
he was outside my soul’s cave
tending the fire of God’s love.
I will not fear that second death
for one reason—
Jesus.

**“[Your thoughts] outnumber the
grains of sand.” (Psalm 139, verse 18)**

Francis C. Gray, Holy Cross Village

Consecrated Life Reflection

February 2nd, is a day on which some Holy Cross members had made their profession of vows. Brother Robert Mosher, though in a summer group and celebrating his 75 year jubilee this year, delivered the following reflection on the consecrated life at Mass held in Columba Chapel at Notre Dame..



Today is another momentous occasion celebrating our lives in Holy Cross. As proclaimed, the Church honors religious communities as institutes of consecrated life.

Prefatory to the book of Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross is a decree from the Vatican Congregation of Religious and Secular Institutes, an excerpt of which follows:

This Congregation for Religious and for secular institutes, by virtue of its authority to erect, guide, and promote, Institutes of consecrated life, . . . approves, within the limits of canon law, these constitutions. May the living of these constitutions encourage all the members of the Congregation to an ever deeper commitment to their consecrated life.”

Constitution #1, paragraph 6 defines Holy Cross as a Community of Pontifical Right, composed of “Priests and Brothers bound together in an indivisible brotherhood . . . founder, government, tradition, and *mission*.” It is *mission*, that constitutes Holy Cross and life in Holy Cross as consecrated, that is, the *work of God*.

The same Constitution describes the members of Holy Cross as “men of hope and educators in faith,” who by both word and example go forth and convey the good news of the Gospel and the hope of salvation through the cross of Christ. The commitment of these same men by which they are constituted consecrated is their life-time, public profession, and observance of the vows of poverty, chastity (celibacy), and obedience, by which they are permanently transformed into St. Paul’s solely dedicated “new man.”

But all this notwithstanding, how do we of Columba Hall, despite age and accompanying limitations, live out our vowed commitment to the Holy Cross mission?

Here now God is again calling us to his service as he did so long ago. If our present circumstances warrant our not responding as we did when we were younger and more vigorous, then God, along with our initiative, prayers, reflection, and bit of imagination, will help us find a way. So, gone may be the days of the classroom, administrator's or counselor's desks, rectory, parish, or Ave Maria perhaps. And, of course, the debt of service we owe to one another in Community will always be possible with us.

The Church has declared us religious of Holy Cross as consecrated, which doesn't mean we are better than other people. But I think it makes us rather special.



Brothers Douglas Roach, C.S.C. (Left) and Thomas Rock, C.S.C., together celebrated their 70th jubilee at Columba Hall with Mass, followed by dinner.

Photos by Brother
Kenneth Kane, C.S.C.



The meal was surf and turf by our staff. Brother Joseph Fox, C.S.C. prepared a Grasshopper drink.

Sister Leonie



After reading Brother Philip's short biography of St. Leonie in the last issue, Father Pierre Labine, CSC, commented that **Sister Leonie pronounced her vows to Father Moreau in 1857.** Father Labine lives at the provincial house in Montreal where he is responsible for material resources. He is also the director of the mission center, and the editor of *Orient*, the mission magazine; superior of the formation house, vicar for the St-Laurent Parishes, and the Director of *Vosh Santa Cruz*. He has received the medal *Pro ecclesia y pontifice* from Pope Francis and will be



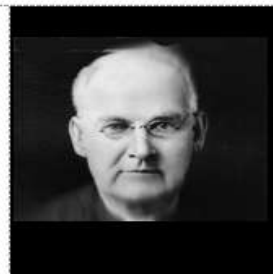
decorated by the Governor General of Canada on March 21, 2024. Thank you, Father Pierre!

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

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Internationality of Holy Cross

On January 19, the Archbishop Hoban community commemorated the Feast of Blessed Basil Moreau with a bi-lingual Mass.

Padre Pedro Carreno Medina, C.S.C. from the parish of La Luz in Monterrey, Mexico, was the principal celebrant for the liturgy. Parts of the liturgy were in Spanish.

Hoban Spanish students spend a week each school year at Padre Pedro's parish, and he wanted to see the school they attend. This year, students will spend the week of February 12 at La Luz.

The liturgy demonstrated the true international aspect of Holy Cross. Padre Pedro celebrated the Mass along with **Rev. Alex Susai, C.S.C.**



Above article and photos were sent in by Brother Dennis Bednarz, C.S.C.



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

Rift Between Paul and Barnabas

Early on in their mission proselytizing, Paul and Barnabas were inseparable companions. Nevertheless, because of a differing position taken by each of them, a rift occurred between them, as explained in the passage that follows from Acts 15: 36-41 (cited from *NAB*):

Paul and Barnabas Separate.

After some time, Paul said to Barnabas, "Come, let us make a return visit to see how the brothers are getting on in all the cities where we proclaimed the word of the Lord." Barnabas wanted to take with them also John, who was called Mark, but Paul insisted that they should not take with them someone who had

deserted them at Pamphylia and who had not continued with them in their work. So sharp was their disagreement that they separated. Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus. But Paul chose Silas and departed after being commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. He traveled through Syria and Cilicia bringing strength to the churches.



Although neither Paul nor Barnabas conceded his position, each evidently reconciled for the sake of the mission.

Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

Expanding...

As we grow in our prayer life more and more discovering God's love for us, we also will become aware of our place in God's grand design of things. We will begin to explore our relationship with all of God's creation. God, the author of the cosmos, uses Christ as the model for God's great design. The incarnation of Christ includes all aspects of creation: the inanimate matter of minerals, living plant life, the animal kingdom sharing much of its DNA with humans, and human life as exemplified in the historical Jesus himself. It is because of Christ that we also have the further potential of sharing in divine life as adopted daughters and sons of God.

What are the implications of this vision? Is there an "underground" source that connects us with all being? If so, what keeps us from seeing that we are parts of a whole? If we separate ourselves from the whole, we can begin to understand the origin of conflict which leads to denial of rights, exploitation, war, destruction and hopelessness.

When our prayer becomes deep enough, our vision of life will expand to include all of God's creation. Light will shine amidst the darkness.

- How would you describe your prayer life now?
- Does your prayer life help you in your relationships?
- As you grow in your relationship with Christ, is that relationship expanding to include all of God's creation?

O God, help me to further grasp not only the vertical but also the horizontal dimensions of my prayer.

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.



National Catholic Health Care Week

February 4 – 10



**Providence
Health Care**

How you want to be treated.



The ultimate goal of our care
is to give those who are ill
a reason to hope.

~ Joseph Cardinal Bernardin

This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics & Spirituality • Providence Health Care
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. providencehealthcare.org

February 4, 2014



The weather is either too hot, too cold, too cloudy, too bright... and now his cable sports channel won't connect!

Brother James Kane, CSC



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