2009
Holy Cross Jubilarians
Sixty – Fifty – Twenty-Five Years
2009
Holy Cross Jubilarians
Sixty – Fifty – Twenty-Five Years
Congregation of Holy Cross 2009

Sixtieth Anniversary of Ordination

Rev. George C. Bernard, C.S.C.
Rev. Harold L. Bride, C.S.C.
Rev. Charles A. Delaney, C.S.C.
Rev. William H. Donahue, C.S.C.
Rev. Edwin J. Kadzielawski, C.S.C.
Rev. Michael J. Murphy, C.S.C.
Rev. William C. O’Connor, C.S.C.
Rev. Robert S. Pelton, C.S.C.

Sixtieth Anniversary of Religious Profession


Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination

Rev. James R. Blantz, C.S.C.
Rev. Donald J. Haycock, C.S.C.
Rev. John P. Keefe, C.S.C.
Rev. Robert J. Kruse, C.S.C.
Rev. James J. McGrath, C.S.C.
Rev. William P. Melody, C.S.C.
Rev. Louis W. Rink, C.S.C.

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Ordination

Rev. Michael E. Connors, C.S.C.
Rev. Joseph V. Corpora, C.S.C.
Rev. James E. Fenstermaker, C.S.C.
Rev. Diego Irarrázaval, C.S.C.
Rev. James E. McDonald, C.S.C.
Rev. Adam Subash Pereira, C.S.C.
Rev. Boniface Subrata Tolentino, C.S.C.
Sixtieth Anniversary
of Religious Profession
I was born in Springfield, Illinois on April 14, 1922, the youngest of six children. I completed elementary school at Blessed Sacrament School and high school at Cathedral Boys High School in my home town. Having an inclination to the priesthood, but not yet ready to make the move to the seminary, I enrolled at the University of Notre Dame where three of my older brothers had attended. In the middle of my junior year the attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the global war. One of my close friends left Notre Dame to enter the seminary, and that stimulated my thoughts regarding the priesthood. Advice from a couple of Holy Cross priests and my association with a number of Holy Cross seminarians cemented my determination to join the community. At the end of my junior year, I went to the novitiate at Rolling Prairie, Indiana, pronouncing my temporary vows in August 1943. Two years later, after intensive theology studies at Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C. I was ordained to the priesthood with nineteen other classmates.

My first assignment was to attain a doctorate in theology at the Catholic University of America which was contiguous to Holy Cross College where I resided. In three years, I completed the course work and my dissertation, and in 1952 I was assigned to Notre Dame to teach and assist in one of the student dorms. The following year I was made Rector/Head Resident of a dorm and I continued to teach a full load of classes until 1958 when I was appointed Vice President for Student Affairs – one of the most hectic jobs of my career. But it didn’t get any easier: in 1961, the provincial named me as President and Superior of Holy Cross College, a position which I held until the closure of that institution and the move of the theology seminary to Moreau Seminary at Notre Dame. (I jokingly tell people that I did so well or so poorly that no replacement of my administrative position was required).

A sabbatical year was allowed for me to study and prepare to get back into teaching. I spent four months living at the Jesuit seminary in Aurora, Illinois; and then I received a request to teach two courses in moral theology at the Benedictine monastery in Peru, Illinois (St. Bede’s). There I lived as a Benedictine monk, singing the divine office, concelebrating the Masses, taking part in their recreation and their work. Evidently, I fit in quite well because when it came time for me to depart, the Abbot asked me if I would be interested in joining their community. I told him that I truly enjoyed my stay there, I had been treated as a member of the family rather than as a guest, but that Holy Cross was my true home and it was time for me to return.
The next move was to the University of Portland in 1969. (I had received a promise from the dean and the Chair of the Theology Department that I would have no administrative duties). One year of teaching with no administrative duties was followed by seven years as Department Chair, and by ten years as Academic Vice President. In 1975, I was granted a semester leave of absence so that I could be Catholic chaplain and teach two courses for World Campus Afloat -- a Semester at Sea. The tour visited twelve countries: Portugal, Tunisia, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Crete, Egypt, Senegal, Trinidad, Venezuela, Columbia, and Haiti. It was a great learning experience. At age 65, I resigned from the administrative work and returned to teaching on a part time basis. Five years later I retired from the university but remained with the community in Portland where I still reside.

During my years in Portland I have been acting superior for one year, the assistant superior for six years, a member of the local council for many years, manager of Holy Cross Court (the apartment complex where about twenty of the priests and brothers live), and a member of the Board of Regents for seven years. I have also assisted at parishes in weekends, particularly St. Thomas Parish in Camas, WA and its mission, Star of the Sea Parish in Stevenson, WA.

Now that I am completely retired from the university, I have more time for prayer and for hobbies. I also have more time to assist at parishes, to help with some of the minor chores at Holy Cross Court, to act as chauffer for some of the priests and brothers who no longer drive, and to be available for other requests. My health remains good, with some minor ailments. I no longer worry about getting old because I am there already. Seeing at the bright side, I am closer to my ultimate goal now than I have been in the past, so things are looking up.

The sixty years have passed quickly, but not always easily. Were I asked: “if you had the chance to start over, would you choose the same commitment”? My answer would be: DEFINITELY. I am eternally grateful to God for leading me to the religious life and the priesthood and for all the graces God has given me along the way. My family, the Holy Cross Community, and many others who have influenced my life are in my prayers. May my remaining years be in accordance with God’s plan for me.
Fr. Harold L. Bride, C.S.C., was born in Yamhill, OR, September 3, 1919, and came to Holy Cross Seminary in 1940 after one year at the University of Portland. He graduated from Notre Dame in 1945 and did his four years of theology at the Foreign Mission Seminary in Washington, D.C. After ordination and until 1968, he served the people of Bangladesh in a variety of ways. He also found the time to earn a Master’s and Doctoral degree in Economics.

In 1968, largely due to his great giving of himself in ministry, Fr. Bride contracted tuberculosis and returned to the United States and Holy Cross House. After nine month convalescence, he taught part time at Niles Public High School in Michigan from 1969 -72. After two years at the University of Portland he worked at parishes in Oregon for an additional two years.

After a well deserved rest he returned to Portland in 1978 and worked at the DePaul Center until retirement in 1989. Fr. Bride continues to work with people with addictions and once a week travels to the State Prison Mental Hospital in Salem, OR.

Fr. Bride now resides at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame, IN.
It is a great joy to have the opportunity to celebrate sixty happy years of my priesthood. It is a celebration of thanksgiving for so many graces and for so many persons in my past sixty years.

First of all, I want to thank my first family, my father, Patrick, a just man, my mother, Mary, a most humble and simple woman, my brother James and my sister Marion, for their help in my first years. All my family is enjoying their eternal life.

I also want to thank my second family, my graduation class of 1939 and the Sister of Saint Joseph. Five of us are still enjoying the first phase of our life.

And I have been blessed to be a member of the 49’s. Many of my classmates have helped me in my mission work in Texas and Chile. Nine of us are still alive.

My story begins in August, 1949, in a parish in Cleveland, Ohio at 10 p.m. My provincial, Father Steiner, called me by telephone and the following was our short conversation.

- Delaney, this is Father Steiner. You are to go to Chile.
- When do I depart, father?
- Tomorrow, come to Notre Dame. Good night.

I spent about two and half years at Saint George’s College. I was not too happy. My desire was to serve the poor. But I never asked for a change.

But, in January 1952, I was assigned to the Mexican missions in Austin, Texas. After one year at San José Parish, I was named the first Pastor of Dolores Parish. I was young, full of energy. I knew almost every family in the parish. I started a grade school. Drove the school bus for six years, I worked very hard with the youth (many sports) and with the men. I was very happy. I still have contact with some of my former parishioners.

Now, my story continues with a second conversation by telephone with another provincial, Father Mehling. This conversation took place during the first week of December, 1959, at 7:30 a.m.

- Hello, Carlos, I am Father Mehling. How are you?
- Good.
- How is your health?
- Very good.

(I began to ask myself, what does he really want? Provincials generally don’t call in the
early morning to ask about your health, especially, long distance).

- Carlos, you always say that you are a missionary and ready to go to any place in the world.
- Yes (for the moment I thought of the possibility of going to Africa).
- Even to go back to Chile.
- (Silence)
- Not to Saint George’s, but be Pastor at San Roque...a poor parish which you know well.
- Is this an order, father, like 10 years ago?
- No
- May I reflect, pray and ask advice from others?
- Yes...take all the time you need.

After a week or so, I called Father Mehling to offer my services in Chile. It was a very difficult decision. But I knew God wanted me to go back. I did not know why… it was the WILL OF GOD.

•

As I write this story, I have completed over 51 years in Chile. I became a Chilean citizen in 1968. My work in Chile has been with the poor and rich...at San Roque Parish, Pastoral Center of San Roque (a personal parish where we attend alcoholics and other addicts and their families) and Saint George’s where I do pastoral work.

I do not have many talents. But I do thank God for my spirit to serve, especially, the sick. What has helped me in my life?

My ministry in Dolores Parish, San Roque, Pastoral Center of San Roque and Saint George’s College has helped me to grow spiritually.

- FAITH. It is a basic virtue in our lives. An addict loses his faith in himself, in others, and in Dios. I pray daily that my faith increases so that I may help others who have little or no faith.

- HUMILITY. Addicts, cancer patients, elderly, etc. must accept the things that they can’t change in their lives... in order to enjoy interior peace. I was not a humble person… but thanks to God, I have changed.

- RECONCILIATION. Daily, I face family problems... separations, physical or mental violence. My goal is to help these persons be reconciled with God and with each other. But, first of all, I must be reconciled with my God, with my brothers and sisters.

I want to thank God for my health, for my internal peace which I will not give up for anyone, for anything, or for any place.

I ask for your prayers so that I may grow in faith, hope and love and that I may continue to serve my brothers and sisters.

AMEN
My first fifty years as a Holy Cross Priest were evenly divided between college teaching and parochial ministry: 25 years and 25 years. From 1949 to 1974, after studies for the Ph.D. in Biology, I advanced from instructor to tenured full professor at King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania – 25 years. This was followed by 28 years in parochial ministry in the Diocese of Austin Texas: 1974 to 1989 as a rector of St. Mary’s Cathedral – 15 years; 1989 to 2002 as pastor of Holy Family Parish in Copperas Cove – 13 years.

King’s College had not yet graduated its first class when I arrived in 1949. In this young college, I (and most other faculty members) filled many functions. Always teaching a full schedule of classes in the biological sciences, I was simultaneously chairman of the department and prefect in student dormitories for seventeen years, director of athletics for ten years, on the council of five Holy Cross Priests responsible for the administration of the college, vice-president for four years, pre-medical and pre-dental advisor, chaplain to the twenty-five nuns at St. Ann’s Academy in Wilkes-Barre for eleven years and for twenty years served each weekend in the four missions out of Bear Creek in the Pocono Mountains. In looking back, I can hardly believe it possible!

My introduction to life in Texas came in 1971-72 when I held a National Science Foundation Faculty Fellowship at the University of Texas, in Austin, in the field of genetics. Three months of this fellowship were spent at the Marine Station of the University at Port Aransas. There I conducted research on the cytogenetics of sharks, skates and rays. The following summer, I returned to the Marine Station on a postdoctoral fellowship sponsored by the International Decade of Oceanographic Exploration (N.S.F.) and conducted research on the effects of petroleum on marine organisms.

I began a new phase of my priestly career in 1974 when I was given permission to move from the academic world into parochial ministry. I found that I could be of service in the parishes of the Southern Province, and was appointed rector of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Austin. Holy Cross had served in this parish for a hundred years – since first coming to Austin in 1874. St. Mary’s was named the cathedral when the diocese was founded in 1948. It is located in the heart of downtown Austin – a few hundred yards from the state capitol. During my fifteen years there, I was fully occupied in priestly ministry in a busy center-city parish.

In 1989, I was appointed pastor of Holy Family Parish in Copperas Cove, Texas. This was the
only Catholic parish in this city with a population of 30,000 and which is adjacent to Fort Hood, the largest army installation in the United States, perhaps in the world, with over 40,000 troops. Our parishioners were mostly young military families or older retired military – many of whom, as civilians, were employed at Fort Hood. The parish was very much alive with over five hundred children in religious instruction and with a large number of zealous volunteers in a wide range of parish ministries. As the only priest in the parish, I maintained an active schedule!

In 2002, on my 80th birthday I left Copperas Cove and was assigned to our facility at Cocoa Beach in Florida. While there I assisted at Our Savior Parish and a little later at Divine Mercy Parish.

In 2007, I was assigned to Holy Cross House at Notre Dame, Indiana, where I am now living with some 50 other Holy Cross men who are well advanced in age. Last year, there were fourteen of our men who died!

During my years in Texas, I was deeply involved in activities of both the Diocese of Austin and of the Southern Province. For instance, I was on the diocesan presbyteral council – having served as its chairman for a number of years. I served as dean of the Temple (Texas) Deanery. At various times, I was a diocesan counselor and served on the marriage tribunal, have been vice-provincial and a member of the provincial council of the Southern Province. I have also served a term on the board of trustees of St. Edward’s University.

Family life began for me on August 22, 1922, when I was born in Philadelphia, the first of seven children to John and Mary Donahue. I have always loved my brothers and sisters and remember them in my celebrations of Mass.

In the summer of 1940, as an eighteen year old graduate of West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys, and intent on becoming a priest in a religious community, I was guided by my aunt, Sister M. Katherine, C.S.C., to apply to the Holy Cross Fathers Seminary in North Easton, Massachusetts. My application was graciously accepted and I began college study on September 12, 1940. During our two years there, our class was instructed by some remarkable Holy Cross men: Gerald Fitzgerald (who later founded the Servants of Paraclete), George Benaglia, Frank Gartland, James Moran and James Wesley Donahue (whose term as Superior General had just ended). We were professed as religious of Holy Cross in August of 1943, following our novitiate year at North Dartmouth during which Richard Sullivan was novice master, and Dennis Sughrue was confessor.

College study in philosophy was continued at Notre Dame University with graduation in 1945. Theological studies were at Holy Cross College, adjacent to Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Ordination to the priesthood was there in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 7, 1949 – sixty years ago!
I.

Father Edwin Kadzielawski, C.S.C., was born January 22nd, 1922, in Chicago, IL., to Stanley and Bernice (Grabowski) Kadzielawski. I have three brothers who are still living; they are Jerome, Edmund, and Leonard.

I attended St. James the Apostle Grade School in Chicago taught by the Felician Sisters. Upon graduation in June 1936, I entered Holy Trinity High School of Chicago taught by the Holy Cross Brothers. It was there that I learned of the Congregation of Holy Cross and Brother Andre and took a liking to the Congregation of Holy Cross. Upon graduation from Holy Trinity High School in June 1940, thanks to the guidance and influence of Brothers like Mximus, Stanley, Xavier, and many others, I entered Holy Cross Seminary, Notre Dame, IN. in the fall of 1940. On September 9th, 1940, I began my college studies at the University of Notre Dame as a freshman, at Holy Cross Seminary.

After spending one year at Holy Cross Seminary, I went to St. Joseph Novitiate, Rolling Prairie, IN. My Novice Master was Fr. William Robinson, C.S.C. On August 16th, 1942, I made my Profession of First Vows and then went to Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame, IN., where I resumed my college studies. I graduated from Notre Dame on June 22nd, 1945.

In the fall of 1945, I went to Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C. where I studied theology for the next four years. I graduated in June, 1949. I then returned to Notre Dame where on June 8th, 1949, I was ordained a priest by Archbishop Noll at Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, IN.

As a newly ordained priest I returned to my home parish in Chicago, St. James Church, to celebrate my First Solemn Mass on the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. After spending several weeks vacationing in Chicago amid family and friends, I was sent to New Orleans, LA, to Sacred Heart Parish. There I became an associate priest and teacher of Religion to the freshmen boys at Sacred Heart High as well. I remained there eagerly absorbing the wonders of the sun, the culture, and the calories of good Cajun cooking and Southern hospitality. In August of 1954, I was assigned to St. Edward High School, Lakewood, OH where I served as chaplain to the Holy Cross Brothers and students, and taught religion to the freshmen boys. I also assisted at St. Vincent Church, Lakewood, OH. weekly.

Afterwards I was assigned to St. Hedwig Parish, South Bend, IN as associate priest especially active with the youth of the Parish. From 1956 – 1962, I was assigned to Holy Trinity Parish as associate priest. I served here and began my Graduate Studies at Loyola University of Chicago in Counseling Psychology along with Fr. Bob Sweeney, C.S.C. who was in residence there.
and was also studying Counseling and Guidance under Fr. Curran at Loyola University.

In the summer of 1962, I left for the University of Minnesota to do some additional study in Testing and Measurements. While studying at the University of Minnesota, I was in residence at Sacred Heart Novitiate, Jordan, MN, where Fr. Dan Curtin, C.S.C., a classmate of mine, was a Novice Master.

Then in the fall of 1963, I was assigned to St. Edward’s University, Austin, TX, where I served as Chaplain to the Brothers at Vincent Hall and teacher of Psychology at the University. Here I began a Testing and Guidance Program at the University. In 1967, I received my M.Ed., in Counseling Psychology from Loyola University of Chicago. At first I was so satisfied and content with my work at St. Ed’s. and with the Brothers that I was reluctant to accept the request of Fr. Christopher J. O’Toole, C.S.C. to become director of the Holy Cross House of Studies in New Orleans, LA. Fr. O’Toole was my first religious Superior at Holy Cross Seminary at Notre Dame, IN. While at the House of Studies, I also served as Chaplain and Counselor to the students at De LaSalle High School, New Orleans, and assisted regularly on weekends at Resurrection Parish where Msgr. Boeshans was pastor. In 1978 to 1984, I was appointed Assistant Provincial by Fr. John Miller, C.S.C., Provincial of the Southern Province.

In the summer of 1977, I was assigned to St. Mary Cathedral, Austin, TX, where I served as associate priest to Fr. Bill Donahue, C.S.C. who is also celebrating his Diamond Jubilee this year.

Then in the summer of 1978, I was appointed pastor of St. Jude Parish, Baton Rouge, LA, along with Fr. Harold Essling, C.S.C. newly ordained priest. As pastor of St. Jude Parish I saw the rapid growth and expansion of the young parish and sensed the need for establishing a grade school for the parish. In 1982, the first school building was completed and classes began and continue to flourish to this very day. After six pleasant years at St. Jude, in 1984 I underwent an emergency operation for a detached retina. Because the operation was unsuccessful, I left St. Jude for New Orleans to undergo a second operation at the Specialist Retina Clinic. This, too, proved less than successful. I remained at Sacred Heart Church until the fall of 1985 with Fr. Essling, C.S.C., pastor and close friend.

In the fall of 1985, I was appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church, Marble Falls, TX, where I served as pastor until 2000. While here at St. John, I saw the young parish grow rapidly with a large number of Hispanic immigrants from Mexico. I followed up on my observations and slowly began to learn the language of the new population. I set up a Mass in Spanish and continued the study of the language and the customs of the Latinos with ‘on the job training’ Spanish Bible study groups. Eventually I selected one of the Hispanic parishioners, Eraclio Solorzano, to study for the Diaconate, which he completed in three years.

During my tenure at St. Johns, shortly after Bishop John McCarthy was appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Austin, I was appointed Dean of
the Western Deanery and served in this capacity until the year 2000.

Looking back over the Golden years – fifty of them – I can truly say: Many years, many works, many different assignments with many and diverse challenges were experienced. These experiences of enrichment and growth included preaching, baptizing, weddings, quinceneras, funerals, teaching at all levels including primary grades through college in diverse climates, customs, diverse languages (Polish, Spanish, English, etc.) which, like EXTRA CHUNKY SALSA, added new zest, joy and flavor-taste of many varieties of experiences, memories, with a fair amount of good health and energy left to invest eagerly.

In summary, I too would like to close with the words of Mary, MY SOUL CANNOT BUT MAGNIFY THE LORD FOR HE WHO IS MIGHTY HAS DONE SO MANY MIGHTY GOOD THINGS UNTO ME IN THESE PARST FIFTY YEARS; AND HOLY IS HIS NAME…

On June 14th, 2000, I left St. John’s Church and moved to Austin TX., to live with Fr. Harold Essling at Steiner Lodge, West Lake, TX. While living at Steiner Lodge, I was assigned as chaplain to the Holy Cross Brothers, Br. Vincent Pieu Retirement House, at St. Edward’s University. While I was chaplain for the Brothers, I also helped out at neighboring Parishes on weekends, especially at Dolores Parish. In 2004, I was officially appointed as Associate Pastor in residence at Dolores Parish. I served there until 2007. I enjoyed working very much with the Hispanic people of the parish who were most hospitable and generous. In April 2007, I was reassigned to Holy Cross House at Notre Dame, IN. where I commenced my years of full retirement.

In these final years of retirement I would like to re-echo the words of Mary’s Magnificat. He continues to bless me.
When we were in our third year of Theology, Fr. Albert Cousineau, Superior General at that time, visited Holy Cross College. He asked me if there were anything he could do for me. Without any hesitation, I asked if I could be ordained “in the West.” Fr. Cousineau replied that this was something about which he could only make a recommendation. The final decision was to be made by the Provincial.

In September, on the evening of our ordination to the Deaconate, Fr. Bernard Ransing, Superior of Holy Cross College, told me that Fr. Tom Steiner, the Provincial had given his approval to Fr. Cousineau’s recommendation that I be ordained to the priesthood in the West. Fr. Ransing remarked that he was opposed to this. He remarked that it would not be any more difficult for my relatives to travel from Montana to Notre Dame than it would be for his relatives to travel from Lancaster, Pennsylvania to Notre Dame. I observed that it is further across the State of Montana than it is from Washington, D.C. to Notre Dame. A visit to the Library and use of an atlas there finally convinced Fr. Ransing that I was correct.

Permission was granted for me to be ordained by Bishop Gilmore of Helena, Montana. Correspondence with Bishop Gilmore revealed that he was planning ordinations for early April, to correspond with the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of Pope Pius XII. I relayed this message to Fr. Ransing and learned that if I were to be ordained in April, I would have to come back to Washington and stay there all summer. Spending a summer in humid DC did not appeal to me. I contacted Archbishop Edward Howard in Portland, Oregon, and learned that he had scheduled ordinations for May 28, 1949. Since my maternal aunt in Portland had raised me, after my mother’s death, and, prior to entering the seminary, I had all my education there at St. Francis Assisi School and Columbia Prep, this was fortuitous. Accordingly, I was ordained a priest in Portland on May 28, 1949. There were three priests ordained for the Archdiocese of Portland with me.

After Masses in Portland, Oregon, and Butte, Montana, I was assigned to assist Fr. John Wilson, Director of Vocations, for the balance of the summer. Then, I was assigned to advanced studies with residence at the Presbytery, Notre Dame. The Presbytery at that time was the residence of the Provincial and his assistants. We had our meals on the lower floor. Other residents were: Fr. Christopher O’Toole, Assistant Provincial, Frs. Kerndt Healy, Thomas Burke, Thomas Lahey, Patrick Carroll, and William Finnegan. Fr. Finnegan was pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. Fr. O’Toole was closest to me in age. At first I
was so quiet at table that Fr. O'Toole called me in to his office and ordered me to be more talkative. A few months later, he called me into his office once again, and asked me to be quiet at table. Fr. Steiner was wondering if Holy Cross College had been infiltrated with Communists. (This was the age of McCarthyism.) I remember one heated discussion we had about the coal miners having a strike for “portal to portal pay”. Since we were in the midst of the Korean War, my tablemates were in favor of putting John L. Lewis, President of the Mine Workers of America, in the front line of the troops in Korea. After one year in the Presbytery, I was released to work as a prefect to Fr. Paul Fryburger, rector of Morrissey Hall. I was notified of the assignment at 1:00 p.m. I was in Morrissey that afternoon.

All this time I was taking various classes in geology. In June 1951, I earned a B.S. degree from Notre Dame and applied to graduate school in geology at St. Louis University, Stanford and the University of California, Berkeley. I was accepted at all three and chose the University of California, Berkeley. I arrived there in the fall of 1951 and was assigned by Archbishop Mitty of San Francisco to reside at St. Margaret Mary Parish, Oakland.

The next week the sole assistant at St. Margaret Mary was assigned to a different parish. This left me alone with the pastor, Fr. Emmet O’Connor. This meant that I had the daily 8:00 Mass, confessions on Saturday afternoon and evenings, and the 10:30 and 12:00 Masses on Sundays. I tried to refrain from other duties, but Fr. O’Connor fouled up some of the marriage cases and the Chancery Office asked me to handle all marriage cases.

In the summer of 1952, I returned to Montana to take the Summer Field Course in Geology conducted by Indiana University at Cardwell, Montana. This enabled me to preside at the wedding of my sister Margie to Robert Wedin in Butte in June. When I returned to California in late August Fr. O’Connor stayed full time in San Francisco where his only sister was dying from cancer. This meant I was the only priest at St. Margaret Mary’s until Fr. O’Connor returned in mid-December. I was able to get assistance from the Dominicans, for weekends, funerals, etc. But, every evening when I returned from classes at Berkeley, during supper, I had the housekeeper dial all the people who had phoned that day and tried to take care of things. I started to have stomach trouble and developed ulcers. Accordingly, I asked the provincial, Fr. Ted Mehling, to assign me to Notre Dame. I completed work for my Master’s Degree in June.

When I started teaching at Notre Dame in the fall, I was also assigned to assist Fr. Carl Hager in Lyons Hall. I taught the mineralogy class to the geology majors, and had two sections of Geology 101 for non-majors. After one year, I was appointed rector of Farley and continued teaching. I was Rector of Farley for three years. Then, I was reassigned to one of the “new” halls, Keenan. The first residents of Keenan were juniors and seniors who were moved from off-campus. At this time, students selected their room based on academic average. So, most of the first residents of Keenan, especially the juniors, had low aca-
ademic averages. The saying was “This would be Idiot’s Delight if it were not for Murphy.”

In the second year Keenan was made a freshman hall. At this time all the residence halls at Notre Dame were assigned to members of the same class. “Stay Halls” where one stayed in the same hall year after year were almost a decade away. My ulcers started to bother me once again. There is a tree at the north end of the North Dining Hall. It received many a “feeding” from me as I left dinner or lunch early. At one time I was a patient at the Student Infirmary for a week. In the days before Tagamet or Nexium, doctors kept you on a diet of half and half cream every two hours – nothing else. On a Friday I was given my first solid food for five days. It was a lamb chop. I devoured it like a Neanderthal. Dr. Crowley, then the University physician, recommended that I be removed from the job of rector. Fr. McCarragher transferred me in 1959 to Pangborn as rector. It housed juniors.

I felt guilty that I had never earned a doctorate in geology. Accordingly, I applied to the National Science Foundation for a faculty fellowship. I was successful. In 1960, I went to Columbia University in New York City to study geomorphology under Dr. Arthur Strahler. I also took various classes in geomorphology at Barnard College. Thus, I feel that I had the course work equivalent of most doctorates in geology, but did not have the intense research experience.

When I returned to Notre Dame in 1961, Fr. McCarragher, Vice President of Student Affairs asked me to return to Keenan as rector. I protested to the remark that religious obedience could require me to go to Keenan, I replied that I would go, but reluctantly, grabbing a hold on every tree on my way there. Fr. Mac then remarked that Fr. George Bernard, before he left the Office of Student Affairs for his new obedience as Superior of Holy Cross College in Washington, DC, had penciled me in as Rector of Sorin. I immediately replied I would prefer Sorin to Keenan. I was appointed Rector of Sorin in the fall of 1961.

Sorin Hall was really great. It had tradition as the first hall at Notre Dame to have private rooms for students. Fr. Bob Pelton and Bill Toohey assisted me; Sorin housed only seniors. In March, 1962, Fr. McCarragher asked me to come see him. I thought he might have been upset because the Men of Sorin had auctioned the Hall and all its inhabitants to the highest bidder during the Junior Parents Weekend. I presented Mrs. Siegfried with the title to the Hall. She was thrilled and phoned her daughter in Tulsa from my room to tell her of her new possession. Mrs. Siegfried’s son, Ray, was a junior that year. In the 80’s, she donated the funds for Siegfried Hall. Fr. McCarragher never mentioned the auction but told me that I was going to be transferred to Alumni in 1962.

Alumni was a good hall. The first year that I was there (1962 – 1963) we only had seniors. The next year was the start of stay-hall. Freshmen still resided in five halls (Keenan, Stanford, Farley, Breen-Phillips, and Cavanaugh) in what was called “Freshman Quad.” It was long desired to break up the “Freshman Ghetto”. Farley and Alumni were selected as two halls to try integrating freshmen into the upper class halls. As with
most “experiments” it was deemed a success after about three months and became the norm for the entire Campus.

My ulcers had improved somewhat. I had undergone an experimental procedure at the University of Minnesota. They froze one’s stomach by injecting a balloon with frozen liquid. I had the procedure done in March, 1963. The acid-producing nerves died. It worked fine with in experiments with dogs. However, in humans the nerves rebounded in seven to ten months with a vengeance. My ulcers returned on a trip to New York City for a football game with Syracuse on Thanksgiving Day. Fortunately, Tagamet was then available.

I was rector of Alumni for five years (1962 - 1967). I was successful in my applications to the National Science Foundation for teacher-training institutes. Starting in 1964 I had a Summer Institute for 40 teachers from the entire country. In 1965, I started an In-Service Institute for local teachers from the Michiana Area. After four Summer Institutes, we changed them to Sequential Institutes, where the secondary school teachers came back to Notre Dame for four years, and, after a summer field course at Montana State University in Bozeman, they received a Master’s Degree in Geology from Notre Dame. The In-Service Institutes, after a few years, also became Sequential Institutes. After the local market had been pretty well saturated, I started In-Service Institutes in Chicago. Faculty members from Notre Dame’s Earth Science Department – the Department’s name was changed in 1967 from Geology Department – traveled to Chicago to teach classes at Kelly High for teachers in public and private schools. As a result of all of these programs over 100 teachers received Master’s degrees from Notre Dame. I believe these National Science Programs were the best investments the Government ever made. The students taught by these teachers were the biggest beneficiaries. I feel confident the additional tax paid by the teachers because of their increased salaries as Master Degree holders came close to paying for the financial benefits they received. Anyway, the Nixon Administration effectively ended these programs.

In the spring semester of 1967, I was Rector of Alumni, Assistant Dean of Students, teacher of the beginning course in geology for 180 freshmen in the Engineering Auditorium, teacher of geomorphology for the department’s majors, and taught a course in the In-Service Institute for four hours on Saturday mornings. Something had to give. I asked to be relieved of my duties as Rector and Assistant Dean of Students. I moved to Corby Hall in 1967.

My duties increased in the Fall Semester. I was made Chairman of the Earth Science Department in 1967. I had been Assistant Chairman for the two previous years. I remained chairman for 18 years. When someone asks me about changes at Notre Dame during my years on the faculty, I unhesitantly say that the admission of women in 1972 as full-time students was by far the biggest improvement. We replaced most of the academically lower half of our students with high achieving females. A student who had ranked in the middle of his class, now found himself at
the bottom. There was also a great “civilizing” effect made by the women students.

With the cutback in funding for National Science Foundation Institutes for teachers, I developed programs to attract minorities to careers in geology. While serving on review panels for proposals from other universities, I became aware that government funds could not be used to attract people towards a particular profession. The government also could not sponsor programs that were intended only for a single class of people. Oil companies and other companies who hired geologists were under pressure to hire more minorities. Accordingly, I solicited oil companies to finance programs that were aimed at attracting African Americans, Asians and Hispanics to major in geology. I was successful in obtaining funds to support programs for highly qualified minority high school students from the Chicago Area.

We had preliminary programs at Northwestern University, University of Illinois-Chicago, the University of Chicago and Indiana University-Gary. The students took courses in geology for two months in the summer. The better students were invited to participate in a two-week program in Montana. We had field trips from Bozeman to the Grand Teton, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks, and the copper mines in Butte. It was a great program. The students liked it, but, after three years, we didn’t attract a single student to attend college and major in geology. Three students enrolled at Notre Dame in business. Most of the students went on to college but none elected geology as their major. The girls mostly went to nursing schools; the boys majored in business. After three years, I wrote letters to all the companies who had sponsored the program informing them that I could not, in good faith, continue asking for funding for programs that were unsuccessful. Nevertheless, one company sent me a check for $50,000.00 to help me continue the program. Obviously, they never read my letter! They finally had the check applied to a scholarship program for minorities studying at Notre Dame.

With the end of summer school duties at Notre Dame, I began helping in parishes in California for the summers. It was at this time that I met my good friend, Fr. Tim MacCarthy, pastor at St. Hedwig’s in Los Alamitos, California. I assisted Fr. Tim for three years in the late 80’s. This experience led me to early retirement from Notre Dame. In 1985 the mandatory age for retirement was raised from 65 to 70. Notre Dame had a policy of paying two year’s salary to anyone who retired early. Thus, I retired from the teaching faculty at Notre Dame in 1989 – I was 66. I would have retired a year earlier, except I was chairman of the North-Central Section of the Geological Society of America and the Annual Meeting of that Society was scheduled to be held at Notre Dame in April, 1989.

After retiring I spent two years as Associate Pastor at Santiago de Campostella Catholic Parish in El Toro, now Lake Forest, California. I felt very lonesome there. I was used to a large religious community. Thus, I asked the provincial to assign me to Casa Santa Cruz, our semi-retirement house in Phoenix. I stayed there four years, and requested the provincial, Fr. Carl Ebey
to reassign me to Notre Dame. Community life was not the best in Phoenix. Most of the priests there had been in the foreign missions and were used to going to bed at sundown.

In June 1995, I returned to Notre Dame and Corby Hall. I was kept busy hearing confessions at the Basilica and helping out on Campus. I continued helping in parishes in California at Christmas and in the summers. Twelve years later I was assigned to live at Holy Cross House where I currently reside. This is by far the best living quarters I have had in my sixty years as a priest. I hope to have many more happy and pleasant years here.

I am proud of many of my accomplishments while at Notre Dame. I am especially proud of the following:

1. During my tenure as Chairman of Earth Science, at least 83% of the faculty was Catholic.
2. I was able to encourage two Holy Cross priests (Frs. Jim Rigert and Ron Wasowski) to earn doctorates in Earth Sciences and become members of our faculty.
3. Three of our majors became Holy Cross Priests. (Frs. Tom Hosinski, Jim Karaffa, and Steve Kempinger.)
4. That over 20 of the Department’s graduates became professors of Earth Sciences at the university level; at such universities as the University of Chicago, Penn State, Indiana University, the Universities of Texas, Tennessee, and Washington as well as others.
5. That graduates of our department held important jobs in companies responsible for finding resources for our country. At one time the chief geologists at Exxon, and Shell were Notre Dame Graduates.
6. Of the many other graduates who held important positions, including Bruce Babbitt, former Governor of Arizona, and former Secretary of the Interior.
7. Of the more than 100 secondary school teachers who received their M.S. degree through our NSF Programs. They became loyal Notre Dame Alumni and close friends.
8. Of the fact that, on the occasion my 50th ordination anniversary, family and friends started a scholarship fund for Geology majors at Notre Dame. As of September 2008, $141,752.22 had been contributed to this fund. In September 2008, thanks to the talents of Notre Dame’s Investment Office, this fund had a Market Value of $303,317.00. With the Markets recent performance, the Market Value has probably greatly decreased.
9. Of my election as first chairman in 1970, and again in 1976, of the now defunct “Association of Holy Cross Religious Employed by the University of Notre Dame.”
10. Of the 1986 Special Presidential Award, given in the next to last year of Fr. Hesburgh’s Presidency, which states:
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME du Lac
1968 SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

Priest, rector, scientist, and administrator, this award-winner has worn many hats with distinction for the past 35 years on this campus. As longtime Chairman of Earth Sciences, he encouraged preparation of new courses to keep students up-to-date on environmental issues. Imaginative, and responsive, he seized the initiative for funding and developing summer programs for minority youths with promise as scientists. Over the years his fellow priests have often recognized his special abilities by electing him liaison between the University and the Holy Cross Community. Noted as a story teller, he entertains his friends with tales which demonstrate his self-effacing humor. He is a man whose devotion to this University, its mission and its traditions, merits special honor tonight.

MICHAEL J. MURPHY,
CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS

Much of the above is possibly overstated, but it is good to occasionally hear such flattery.
Father William C. O’Connor, C.S.C. was ordained to the priesthood June 8, 1949. During that summer, he assisted in a parish in the archdiocese of Detroit, before taking up residence in St. Patrick’s Parish, South Bend. His time at St. Patrick’s was cut short when he was asked to leave this apostolate and join the Holy Cross Mission Band. He served on the Mission Band for three years before returning to parish work. In 1955, he joined Father John Lynch, C.S.C. the founding pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Burbank, California. After seven years as the assistant at St. Francis Xavier, he became its second pastor for the next fourteen years. When his time as pastor of the Burbank parish came to an end, the Holy Cross Provincial Superior did not give him a new assignment, so he sought one on his own – serving on the Matrimonial Tribunal of the Diocese of Orange in California. Five years later he found similar employment in Phoenix, Arizona where he could live with the Holy Cross Community at Casa Santa Cruz. Four years later, he left Phoenix to become pastor of El Cristo Rey Parish at the Grand Canyon. Seven years later, he moved to Lakewood, Ohio, outside of Edward High School. Three years later, he returned to the Burbank parish at the invitation of the pastor, Father Mike Couhig, C.S.C. But this assignment was short-lived: the Holy Cross Fathers returned the administration of the parish to the archdiocese.

Father O’Connor returned to Notre Dame and was soon assisting at Sacred Heart Parish on the campus and Faith, Hope and Charity Chapel in Downtown, South Bend. He continued to serve the downtown chapel until a health problem sent him to Holy Cross House where he now resides.
I currently serve as Professor of Theology, Departmental Fellow of the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, congregational Chaplain for the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Director of Latin American Church Concerns (LANACC), which I founded, and coordinator of the Romero Days observations at Notre Dame, an annual series of lectures, symposia, and workshops that study Archbishop Oscar Romero’s role as a model for bishops who strive to advance the Church’s mission in this world.

“El Monseñor,” as he is affectionately remembered by millions throughout Latin America, is the subject of two of my recent books – *Monsignor Romero: A Bishop for the Third Millennium*, and *Archbishop Romero: Martyr and Prophet for the New Millennium* – and also of Romero, Bishop of the World, the working title of a 90-minute documentary film I am striving to bring to fruition. The hope is that this film can share the rich legacy of Archbishop’s life and apostolate with lay audiences in schools, colleges, and parishes, as well as with a large television audience.

After receiving my Doctor of Theology from the Pontificum Athanium Angelicum (now St. Thomas University) in Rome, where I was privileged to study with Fr. Garrigou-Lagrange, I returned to Notre Dame in 1953. I spent the following decade as a Professor of Theology and became departmental chair in 1959, which enabled me to implement an outstanding liturgy program created by Fr. Michael Mathis and to contribute to Notre Dame’s later developments in theology.

Over the years, I served as a Professor/Fellow within the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, rector of Badin Hall, founder and director of the Notre Dame Institute for Clergy Education, and as the chair of numerous seminars and conferences, especially those involving small Christian communities or the Church of Latin America. I also served as a credentialed journalist at the third and fourth General Conferences of the Latin American Bishops in Puebla (1979) and Santo Domingo (1993), as well as the Special Assembly for America of the Synod of Bishops (1997) and Pope John Paul II’s visit to Brazil (1980).

Ironically, my deep and abiding interest in Latin America began serendipitously. When I returned to Notre Dame in 1964 after a year of post-doctoral studies in France and Spain, I anticipated returning to teaching but Fr. Howard J. Kenna, then Provincial of the Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, asked to consider becoming president, rector, and religious superior of St. George’s College in Santiago, Chile. I accepted the post largely because of my foreign mission vow to serve wherever I was most needed, but I could not foresee the enormous impact that Latin America would have upon me, my ministry, and my very concept of Church.

Even before my three-year term at the school ended, I knew I wanted to remain in South America.
for several more years. During the summer of 1965 Cardinal Leo Suenens, one of the four moderators of Vatican Council II, invited me to serve as his peritus on Religious Life during the Council’s last session. It was both exhilarating and profoundly moving to witness and participate in this great renewal of the Church.

Soon afterward, I was chosen as a delegate to the Archdiocese of Santiago’s Pastoral Synod in 1967, the world’s first post-Vatican II diocesan synod. The progressiveness and commitment of the Chilean bishops was palpable. The Chilean Church had already interiorized many of the key themes of the Second Vatican Council and had begun applying them at the parish level. Using the simple but powerful methodology devised by Canon Joseph Cardijn, the delegates unflinchingly observed the grim realities of their parishioners’ lives and of the Church’s traditional responses; they judged many elements of both to be unacceptable; and they acted by developing and implementing an extensive array of creative pastoral initiatives to improve housing, nutrition, health, education, employment, and other crucial quality-of-life issues at the grass-roots level. In addition to serving as a lifeline for countless desperately poor people, the Pastoral Synod’s rediscovery of the Church’s social mission became a prophetic forerunner of the groundbreaking Medellin Conference the following year.

I was appalled by the crushing poverty and suffering that were daily routines for millions of people in the callampas (shantytowns) and astonished by the depth of their faith and by the many ways their lives and their faith could be nourished by strong pastoral leadership. I wanted to be part of that, so I accepted eagerly when Cardinal Raúl Silva invited me to become his Episcopal Vicar for Religious Institutes. My principal duties included applying post-Vatican II renewal to the Chilean Church; coordinating the work of the Archdiocese’s thousands of sisters, brothers, and priests; and implementing the Gran Misión. The latter was one of the finest pastoral leaders I have experience in my sixty years of pastorhood.

Recognizing that many Chilean Catholics were increasingly alienated from the Church, Cardinal Silva began a “re-Christianization” campaign that encouraged small Christian communities, team ministries, family-based catechetical instruction, and lay apostolates in dozens of forms. The Gran Misión flourished during the presidencies of both Eduardo Frei, a Christian Democrat, and Salvador Allende, the first Socialist democratically elected as a head of state in the Americas.

The work was challenging and emotionally wrenching but immensely worthwhile and I wanted to continue it indefinitely, but my five-year appointment ended in the autumn of 1972, and I was called back to Indiana. In September, 1973 the Chilean military, led by Gen Augusto Pinochet, staged a bloody coup, assassinating President Allende, several cabinet members, and thousands of civilians. By nightfall, the country that historically had been the most democratic and peace-loving nation in South America had been reduced to fascist dictatorship, terrorized by bands of death squads. Cardinal Silva requested that I return to Chile on four occasions as we formed a new team for religious renewal in the archdiocese. On one of these trips, Fr. Fred McGuire and I delivered Cardinal Silva’s detailed and documented lists of the thousands of murdered and “disappeared”
I was born at St. Anthony’s Hospital, Michigan City, Indiana, to Joseph and Josephine (Otten) Timm on March 2, 1923 and was baptized there. My mother was confined with “septic poisoning” for a month.

My missionary vocation got off to fast start at the age of four when I went to First Grade at St. Mary’s School with my brother Bob (I have two younger sisters, Mary Jo and Genevieve). Sister Cleophas, SSND gave me a silver-framed desk-stand picture of the Little Flower, St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Patroness of the Missions, who had been canonized only three years before. She has remained my favorite saint to this day. Her message of “do even small things well and out of great love” not only nourished my personal spirituality but has been the core of my spiritual teaching of others.

I entered the Holy Cross (“little”) Seminary (along with my future brother-in-law, Bob Schiel) on September 9, 1940, the same day a former Provincial and fellow Michigan Cityan, Fr. James Burns, died in South Bend.

I made my First Profession of Religious Vows at Rolling Prairie Novitiate on August 16, 1942, taking the fourth vow of foreign missions in addition to the three traditional vows. College life at Moreau Seminary was busy, especially because of the wartime accelerated program of three semesters a year with little vacation. It was a wonderful opportunity to take many optional classes, including three graduate courses in Philosophy under Professor Yves Simon. I was also able to take most of the pre-medical classes in Biology and Chemistry. Thank God for so many marvelous teachers at Notre Dame!

Because of my strong scientific background I was sent to Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C. to study theology, rather than to our Foreign Mission Seminary where I wanted to go. But Divine Providence, who has unloaded all the main gifts of my life right into my lap, led me to the Foreign Mission Seminary in my second year. The rector, the future bishop of Ft. Portal, Uganda, Fr. Vince McCauley, was to be my superior for the three years of my graduate studies also. After my ordination at Notre Dame on June 8, 1949, I was assigned to get a one-year Master’s Degree in Biology in order to found the Science Department of a new college for boys, which opened that year in Dhaka, East Pakistan. But I lacked an 8-credit undergraduate requirement, which I had to make up. At The Catholic University of America I was able to fulfill (with special permission) all the class requirements for both the M.S. and Ph.D. in two years. I was then allowed to remain another year to do my doctoral dissertation, which was published by the Marine Biology Laboratory, Solomons, Maryland on the marine nematodes of Chesapeake Bay. The lab gave me 200 free copies for the C.U. library, as required, and I did all my own drawing and typing for the dissertation.
I left for Dhaka with several others and arrived in late October, 1952. I have been there most of the time ever since, except for a six-month stint in Thailand and the Philippines working on plant-parasitic nematodes under a Research Fellowship of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization (1963-64). In 1968, I went as a Visiting Professor to the University of California Department of Nemalology at Davis, and remained there two years, teaching General Nematology and doing and directing research. During my time in Davis I spent two-and-a-half months in Antarctica under the National Science Foundation and discovered many new soil and marine nematodes. I also served as Catholic chaplain and celebrated Mass at the South Pole (as Fr. Ted Hesburgh had done before me).

My duties at Notre Dame College for boys (5,100 at present) were: Head of Science Department, Dean of Studies, Lecturer in Biology and founder-moderator of the Debating Club. I was also External Examiner in Parasitology for the Agricultural University and a board member of the Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science (which got me to all the universities of Pakistan for annual meetings). As a hobby in my spare time I did research on nematodes (roundworms) and described 48 new genera and more than 250 new species of animal and plant-parasitic nematodes and free-living nematodes (in soil, freshwater and sea) in 67 scientific publications. I am best known, though, for my textbook of college biology based on local flora and fauna, which went through six editions and was used in all the colleges of East Pakistan.

When I returned from the USA in October 1970 I had just resumed my academic career as Principal of Notre Dame College when the great cyclone and 20-foot tidal surge of November 12, 1970 caused more than a quarter-million deaths in the coastal belt. I first did relief work on Manpura Island, the worst-affected area, with other Fathers and students. Then I was invited by an organization called HELP to direct its rehabilitation program on the island. The work continued in spite of the civil war which broke out on March 26, 1971, but another duty was added - the protection of Hindus - 30% of the island population - who were regarded as “enemies of the state” by the Pakistan Army.

In August 1971, I returned to Dhaka and joined Caritas as planning officer, taking charge of war-time projects for devastated villages. After the war we carried out the biggest rehabilitation program ever done by a Catholic agency. It was valued at $42 million in cash and in kind. In 1974, after starting the Justice & Peace Commission I served as its Executive Secretary for 23 years. My second career as a social worker is still going on in my 38th year at Caritas, where I work five hours each morning, mainly on human rights. I also teach both semesters at the major theological seminary and write for its theological journal, especially on bio-ethical concerns. Since my Golden Jubilee I have also published two histories and three biographies. My main spiritual job is serving as chaplain once a week for the Missionaries of Charity and the Holy Cross Sisters, both for more than 25 years. In conclusion, I must thank Divine Providence and my Guardian Angel, since I have experienced more “deaths” in my exciting life than the proverbial cat.
SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION
Br. Richard grew up in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania located just ten miles directly north of Philadelphia, the youngest of nine children (seven boys and two girls) born to David and Katherine Kyle. He completed high school studies in 1943, graduating from Northeast Catholic High School (Philadelphia) having attended all his grammar school years at the parish school, Immaculate Conception.

Br. Richard worked at the Jenkintown Post Office during his senior year of high school and through January of 1948. Early February of 1958 he entered the Brothers Postulate at North Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Father Denis Sughrue, C.S.C. was postulant director and Brother Protase Bauer, C.S.C. was in charge of the farm where the postulants were kept busy. He became a novice in August of 1948, a short move to Holy Cross Novitiate located on the same North Dartmouth property. Father Richard Sullivan, C.S.C. was novice master. It was during his novitiate that Brother Richard started bookkeeping. Doing accounting of one kind or another had been his occupation these 50+ years. He has served at the University of Notre Dame, King’s College, and Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Brooklyn, New York. For nearly twenty years, Brother Richard was a steward at the Holy Cross Novitiate at Saint Pius X Seminary in Easton, where he also was director of brother postulants.

In 1996, a special Presidential Award was given to Br. Richard, by the University of Notre Dame. It was noted: “He is a model of a caring individual and unselfish employee. In his quiet and unassuming way he gives unlimited hours resolving important issues that routinely require attention on evenings and weekends. He has been an indispensable member of project teams designing and implementing modern information processing systems to support University accounting. The consummate team player, contributing new ideas and excelling at matching processing and reporting results achieved with project requirements. Whatever the task, his performance is remarkably accurate, thorough and insightful – in a word, it is outstanding”.

In 2006, Br. Richard was presented with a Doctor of Humanities by Stonehill College. Throughout his ministry, Brother Richard has quietly and consistently ministered to the disenfranchised, the underprivileged, and the sick. He has brought communion to the ailing, befriended those afflicted by addiction, offering friendship and encouragement. From his own modest means, he has assisted those who are financially in need. All this he has done beyond his assigned duties, on his own time, outside of any formal ministry, and without fanfare.

Br. Richard feels indebted to all religious of Holy Cross (sisters, priests and brothers) for their example in carrying out the dreams of our founder, Fr. Moreau, C.S.C. – especially those serving in third world countries.
Fiftieth Anniversary
This is my Golden Jubilee Celebration but I must confess that over the years I had overlooked the blueprint. It is a pattern designed to marvel and mystify. It is found everywhere in nature and is the aesthetic guide in art and architecture. It is the Golden Angle in rose petals and the Golden Spiral in our ear. It is discovered in the leaf patterns of plants, the pyramids, cathedrals and the spiral patterns of a hurricane. The list is endless. This Golden Jubilee is for me now a reminder to find Divine meaning and harmony hidden in all the parts of my Golden Years.

Often I came to realize that I was not always going where I thought I was going, for the reasons I thought I was. I was puzzled! God too, I realize, had His reasons. I pray to be eternally grateful one day for all His care and concern.

My Formation in Holy Cross began 159 years ago, in St. John, Indiana. Father Sorin himself came over to consecrate a Log Cabin Church in 1850. The chapel in the graveyard still survives on Route 41, Indianapolis Blvd. It was the first Holy Cross Church outside Michiana. Many early relatives are buried there. They had just arrived from the Saarland and Holy Cross priests came from campus to form my forefathers in the Faith. My family was nurtured by Holy Cross and He has blessed me these past 50-years to give back a portion of the gratitude we all feel.

Even the Grotto Stairs (6-1-8) now remind me each morning of the Golden Proportion that I enjoy.

My Mother writes in my Baby Record that my first steps in life were taken to “smell the flowers,” undoubtedly fascinated with the Fibonacci pattern of the petals. When six, during the War Years, I enjoyed a blue ribbon Victory Garden. Later in life, the Brownson Hall courtyard became a sanctuary for friends and visitors alike, sharing God’s delights in the rose petals. Now, after fifty years, my touch of Heaven continues with the smell of a dozen orchids on my windowsill here in the Presbytery. Who can complain? I thank the true Gardener.

A presbyter derives, they say, from the Greek and it applies to an elder, an “oldie” in the Church. Lest I become enamored with the dignity, parsing the Greek allows that the word means “an ox out in front” bearing the burden of the day. That is the Way of this Golden Jubilant. My plate may be a bit marred and marked, no longer fit for formal dining, but anxious to be a part of the party.

My pentimento of life takes me back to that WWII Victory Garden. It was the last war we won! They were exciting, formative years. Before we were involved in ’41, I can remember, two houses over, Bund Meetings in the basement. On the next street lived the Ribbentrops and down the block the Heinkels. Marlene would “over the
fence the ball throw.” And “up the stairs walk.” But then came Pearl Harbor! The young sailor-neighbor across the alley served in the crow’s nest of the Arizona when it went down in Pearl. For a 10-year old, my little golden world had cosmic proportions!

High school days at Bishop Noll were with dear Sister Alma Peter and the good Holy Cross Sisters who nurtured my Community vocation. In a classroom of 40 students we had 26 nationalities, but never a hint of cultural or ethnic friction. It was a learning experience where creeds were confessed and church practices respected. My uncle, a Priest, was pastor of two parishes in the Calumet Region, one Black and the other Mexican. Fiestas were a favorite!

I was ordained in Rome and pursued doctoral studies in Switzerland, with a “social theology practicum” on the slopes. Those were Pre-Vatican days. It was the “Eternal Truths” of Denzinger and the angelic arguments of Aquinas, fortunately tempered by the research acumen of Biblical scholar Spicq. Those were the days of Papa Pacelli, Madre Pascalinia, *La Popessa*, and Father Heston to explain first hand most Vatican intrigue.

My Ordination Year, John XXII walked in from Venice. He opened the window to an unprecedented Vatican II Council. The hurricane swirl has left church pews empty and national churches in disarray. The Divine Proportion continues to mystify and intrigue.

After studies, I returned to campus as a young priest to teach and work with teenagers on the Freshman Quad at Notre Dame. I leave I suspect having served in the Graduate School, the College of Arts and Letters and now as chaplain to Campus Health Services and Hospice patients from seven Indiana counties. It has been a divine proportion and I am grateful for the hundred blessings each day.
From my earliest days, I had considered the priesthood from time to time. We had two fine priests in the parish and it was presumed I would follow them into the diocesan priesthood. I did not want to “waste” a year in the Novitiate, as I wanted to get started on my priesthood at the earliest possible moment!

However, Tom entered Holy Cross Seminary in August of 1948, immediately after graduating from grade school. With each passing visiting Sunday, I became more and more impressed with Fr. Herve LeBlanc, one of the faculty of the seminary. I finally came to the conclusion that if Holy Cross could make me into that fine of a priest, I did not care how long it took or what it cost, I wanted it.

I had been interested in missionary work all through grade and high school, working on various fund-raising projects, selling candy at football and basketball games, etc. So when the opportunity came to request further study at the Foreign Mission Seminary, I was all for it. In Washington, I managed to get a ham radio license, in the off chance that some day we would be able to set up stations in the mission areas. About this time, Fr. Gus Fell chose me to learn movie making and related subjects in order to increase our fund-raising capabilities and also for mission vocations. I think I was chosen because of my interest in radio work. I studied with Independence Films in Philadelphia, off and on, for a year and a half before going to Uganda and what was then East Pakistan.

A month before I left, Fr. Fell suggested I go up to Rochester to discuss my trip with the Kodak people – knowledgeable people about the types of film I might require, who my government contacts would be in both countries, what the laws were about filming and sending uncensored film out of the country etc.!

I mentioned to my superior, Fr. John “Pete” Harrington that I would take a few days for the trip, and he suggested I stay with a family he knew. Seems the gentleman had been Pete’s sacristan when he was in the service. I tried to talk him out of it, I wanted to rent a car and stay in a hotel and not bother anybody. However, I do have a vow of obedience, so I consented. One evening the daughter of the family showed me a magic trick she had learned, and asked if I knew any tricks. I thought of one I had learned as a child and did it for her.

One month later, I was in Uganda, surrounded by about 30 small Africans with whom I could not communicate, and I remembered the trick I did in Rochester. Whatever priest was with me at the time suggested this might be a great teaching tool and encouraged me to continue. After a month in Uganda to check out the opportunities for movies, I flew to Dhaka, I had a three month visa and what none of us foresaw, was that I would have
to spend almost every day in the extreme heat shooting my films, as there was no opportunity for night shooting! Very shortly after my arrival I was felled by heat exhaustion. I managed to get some of the work done, and then returned to Uganda in April, where I spent the next few months in bed. Fr. Fell wanted movies made of Bishop McCauley’s installation as Bishop in July. I managed to hang on long enough and then left for home.

While in Dhaka, Fr. Bob McKee was very supportive of my magical efforts and I even found a book on magic in English, in the rectory at Hashnabad. It was published by the United States Army for the use of soldiers in the CBI Theater during WWII. Upon my return home, I was so ill that there was little chance I would ever make it back to the missions, so Fr. Howard Kenna suggested that any money I made on magic should be sent to the Foreign Mission Society.

I was assigned to Gibault Home in Terre Haute, Indiana for a couple of years to recover my health, then to St. Patrick’s Parish in South Bend and St. Bernard’s in Watertown, Wisconsin. While there I accidently uncovered a drug ring and since nobody knew how much I knew, my life was threatened, so I was quickly assigned about as far away as possible – Alexian Brothers’ Hospital in San Jose, California. By this time I had become adept at magic, and was working three weeks a year at the famous Magic Castle in Hollywood, using up all my vacation time. Then I was offered the position of chaplain at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, and a few years later moved to Rancho San Antonio in Chatsworth for about 20 years. After that I had a two year assignment to LeMans Academy in Rolling Prairie, where I renewed my acquaintance with four seasons, trees that change color, thunderstorms and snow!

When the school closed in 2001, I was assigned as chaplain to St. Catherine by the Sea Convent in Ventura California. As of the beginning of 2008, I have been in semi-retirement at Casa Santa Cruz in Phoenix, Arizona.
John T. Ford grew up in Logansport, Indiana, where he attended St. Vincent’s School, conducted by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. After graduating from Logansport High School in 1950, he spent his first year at Notre Dame, before entering the novitiate and making first profession at Jordan, Minnesota, in 1952. In 1955, after graduating from Notre Dame, he made final vows prior to studying at Holy Cross College in Washington, DC. After ordination on 10 June 1959 at Notre Dame, he studied at the Gregorian University in Rome, where he also served part-time as chaplain at Notre Dame International School, conducted by the Brothers of Holy Cross. In January 1962, he returned to Notre Dame, where he taught theology and perfected in Cavanaugh Hall. In the fall of 1962, he began teaching at Holy Cross College in Washington; in 1964, he was appointed assistant superior at the Foreign Mission Seminary and subsequently served as superior.

Since 1967, he has taught at The Catholic University of America and also at Trinity University, the Apostolado Hispano de la Diócesis de Arlington, and the Permanent Diaconate Program of the Archdiocese of Washington. He has also participated in various ecumenical dialogues under the sponsorship of the U.S. conference of Catholic Bishops. In addition to assisting in various parishes and other ministries in the Washington-area, he has served as chaplain of the Notre Dame Club of Washington since 1968.
After high school, I had a few jobs that provided me with spending money and not much else. I put the thought of priesthood on hold. But the gnawing desire persisted and I made application to Holy Cross fathers at North Easton, MA. My brother, Bill, had already spent two years as postulant in the community at North Easton. I guess I liked what I heard from him, although Bill was measured in his evaluation of seminary life. He would withdraw from the Community a few years after I entered.

In August, 1950, I began a journey that I never regretted. Hazleton, PA. is my hometown, and I would become the first priest ordained in the seventy-five-year history of Holy Trinity German Catholic Church. Sad to say, the parish closed its doors in 2008.

I spent four years at Stonehill College, interrupted by a year-long novitiate at Bennington, VT. Being two years away from formal classes, especially Latin, was indeed a challenge to a freshman, two years older than the others. Some help from graduates of Boston Latin in our group helped me along the way and all turned out well. I even mastered Latin (to a degree), graduated and then that Fall I was assigned to Rome, Italy for theology studies.

Ordained in November, 1958, and eager to begin to live-out priesthood, I returned to the States and Bridgeport, CT, where I was assigned to teach Latin and religion at Notre Dame High School. In Bridgeport, we were a community of twenty-five priests and brothers living almost a monastic life. Deep down, however, we loved what we were doing, teaching high school youth and assisting in neighboring parishes on weekends. After two years in the classroom and to fill a need in another Province ministry, I was assigned to the Holy Cross Fathers Mission Band in North Dartmouth, MA. Growing antsy to return to the classroom, I got my wish and was assigned to Greece...New York, thank God...where I began a love affair with Cardinal Mooney High School, recently begun and staffed by Holy Cross Brothers, Sisters of Mercy and dedicated lay-folk. Again, I taught Latin and Religion (now called Theology), with the added responsibility of chaplain to the Brothers.

I would remain with CMHS for the next twenty-five years, exiting only briefly for an assignment as principal of Notre Dame High School in Niles, IL, and another assignment as Personnel Director for our Eastern Priests and Brothers Province. While at Mooney, I completed graduate studies in guidance and was awarded a Masters Degree and Specialist Degree in counseling from the University of Rochester. Eventually leaving the classroom, I would spend many years as school counselor and guidance director at the...
High School. Those years were happy times for me; community life with the Brothers, weekend work at a neighboring parish, St. Lawrence.

When Cardinal Mooney closed its doors in 1989, I was given permission to accept full-time parochial ministry at St. Lawrence Church. I recently completed twenty years as parochial vicar.

I considered myself blessed to be able to combine two facets of ministry, though not that different, that I so enjoy teaching and parish ministry. Frequently at our community sessions at Kings or Stonehill, I would be asked if I was still in Rochester. I was fortunate to reply: “I am still in Rochester.”

Although I have been physically away from formal community life these many years, I know that I share in all the blessings of my brothers in Holy Cross and they share in mine. My prayers are with them and theirs with me. We can never be closer than that. Fifty years of ministry, many challenges, peppered with so much love and understanding, and the abiding sense and satisfaction that I am where I should be! It all adds up to multiple blessings from a gracious God…and to live these blessing as a member of Holy Cross, one more blessing.

My family especially occupies my thoughts these special days. My mother, Mary, who would tell any stranger even when not asked: “He’s my son; He’s a priest”. My father, Ross, who would take two connecting trains from Hazleton, a bus ride from Albany, NY, and hike up that long driveway at the novitiate in Bennington, VT, to spend an afternoon on visitors Sunday; both deceased now and such beautiful, loving parents. How they influenced my life! My brother, Bill and my sister, Mary Ann and their families, I thank them for their support and prayers. So many prayers from so many family members and friends made their way to heaven and guided and influenced me along the way to priesthood.

I pray especially this day for the many classmates who shared religious life with me at Stonehill and Rome – and for those who, for reasons known only to God, sought other ways to serve. I thank them, for their friendship and the many happy years we spent together in community life. And I pray to God for their health and happiness.
My mother worried that I was too young. My father said little. My brother assured us all that “HC” stood for “Hell’s Cave” and not for “Holy Cross”. Nevertheless, at the age of fourteen I was off to the “Little Sem.”, Notre Dame in the fall of 1946.

I’m a product of an all-Catholic education: St. Thomas Aquinas Grammar School (1938-46); Holy Cross Seminary, Notre Dame (1946-50); Sacred Heart Novitiate, South Bend (1950-51); University of Notre Dame (1951-55); Holy Cross Foreign Mission Seminary and Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C. (1955-1959). Over the past 50 years all these institutions have closed with the exception of the University of Notre Dame.

At the Little Sem Fr. Frank Gartland motivated us with the joy of reading and creative writing. Fr. Bill Brinker had “joke days” during physics classes which helped us when the morale was dipping.

Notre Dame was good to me. Frank O’Malley of the famed Modern Catholic Authors course once read publicly a piece of mine saying this author had great potential if only he could spell. As a major in philosophy, I can still remember with great clarity Fr. Leo Ward’s definition of life. “Life”? “Life is just one damned thing after another.” This philosophy greatly helped me in some tight turns during the past 50 years.

A standout in my theological training in Washington was Bro. Herb Morrow. He was more than just a cook at the Foreign Mission Seminary who made the best apple pies. He had tons of common sense, a heap of sturdy holiness and the most fabulous sense of humor. In those years of anemic theology just before Vatican II and in later years it was Fr. Gus Fell who counseled self-confidence and patience. Like St. Thomas More before him: “Seldom will one be condemned for what one doesn’t said but one is more likely to lose one’s life for speaking out unnecessarily”. Later, this advice served me well during the Amin years in Uganda.
During the 13 year of seminary life there were very rare vacations at home or with family. But there was camp life at Land-O-Lakes, Wisconsin and later at Deer Park, Maryland. It was during camp life that I made some of the best and most lasting friendships in Holy Cross while building roads, fishing and playing some baseball in competition with West Virginian coal miners.

After Ordination (1959) I went directly to Uganda, East Africa (1959-79). I was there for the tribal wars before Independence (1961-62), the wars during Independence (1962) and the post Independence wars (1963-73) and the long years of Idi Amin and his war (1973-78). I grew up in a hurry. I learned what it meant to be a priest. During these wars I decided I wanted to be a priest and I discovered the cost of being one.

Bishop McCauley and the Banyatereza African Sisters invited me to teach young religious Scripture and Vatican II. Without using terms like “inculturation” or “Africanization” I learned how to really speak Rutooro and how to live the life of a religious in the African way. Friendships were made that have lasted a life time. My best friend Martini a catechist of Kyarumba was martyred in a horrible, bloody execution. I was with him when he finally died. His blood still covers my hands and lap. I’ve never really been able to wash it off no matter how hard I have tried over the years- and that’s not all bad.

Perhaps my significant contribution while in Uganda was, as District Superior, to refuse to withdraw Holy Cross personnel at the height of the Amin years. If we had tried to withdraw, some or most would have been killed. Besides, what sort of credibility would we have had in returning when we had abandoned our friends during the bad times? When I returned to the United States in 1979, I was a very different person from the one who had left tin 1959 – and so was the country.

In the early 1980’s, Holy Cross wanted to be in Hispanic ministry. I learned some street Spanish in Coachella, California (1983) and a little more in and around Austin, Texas at San Francisco Javier and Santa Cruz Parishes (1984-87). After a visit to Monterrey, Mexico with some families of San Francisco, I was convinced that Monterrey would be a great opportunity to learn real Spanish and Mexican culture. The idea didn’t get any traction until two years later when Fr. Claud Grou (then Superior General) endorsed the idea. I left Texas for Monterrey and the Parroquia de Santo Tomas Moro in 1987.

For me, these were the best years (1987-96). Las Dinamicas Matrimoniales were born and grew. Many, many of the most wonderful friendships were made. And without the infusion of any US dollars, the main church was completed. Two existing chapels were renovated. Six new chapels were founded and built along with two medical dispensaries and two soup kitchens. While in Mexico I fell in love—with Our Lady of Guadalupe. All real Mexicans are Guadalupanos (as). Leaving Mexico was very, very hard.

After a couple of jump starts I ended up in Battle Mountain, Nevada (1997-2001). The New York Times named it the “Armpit of the Nation”. As a result and some national curiosity an “Armpit of the Nation” Festival was stared
and is sponsored by Old Spice Deodorant. Two diocesan priests and myself tried to cover the whole of northern and central Nevada. This is a wonderland filled with real cowboys, ranchers and miners who are found for most people only in fiction. It’s a wholesome, wonderful way of life that is, unfortunately, disappearing from the American scene.

I “volunteered” to be local superior of the Holy Cross community, Casa Santa Cruz, Phoenix, Arizona (2001-2007). The local community of the twelve of us came together as apostles want to do when Jesus is among them.

A very great blessing came late in life. After returning to the United States, I have been able to finally know my brother. In so doing, I have gotten to know my sister-in-law. There are two nieces, a most wonderful nephew and all their families as well. After leaving home at the age of 14, spending 13 years in seminaries and 30 years overseas God seems to have saved the best for last. “Better late than never”.

After my departure from Uganda 30 years ago, I was invited back for the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of Holy Cross in East Africa (2008). I was astonished and overjoyed to find a sizable, growing, thriving Holy Cross community of African Holy Cross religious with whom to celebrate. And yes, it was a wonderful renewal of friendships for those of us still living. We remembered all the others too.

Now I’m happy to spend more and more time with the God of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob and the God whom I have come to know through the cascade of the past 50 years. Of late, the adventure to live the life of a religious according to the tradition of Holy Cross has attracted me more and more (2009-?).

Webale muno! Gracias a Dios! Thanks to all for all!
My parents were natives of Indianapolis, and I was born there in 1932. When I was in seventh grade my family moved to White Plains, New York. My first contact with Holy Cross came when Frs. Mike Foran and Frederick Schulte conducted a mission at St. John the Evangelist’s in White Plains. I was an altar boy there and Fr. Foran asked me if I would like to come to Holy Cross Seminary at Notre Dame. I thought that was a good idea. Fr. Foran gave my name to Fr. John Wilson who visited my home at least twice to meet my family and talk about my going to the seminary. That is what I did in September 1946. I was thirteen years old. I later discovered that my classmate, Rollie Stair from Chicago, had been netted in the same way by Fr. Foran. I don’t know how many other fish he may have landed.

Of all the years I spent in houses of formation, those at Holy Cross Seminary were the most influential. Fr. Richard Grimm was the superior for three of my four years there, and Fr. Bill Brinker my director for all four years. In those years we learned how to get along with all kinds of peers. We also learned that our relationships with God were what mattered most in our lives. These lessons have stuck with me and served me well over fifty years of priesthood. By 1950, when an Eastern Vice-Province had been established, I made novitiate at the beautiful property in North Dartmouth, MA, only a few miles from the ocean!

From 1951 until 1955 I lived at the newly established Pius X Seminary and went to Stonehill College. The college had just opened in 1948, and the seminary was in the process of being converted from a cow barn when we moved in. We seminarians were the work force, with a professional carpenter to direct our efforts. Fr. Richard Sullivan was our Superior. He was also the mainstay of the Philosophy Department at Stonehill, and taught nine of the eleven philosophy courses which I took. Fr. Sullivan was a kindly person of exceptional equanimity, and a great devotion to Holy Cross.

In 1955, I was sent to live at Collegio di S. Croce in Rome, and to study at the Gregorian University. Fr. Ed Heston was our Superior. Fr. Heston was a paragon of service to the Church and a tireless worker in several languages. He was a great personality in the history of Holy Cross. I stayed in Rome for six straight years, finishing my doctoral studies in 1961. When I said my “first” Mass back in the states, I had been ordained for more than two and one-half years!

Since 1961, I have worked at Stonehill College except for a sabbatical year at Yale in 1970. For seventeen years I served as faculty member in the Religious Studies Department. In 1978,
Fr. Bartley MacPahidin, the newly appointed President of Stonehill, asked me to accept the Office of academic Dean where I served until 1987 when appointed Executive Vice President. My tenure as Executive Vice President lasted for fourteen years until 2001 when the position was abolished and I became Counselor to the President, Fr. Mark Cregan. The Counselor position requires no heavy lifting, comes with a handsome office, and provides time for me to teach English to immigrants in Brockton two mornings a week and to foreign students periodically. All the years since 1961, I have lived at Holy Cross Center, originally a seminary and more lately a college residence hall. For the last thirty-eight years I have occupied the same room, thereby carrying out the command of Jesus not to move from house to house. (Luke 10, 7).

As the years of priestly ministry have added up, I have become more and more convinced that the priest’s main responsibility is to help people recognize that their lives are holy and blessed by God, that “we live and move and have our being in God” (Acts 17, 28), and that even that which is dark in our lives is burnished in Jesus’ passion, death, and rising to new life. In this way, it seems to me, we become the “men with hope to bring” of whom Constitution 8, Article 117 speaks.
The arrival of 3 Holy Cross Fathers in Wilkes Barre, PA, in 1946, to establish King’s College not only offered Catholic higher education to young men in this coal mining region and surrounding areas but also made the Congregation of Holy Cross better known and generated numerous vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

After graduating from St. Nicholas High School, which was also our family’s parish, I took advantage of this opportunity by enrolling as a freshman at King’s College and found that the Holy Cross Fathers and Brothers were exemplary in the classroom and in every aspect of college life. They were also very visible in the area, by assisting in local parishes and other ministries. In 1954, with a BA degree and a major in Philosophy, and with the assistance of Fr. George DePrizio, Dean of the college, I entered the novitiate in Bennington, VT, and from there, one year later, moved on to Washington, DC to study Theology.

After that 4-year program, I received an MA in Sacred Doctrine. Our ordination took place at St. Augustine’s Cathedral in Bridgeport, CT, on June 5, 1954.

My first assignment was to Notre Dame High School in Bridgeport, CT, to teach Latin and Religion, for the next 10 years, with a one-year hiatus to complete my MA in Latin and Greek at Catholic University of America, and another year to teach in Gloucester, MA, when St. Peter’s High School was opened there.

Another opportunity in a different ministry was offered to me in 1971 — to serve as Catholic Chaplain at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie, NY, where much pastoral experience was gained in serving patients, families and staff.

My next move came 21 years later — back to my hometown to serve as Catholic Chaplain at Wilkes Barre General Hospital and to reside at St. John the Evangelist Parish which we staffed for 2 years, until it was merged with a neighboring parish. After that, I lived at nearby King’s College while continuing in the same hospital ministry, which included the VA Medical Center for 10 years, as well as nursing homes and health care facilities in the area.

Since 2003, I have been residing with the community at Cocoa Beach, FL, assisting at several parishes and at Patrick AFB, and volunteering at Cape Canaveral Hospital. During the summer, I continue my ministry in the Wilkes Barre area.
Rev. James J. McGrath, C.S.C.

Rev. James J. McGrath, CSC, emeritus professor in the department of biological sciences, was born in Brooklyn, NY, October 30, 1931. He attended St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Grade School and St. John’s Preparatory School. In 1946, at the age of 14, he entered Holy Cross Seminary as a freshman. After graduation in 1950, a year in the novitiate, first vows on August 16, 1951, he studied theology at Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C., and was ordained to the priesthood in St. Augustine’s Cathedral, Bridgeport, CT, June 5, 1959. During several summers he had studied at Notre Dame in order to earn a master’s degree in botany.

Following a year’s pastoral apprenticeship at Notre Dame, Fr. McGrath pursued doctoral studies at the University of California, which he obtained in 1966. For many years to follow, Fr. McGrath taught at Notre Dame and was Assistant Chair of the Biology Department. He was well known to many students who participated in his Botany class. He taught Plant Taxonomy, Plant Anatomy, Biological Microtechnique and a class for non-science majors, Plants, Food and Society. Fr. McGrath also spent many hours caring for the biology greenhouse which was eventually demolished to make way for new underground utilities.

Fr. McGrath was actually the Biology Department’s design liaison with the architects that designed, and the contractors that built, the Galvin Life Science Center. He had tremendous responsibility in regard to the ultimate design and construction of the first rate research and teaching facility that is the Galvin Life Science Center. He was also in charge of the entire move of the Biology Department, research labs, classrooms and equipment, etc., to the new Galvin Center. Moving an entire research facility with many on going, and delicate research projects, in a manner that did not disrupt the research projects and ruin years of research work, was an amazing accomplishment.

Because of building cost concerns when the Galvin Life Science Center was built, the Biology Department elected to keep its old greenhouse next to the fire house, where it remained until the Jordan Science Building was built many years later. One of Fr. McGrath’s last official acts at the Biology Department was signing off on, and approving the design, of the new Biology Department greenhouse which is now part of the new Jordan Science Building.

In 2008, Fr. McGrath was presented an award commemorating his years of service (1965-2003), to the Notre Dame Biological Science Department. A bronze plaque hangs at the entrance to the greenhouse with his name and honorary title of, “Keeper of the Plants.”
Many are unaware we have Fr. McGrath to thank for the beach on St. Joseph Lake. At one time, St. Joe Lake was nothing more than a swimming hole with a pier and a mucky shore line. After researching the depth and ecology of the lake, he approached Fr. McCarragher, Vice-President of Student Affairs with his idea. Fr. McGrath believed the students should have a place to enjoy the beauty of the lake and warm weather, and so he petitioned the University. Permission was granted on the condition Fr. McGrath would raise the funds. Fr. McGrath was able to purchase the supplies, (plastic and sand), thanks to many thirsty students. He had a soda machine installed by the boat house and can by can enough money was collected.

Over the years, Fr. McGrath was teacher to many students and rector of many dorms. Story upon story graces the memories of many of his former students. His care and generosity went beyond the classroom. Many Botany students have fond memories of field trips to the Chicago Field Museum and lunching at Gino’s Pizzeria. Fr. McGrath went to great lengths to make the students feel at home, he arranged many social gatherings so they had the opportunity to interact outside of the classroom. After his years as dorm rector, he moved on to the Notre Dame Fire Department where he both resided and served as chaplain.

Fr. McGrath’s duties went beyond the campus as he spent his weekends ministering at local parishes; one in particular, Sacred Heart of Mary Missionary Parish in Dowagiac, Michigan. Every weekend, Fr. McGrath would drive up to Michigan to celebrate Mass, only missing one Sunday in about 20 years.

In his many years of priesthood, Fr. McGrath has reached out to others. Whether it was assisting his students or ministering to parishioners, he would befriend them, teach them and challenge them. He has ‘Known, Loved and Served’ the Lord, with and beyond the Holy Cross Community. Celebrating this 50th Jubilee, as a Priest of Holy Cross, has led him through the garden of life, with many blooming flowers and an abundance of blessings.
Rev. William Melody, C.S.C.

Rev. William Melody, C.S.C., a native of County Mayo, Ireland, is the seventh in a family of nine – six boys and three girls. He came to the United States in 1947 at the invitation of his cousin, Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. and entered the seminary at Notre Dame. He graduated from Notre Dame in 1955, having become a US citizen in 1954. After graduation he studied theology at Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C. and was ordained a priest on June 10, 1959, at Notre Dame.

