

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

April 29, 2009

The End of an Era

Ray Lauwers, head basketball coach at Monroe Catholic Central/St. Mary Catholic Central High School in Monroe MI, for the past 42 years has announced his retirement. Hired by **Brother Gerontius McCarthy, CSC** in 1967, Ray has had a profound influence on the young men he has coached over these many years.

SMCC President, Sean Jorgensen, said, “The response to the news of Coach Lauwers’ retirement has been overwhelming. We’ve had countless former athletes, students and friends contacting us expressing their thanks to and memories of Mr. Lauwers.”

Plans for a public event celebrating the St. Mary Catholic Central High School Boys Basketball program and the coaching career of Ray Lauwers have been announced by the school. Alumni, family, friends, colleagues and community members are invited to a Mass of Celebration at 11:30am on Sunday, May 17 at St. Mary Catholic Parish, located adjacent to the high school in Monroe. The high school will host an Open House immediately following the Mass in the Brother Gerontius Memorial Gymnasium on the court that bears Lauwers’ name. Both events are free and open to the public.

While Lauwers is stepping down as the Varsity Boys Basketball coach, he will remain on staff at the school as a theology teacher and mentor to both students and faculty.

Br. Robert Livernois

SMCC Breaks Ground on Phase Three

<http://www.monroenews.com/article/20090427/NEWS01/704279972>

Vocation Promotion Update

World Day of Prayer for Vocations is Sunday, May 3rd. Each year on the fourth Sunday of Easter (or Good Shepherd Sunday,) the Church faithful are asked to pray that Christ the Good Shepherd continues to call young men and women to church-related ministries. This marks the 46th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and as is customary, Pope Benedict XVI prepares a message to commemorate the event, and press releases are distributed to highlight the day of prayer.

The following is a News Release from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

WASHINGTON—Parishes nationwide are urged to mark the 46th World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 3, the first Sunday in May.

Remembrances can include everything from special petitions in the Prayer of the Faithful and homilies on the role of prayer in fostering vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, to highlighting the vocations that have come from a parish and diocese.

Pope Benedict XVI stressed the importance of prayer in his message from the Vatican with the theme "Faith in the divine initiative – the human response."

The first duty, he said, "is to keep alive in families and in parishes, in movements and in apostolic associations, in religious communities and in all the sectors of diocesan life this appeal to the divine initiative with unceasing prayer."

He added that "what is asked of those who are called, for their part, is careful listening and prudent discernment, a generous and willing adherence to the divine plan, and a serious study of the reality that is proper to the priestly and religious vocations, so as to be able to respond responsibly and with conviction."

Father James Steffes, director of the U.S. Bishops' Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, reiterated the need for prayer. "We need to give ourselves to humble prayer, good discernment and a free response for the sake of His salvific plan," he said. "It takes courage, generosity and

sacrifice to respond to God's will, but one has everything to gain from a good and generous God."

According to the 2008 Official Catholic Directory, there are 28,000 diocesan priests, 13,300 religious order priests, 5,040 religious brothers and 63,000 women religious in the United States.

The Pope's full message entitled "**Faith in the Divine Initiative -- the Human Response**" is found on the Vatican web site:

<http://www.zenit.org/article-25529?l=english>

If you are looking to find an **Outline for a Prayer Service** and/or **General Intercessions** for the Prayers of the Faithful of May 3rd, here are two links with the Diocese of Oakland vocation website:

Prayer Service:

<http://www.howdoiknow.org/WDP09English/WDP09prayerservice.pdf>

General Intercessions:

<http://www.howdoiknow.org/WDP09English/WDP09intercessions.pdf>

Please continue to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially for the family of Holy Cross. Here is a short prayer that you may wish to use this Sunday:

GRACIOUS GOD,
You blessed your servant Basil Moreau
with a great love of your Cross
and an extraordinary trust in your Providence.
His zeal for the faith led him
to preach and to teach your Word
and to send his religious brothers,
priests, and sisters into foreign lands.

We ask you to bless us with his zeal
so that we might find strength in the Cross
and trust that you are with us in sorrow as in joy.
With this confidence, send us among those
who most need your love and our presence.

Make us ambassadors of hope to all.

Especially bless those who follow him in Holy Cross.
Inspire young men and women to respond to your call
so that Blessed Moreau's mission
of educating others in the faith
may continue to transform your Church.

AMEN.

*Prayer by **Father Joseph A. Sidera, C.S.C.***

You are welcome to share this information with anyone that might find it useful.

Br. Chester Freel

Cornerstone Mystery Solved

I just received a newsletter from Miranatha Bible College in Watertown, Wisconsin.



I solved a problem for them in letting them know what happened to the cornerstone of the main building. The cornerstone was taken to Rolling Prairie, Indiana, when Sacred Heart Military Academy re-opened there as LeMans Academy.

Here's the link to their webpage and the story of the missing cornerstone.

<http://www.mbbc.edu/page.aspx?m=3763>

Br. Lawrence Stewart

Spring Flowers from Portland

Brother Donald Stabrowski shares his talent for growing flowers at the University of Portland. The pictures are from Holy Cross Court the Holy Cross residence at the University of Portland.



Retirement Fund for Religious Talks

Three brothers from the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese gave talks these past two weekends for the Religious Retirement Collection. **Br. James Newberry** talked at Most Precious Blood Parish in Ft. Wayne, on April 18 and 19; **Br. Roy Smith** talked at Our Lady of Good Hope in Ft. Wayne, on April 18 and 19 and **Br. Walter Gluhm** talked at St. Patrick's in Walkerton, on April 25 and 26.

View Website at:
www.brothersofholycross.com

View Midwest-Midweek at:
www.brothersofholycross.com/midmid.htm

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