

# MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

May 24, 2023

## The Four Seasons

**Photos by Brother Martinus Bombardier, C.S.C.**

**Poem on the next page is by Brother Jerome Kroetsch, C.S.C.**

Columba Hall remembered throughout the year.



**Photo of the same view at four different seasons. The view is of the back area looking northwest from Columba Hall toward Saint Joseph Lake. This past year the beautiful maple tree (middle of picture) had to be taken down.**

## Our Poets, Past and Present

### Our Four Seasons

People have many different reasons  
for enjoying our four seasons.  
One might enjoy summer over all others,  
simply because it's warmer and  
living meets with less resistance,  
the sunshine and beaches calling  
with relentless insistence.

As for me, spring is my favorite season,  
and I say this for a special reason.  
It's when life comes forth anew,  
just as our Lord Jesus rose  
amid that first Easter morning dew.

I have a special feeling for winter too,  
bittersweet though it may be.  
This season helps me appreciate  
a good thaw and tells me spring is coming  
due.  
It's one I wish the lord would merely  
abbreviate.

Summer holds a special place in my heart,  
not only because it separates spring and  
fall apart,  
but also, it's a great time for outside  
activity,  
like soccer, which requires running and  
moving with rapidity.  
Fishing and hiking are also great outdoor  
sports,  
and tennis can be played on grass or  
asphalt courts.

Fall reminds me of our aging process.  
Spring and summer have given  
their weather donations,  
and this one continues  
the year's climate rotations  
With the growing season nearing its  
end,  
fall harvest presents us with a perfect  
blend.

In truth, I think the four seasons  
are good for all,  
as they show us new birth and  
growing up in life,  
with its many pitfalls and  
times of strife.  
Summer might define us as fully in our  
prime,  
hopefully in accord with our Lord,  
living free of crime.

—Brother Jerome Kroetsch, CSC



## Music Performance

Friday, May 19, 4:45 PM, Columba Hall :



Karen Schneider Kirner played the piano and her son Joe, a graduating high school senior, was featured playing the cello. In August, Joe will be a freshman at ND.

Presently, Karen, assistant director of Liturgy at St Mary's College, plays piano/organ and conducts the choir for the 9:30 am liturgy at St Mary's. Prior to this, she spent 23 years working in campus ministry at ND as a choral program director/organist. She graduated in music from Ball State and Yale University. She has done studies in voice, harpsichord, piano and organ. She is married to Scott Kirner who is senior IT director at N.D. She and Scott have three children: twin daughters (both violinists) and son Joe, who plays the cello.

Scott is both a tenor and liturgical guitarist.

The Kirners were guests of Brother Carl, who is a member of St. Mary's Sunday Choir at Saint Mary's.




**The  
Kirners:**  
  
**Mother,  
Father,  
and Son**



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

Click Link

### Columba Hall and Spring Planting

Come see our gardens.



Top: Gabby and Kayla  
 Bottom: Rick and Ray

# Kentucky Derby Party



Thanks to Carl, George, and Douglas for setting up the party.

Draw a winner's name.



**Carl**

**Bill and Fred**

**George's Cookies**



**George  
Douglas  
Donald**

## Holy Cross Roads Writings for the Journey

### Earthquake

We have seen what an earthquake can do in Turkey and Syria with the upending of many structures.

According to Richard Rohr, God feels like an earthquake at times in that our encounter with God can shake the ground under our feet and cause us to give up what we thought was essential for our security. The security that God wants to give us is in the unwavering love God has for us. God gives us love that will always be there for us if we call on God's name.

In the corner of fourth and Walnut in the downtown area of the city of Louisville, KY, Thomas Merton experienced an "earthquake" that changed his life forever. He began to see a divine spark in all of the people passing by. They were no longer strangers; but at their core, they were all grounded in the divine. As he would later say on the last day of his life to a group of Buddhists — We are all one, we only have not recognized it yet."

Maybe God wants to shake us up so as not to label people into types or groups but to see at a deep level the divine spark on all of us.

- Have you experienced events in your life that have shaken your faith?
- Have you searched for the divine spark in people, even in those whom you might consider your enemies?
- Have you become aware of the divine spark within you?

**O God, help me experience your presence in everyone including myself.**

**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.



**A BLESSING FOR ALL HEALTH CARE WORKERS CELEBRATING A SPECIAL DAY OR WEEK IN THE MONTH OF MAY 2023**



May the light of your soul  
bless the work.

May the sacredness of your  
work bring healing, light  
and renewal to those who  
work with you...  
to those who see and  
receive your work...

May dawn find you awake  
and alert, approaching your  
new day with dreams,  
Possibilities and promises.

May evening find you  
gracious and fulfilled.  
May your soul calm,  
console and renew you.

*John O'Donohue*

This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics & Spirituality + Providence Health Care  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. [providencehealthcare.org](http://providencehealthcare.org)

May 29, 2023



# Watercolor

Brother  
James  
Kane,  
CSC



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