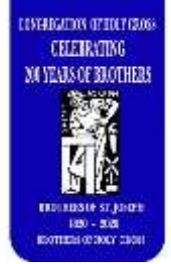


MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

February 10, 2021



February
Week 2

Weekly Spiritual Reflections from the Early Brothers of St. Joseph

Our dear little congregation [near Vincennes] assisted our departure [for Notre Dame] by singing *Ave Sanctissima* in honor of the Blessed Virgin, then recited the litany of the Blessed Virgin. We bid adieu to our dear little chapel and the congregation who, with tears in their eyes, begged God to bless us. Never in my life had I witnessed such a time. (Brother John Steber 2/1843)

The Journey to Found Notre Dame

To view the story, click on the link below:

[The Journey to Found Notre Dame // The Story // Notre Dame Trail // University of Notre Dame](#)

**Excerpts from Early Letters
By Brothers of Saint Joseph and Holy Cross**

Translation from the French by Brother George Klawitter, C.S.C.:

Brother Andre Mottais arrived at Ruille in October 1820 to become a Brother of St. Joseph, little realizing that he would become the most important of the early Brothers of St. Joseph, being named the Primary Director, a position he held for a dozen years. A month and a half after he arrived at Ruille, he wrote to his family back in Larchamp:



“Papa, Mama, Jean, François, Joseph, Jeannette, and Marie, my sister-in-law, I wish all of you a blessed year, perfect health, peace, unity, harmony, calm hearts, joy in God, prosperity in all your affairs, and all that you could desire. I wish you the blessings of heaven, the fruitfulness of earth, and paradise at the end of our days. I wish the same for my godmother and her husband. All that we could possibly desire rests in God. It is heaven, my dear family, that we should desire. All blessings are promised to us, and it is up to us to get them. God so wills it. So let us work at acquiring them for the glory of God.”

Andre was 20 years old when he wrote this letter. Only recently has it come to the Congregation of Holy Cross from the Mottais family in France.

Holy Cross Roads

Writings for the Journey

Being at Home

Dear Associates and Friends,

As we continue to deal with the pandemic, we are spending more time at home. Some see this as an isolation that can be very unhealthy. While that may be true, it could also be an opportunity – this being at home with oneself. When we allow ourselves to turn off the T.V. or however we get our news and our ability to be “plugged in” to minute to minute of what is happening in our world, we create a space. It could be a time for contemplation.

The contemplative is one who can be self accepting and experience the self that God sees. This ability reminds me of an example. A stranger is sitting for a considerably long time in the last pew of a parish church. When asked what this was all about, he said, “I am spending time looking at God and God is looking back at me.” If we could get to a place where we could stop judging ourselves and experience the peace that God wants to give us, then we will be truly at home and know “the peace that the world cannot give.”

- Does your mind constantly take you to what has happened in the past or what will be going on in the future?
- What helps you put aside your cares and allows you to experience the beauty of the present moment?
- Do you allow yourself time to be at home and experience the God who says, “I knew what I was getting when I created you.”

**O God, help me to let go so I can experience being at home
with myself and You.”**

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, or 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

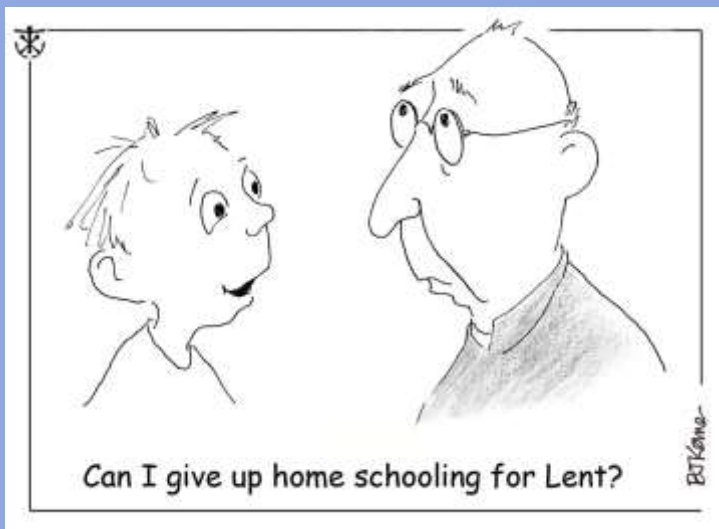
Reflection(s) sent in by
Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



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Brother
James
Kane,
CSC



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