Following a year of pastoral apprenticeship at Notre Dame, where he was administrator of Sacred Heart Parish, he was assigned as chaplain to the Holy Cross Brothers at St. Edward’s University, Austin, Texas. After three years he returned to Notre Dame to become Director of Vocations for the Holy Cross Fathers and at the same time assist in seminary work. The years 1963-’73 were unsettled and troublesome years in the Church and, indeed, in society in general which added greatly to the challenge of vocation work. However, these ten years turned out to be grace-filled ones for Holy Cross and the Church as the thirty two young men who joined Holy Cross took on the roles of leadership – one as bishop, three as provincial superiors, two as district superiors, two as director of novices, two as seminary rectors, two as university presidents and two as school principals, not to mention others in ministries in the US and overseas.

In 1973, Fr. Melody was appointed Religious Superior of Holy Cross House, the medical facility of the Holy Cross Fathers at Notre Dame and served in that capacity until 1982 when he took over the newly-created position of Administrator. So, after recruiting the youngest members of the province he was now in the position of caring for the senior members who had spent their lives laboring in Holy Cross Ministries across the world. Caring for them called for the assembling of a medical staff to meet the needs of the aging and elderly religious and to bring the medical facility itself up to professional standards. To engage in this undertaking he relied greatly on the input and guidance of the Goshen Mental Health Clinic.

It was at this time that Fr. Melody became aware of the extent of the disease of alcoholism among clergy and religious and indeed in society in general. With the help of local health professionals and literature on alcoholism he mustered enough courage to intervene and take those suffering from substance abuse to a treatment facility for clergy and religious known as Guest House. This ministry to addicts was most challenging but also most rewarding. To witness men in the depths of misery and despair and feel-
ing they were hopeless and that nobody wanted them return to quality sobriety, good health and productive ministry was nothing short of miraculous. And all of this healing was brought about with the help of lay men and women counselors, many of them recovering alcoholics themselves. Seeing the need for a more organized approach to the intervention and treatment of those suffering from addictions, Fr. Melody, in conjunction with the late Fr. John Wilson and personnel from the Archdiocese of Chicago produced a manual of policies and procedures for substance abuse that was to become a model for similar manuals in many religious communities and dioceses.

In the evening of his life, Fr. Melody has moved to active retirement where he continues to be involved in parochial ministry in five parishes in South-West Michigan and a few parishes in the Notre Dame area. He has always helped in parishes and enjoys this ministry.

Earlier this year, Fr. Melody returned to his native Ireland to join in the centenary celebration of the birth of Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. on April 26. This was truly a prayerful and joyful event with Cardinal Sean Brady from Armagh as celebrant of the Mass. This celebration took place in the very same church of the Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph where Fr. Peyton and Fr. Melody were baptized and worshipped with their families and where Fr. Peyton had Mass for the last time on his Golden Jubilee in 1991. He died the following year in San Pedro, CA. After Fr. Peyton’s celebration, Fr. Melody stayed on to celebrate his Golden Jubilee of ordination with his family and parishioners.

Fifty years ago, Fr. Melody celebrated his First Mass in his home parish with Fr. Tom and Fr. Pat Peyton in attendance. It was on this occasion that Fr. Melody saw his mother and other members of his family for the first time since leaving for America twelve years earlier. His father had died six months prior to Fr. Bill’s ordination.

Looking back over the years Fr. Melody recalls some very special events and some are listed here:

Meeting Servant of God Fr. Patrick Peyton for the first time in 1946 when he and his brother, Fr. Tom, returned to Ireland for the first time since leaving in 1928.

Taking his turn at age eight at the bedside of Fr. Peyton’s mother, keeping her company and wetting her lips as she lay dying at home from a stroke after she offered her life that her son, Pat, dying of TB in America (Notre Dame) might be cured “to spend his life saving souls”.

Accompanying Fr. Peyton, the last ten years of his life for the annual testimonials in his honor in Chicago, Cleveland and Philadelphia. Also assisting him at Mass on the annual Family Day every July at the Knock Shrine of Our Lady in Co. Mayo. Finally, accompanying him for a whole week in his native Co. Mayo while RTE (Irish Television) produced a video, The Dedicated Man, on his life and ministry of Devotion to Our Lady, The Family Rosary, RTE housed both Fr.
Peyton and Fr. Melody in Belleek Castle in Co. Mayo.

Visiting and concelebrating Mass with Fr. Peyton in his room at the Little Sisters of the Poor in San Pedro, California, for four days before he died.

Coming up with the idea, along with Sr. Gerald Hartney, C.S.C., from Limerick, Ireland, of a memorial to Fr. Peyton in his home parish to honor his memory and continue his mission – now the Fr. Peyton Centre in Attymass in the hills of Co. Mayo near the Ox Mountains, that Fr. Peyton mentioned so often as he criss-crossed the world with his message, The Family that Pray together stays together.

Fr. Melody is a member of the board of Family Ministries (Family Rosary) and of the board of the Father Peyton Centre in Co. Mayo.

After fifty years of remembrance, Fr. Melody now pauses to give thanks, first to God for the privilege and honor of serving Him and His people; to his parents, Tom and Ellen Melody for their love of family, deep faith and for praying the rosary every night as a family around the peat fire in the thatched cottage, to his sisters Agnes, Mary and Katie and his brothers, Michael, Tom, Tony, Pat and John, for their encouragement and support, to the Congregation of Holy Cross for so graciously accepting him as a member of its family, and to the many wonderful people who have crossed his path over the years and whose kindness, generosity and example have enriched his life as a priest. May the Virgin Mary with her Child bless you!
Fr. Rink was born in 1924, in Homer City, PA. His father, John Rink worked in the coal miners for years. Fr. Rink served in the Army Air Corps during WWII and spent three years in active duty until two brothers were injured, and one passed during battles in Europe. Fr. Rink was sent back home to take care of his family.

In 1946, he entered Denver University, where he earned his B.S. in radio broadcasting and production. Directly following his graduation he visited Notre Dame, and entered the seminary in 1952, went to Jordan, MN, novitiate and that August and made his first vows there on August 16, 1953. After two years at Moreau Seminary and Notre Dame he studied theology during 1955-59 at Holy Cross College, Washington, D.C., and ordained to the priesthood on October 19, 1958, at St. Vincent’s Arch Abbey, Latrobe, PA.

Following a year’s pastoral apprenticeship at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Austin, TX, and Notre Dame High School, Bridgeport, CT, Fr. Rink spent 13 years in Holy Cross Missions in Fort Portal, Uganda, East Africa. He then served nine years in the missions and in the Holy Cross Brother’s St. Patrick’s School, Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, where he also worked in diocesan radio education and communications programs. Following this he returned to the missions in Uganda.

In 1989, Fr. Rink returned to the United States serving in various houses. Fr. Rink utilized his background in broadcasting, and produced Catholic radio programs for overseas missions and homebound listeners. His tapes are still being heard around the world. He also loved hosting retreats, especially in the missions.

Fr. Rink now resides at Holy Cross House. He thanks his family for the love and support they have given him throughout his years at Holy Cross. He believes that the combination of love form his family and the love of God has given him a good life.
Twenty-Fifth Anniversary
My life began in Springfield, Illinois, in June of 1955. I went to Catholic schools through eighth grade, then public high school. College took me to Illinois College of Jacksonville, Illinois, where I majored in History/Political Science. I had never been to Notre Dame nor seriously thought about the place until I visited the Law School as a college senior. After a year of working, I came back to Notre Dame, but for seminary, not law. I soon learned that the study of theology is what I had always been hungering for but didn’t know it.

My ordination day in 1984 still seems like just yesterday. My first five years of priesthood were spent in parish work. The people of Little Flower Parish in South Bend put up with me and taught me much of what I’ve learned about priesthood. I delighted in preaching and celebrating the sacraments, in collaborating with lay pastoral team members, and with lay catechists and sponsors in the RCIA process, RENEW, and a myriad of other things that make Little Flower the special and vibrant place it remains to this day. Even today parish ministry remains the cornerstone of my pastoral vision.

When I finished my initial formation and Master of Divinity degree I had no thought of returning to school again. But in 1989 I set out for Toronto, where I pursued doctoral studies in pastoral theology at Regis College in the Toronto School of Theology. This was a tremendous gift from the Holy Cross community for which I remain grateful. When I finished my degree I began retreat work as Director of Fatima Retreat Center, with a bit of part-time teaching in the Theology Department at Notre Dame.

Twenty-five years ago I would have been voted among my ordination classmates as the least likely ever to work at Notre Dame in the future. Yet, after three enjoyable years at Fatima, I accepted an invitation to join the ND Theology faculty full-time to teach and to direct the Master of Divinity Program. I am just completing ten years in that role. The opportunity to participate in the formation of men and women for priesthood and lay ministry continues to enthuse and humble me. One can hardly imagine a more generous, faith-filled, or enjoyable group of people to rub shoulders with, both students and faculty. Teaching has become a great joy. My father, now deceased, himself a high school teacher, would smile to hear me say that.

In addition, I have resided, and continue to reside, in an undergraduate residence hall, where I minister to undergrads. This too has been a great blessing. Education is in my blood, and in the community’s blood. Notre Dame has become home.

The support of family, friends, confreres and colleagues has been so important for me over these 25 short years. God’s mysterious providence guiding life’s course, too, and making up...
for my weaknesses and failures. There have been challenges, unexpected pathways, hard work, un-dreamed-of graces and opportunities. In short, I have so much to be thankful for. “May God who has begun this good work in you, bring it to completion.” Amen.
I was born on November 29, 1954, in Easton, Pennsylvania, the first of three children born to Dominick Vito and Evelyn Rose (Mosellie) Corpora. Among the greatest gifts that my parents gave me was the gift of Catholic education. I attended St. Anthony’s Parish School from Kindergarten through Eighth grade (1959-1968). In those days the school was entirely staffed by the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco, also known as the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. The Sisters and my Catholic education shaped and marked my life forever. I will always be grateful.

I graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1976, and after working for Notre Dame for one year in Mexico City, I entered the candidate program of the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1977. I was ordained to the priesthood in Sacred Heart Church on April 28, 1984.

I was privileged to serve in a variety of jobs at the University of Portland for my first six years of priesthood. It was a great place to start out in priesthood. From 1990 until 2009, I have served the Church as a Pastor -- twelve years at St. John Vianney Parish in Goodyear, Arizona, (1990-2002) and seven years at Holy Redeemer Parish in Portland, Oregon (2002-2009). These have been years of grace. These years have deeply defined my understanding of what it is to be a priest. It has been an incredible privilege to serve the People of God as a Pastor. I owe the people of both parishes an enormous debt of gratitude.

Soon I will begin a new assignment at the University of Notre Dame where I will work with several initiatives designed to sustain and strengthen Catholic schools across the country. This is an exciting opportunity and challenge since Catholic schools are the lifeblood of the Church.

There are so many things that I can say about these twenty-five years of priesthood that have passed so quickly. Probably the truest thing that I can say about my life is simply this. I am a sinner whose sins are forgiven. I am trying to love God with all my heart and soul and mind and strength. I continue to fail at this task. I ask your prayers for my ongoing conversion to God.

These twenty-five years of priesthood have taught me so much about God’s mercy and God’s forgiveness, God’s faithfulness and God’s unconditional love. If I ever write an autobiography, the title of the book would have to be *Mercy upon Mercy upon Mercy.*

I love being a priest and I will forever be grateful to God for this vocation to serve the People of God as Holy Cross priest. Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
I experience my initial interest in the priesthood in a most unusual setting – at a sports camp I attended a few weeks before my junior year of high school. The sports camp was primarily meant to prepare the cross-country team for the fall season. