

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

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

October 25, 2023

View from Columba Hall Main Entrance



Psalm 19-1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.



Saint Mary's Lake, Notre Dame – BJKane Photo

"Oh God, let us give you thanks for the beauty of creation."

Curiosity—Virtue, Gift, or Curse

While curiosity may be described as a desire to learn or know, I believe some caution with it may also deserve some merit.

For example, the saying, “curiosity killed the cat” seems more curse than either virtue or gift, for the cat.

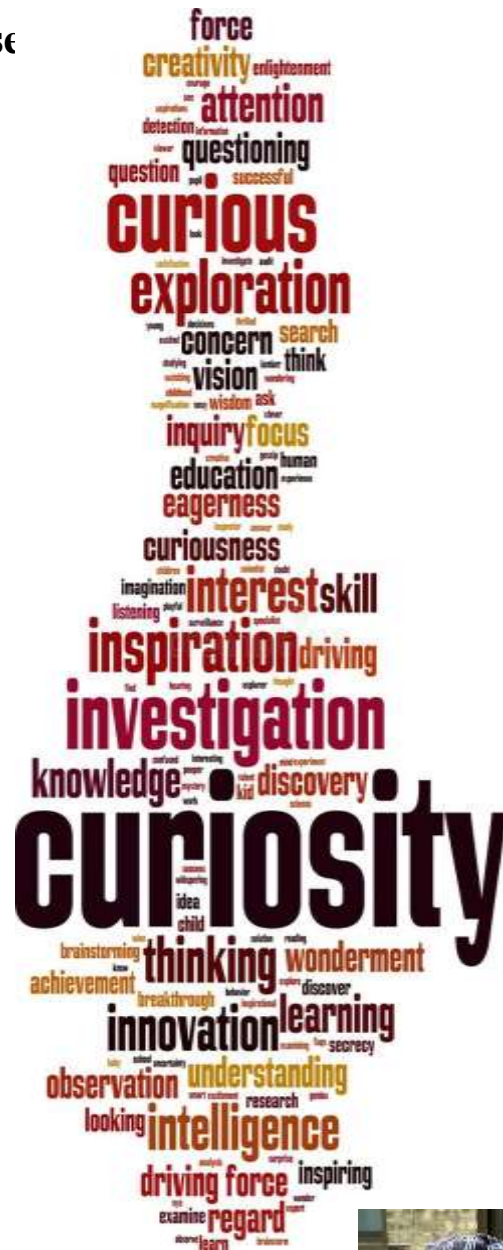
However, curiosity proved a gift for the disciples who asked Jesus where he lived, and he answered, “Come and see” (*John 2: 38-39*) as they received the gift of staying with him that day.

Curiosity can be a virtue for us who are curious to know the Lord and become closer friends with him, as his desire is always to be our friend.

And what do we think curiosity was for Pontius Pilate in asking Jesus, “What is Truth?” (*John 19: 38*)

Possibly curiosity can have different descriptions depending on the object, circumstances, and how it is used.

—Brother Jerome Kroetsch, CSC



Province of West Africa News



Brother George Asare, C.S.C.

News from St. Brother Andre Senior High School, Ghana:



On the 15th of October 2023, the school held baptisms of four students. Three other students joined them to receive their first communion. They went through catechism class and were found worthy to be baptized and dine with the Church. The teacher is Brother George Asare, CSC.

The Angels rejoiced with the school in celebration of our new Catholic members.

SBAHS-Web: <http://www.sbahs.edu.gh>

PWA-Web: <https://hcpwa.com/>



Columba Hall Visitors




Brother Douglas Roach's younger brother David visited Columba Hall over the October 21 weekend to catch up and play a little golf on the Notre Dame links. David lives in Woodland Lake, a suburb of Detroit. With him came his niece, Diane Roach Smith, who lives in Birmingham, Michigan, and teaches watercolor technique at the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Center, the largest non-profit art center in the Midwest. Currently thirty-five of her students are exhibiting their watercolors at the Art Center. She herself has already exhibited several of her own pieces of art there. Neither of the weekend visitors revealed the scores from their trips to the Notre Dame golf course, but David, known as "King" because of the Biblical king David, was probably allowed to win.

**Article by:
Brother George Klawitter,
CSC**



Brother Columba O'Neill, C.S.C.
Servant of God

Website
<https://brothercolumba.com/>



 **Brother Phillip Smith, C.S.C.**
Postulator of the cause for Brother Columba

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Holy Cross Roads

Writings for the Journey

The Big Picture

How does God see you? Is God most concerned about how many imperfections you have as you live this challenging life? Or does God see the wonderful person God has created and loves unconditionally, the unique person God has created?

Knowing who God is, for us is so important when considering our spiritual life and also how we view ourselves. We are all sinners, but that is not the ultimate description of who we are and the call that God has planned for each of us. We only have to become aware of the faults and sins of the Apostles. Jesus called his first followers and even used their imperfections to achieve God's purposes in the building up of the Church, as when Thomas first denied the Resurrection. We are a "pilgrim church" as Vatican II reminds us. We are not there yet, but we are on the road to the destination. We are led by many people who have shown us the way. This is the wonderful reality of the spiritual life. Even though the road is bumpy at times, our faith and hope will help us focus on what is really important in arriving at our destination and our destiny.

As the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross state: We follow along the path others have travelled. We can walk each day in this faith and have the assurance that God will not let us face our perils alone. This is the big picture.

- Does your image of God affect how you view yourself?
- Are you able to see what God sees in you beyond your imperfections?
- Describe the big picture as you think about your life.

O God, help me grasp more fully your plan for my life.

Brother Carl Sternberg, C.S.C.



For more reflections to grow spiritually
please visit our new blog
<https://weeklyspiritualinsights.org/>



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

Jesus Among the Homeless

Once, when Jesus was approached by an individual aspiring to become a disciple of Jesus, Jesus responded: “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have dwelling places, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head” (8:20 Matthew) and (9:58 Luke). Thus, for Jesus, discipleship requires both a total renunciation of solace and security, as well as complete dedication to the work of promoting God’s Kingdom here now and to come. So, Jesus chose to be homeless.

Throughout biblical history, including the time of Jesus, homelessness was not stigmatized as it is today. Judaic law imposed a strict requirement of hospitality for all. Lodging and other needs were to be provided for anyone, even total strangers, at any time.

As the Gospel narratives reveal, Jesus was on the road traveling in pursuit of his ministry a great deal of time. At the end of a day he evidently relied upon the hospitality of many, some of whom might have been his special followers.

One can try to imagine the effects of homelessness on such a person today – the daily struggle of securing basic needs and the psychological assault on one’s own personal dignity.

Many people believe that Jesus continues to be present on earth today. If so, perhaps Jesus himself was one of the homeless persons seen recently.





Reflection sent in by Brother Thomas Maddix, C.S.C.



Genuine love is demanding.
But its beauty lies precisely in the demands it makes.
~ St. John Paul II



Showing gratitude
Is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans
Can do for each other.

Randy Pausch





Brother
James
Kane,
CSC



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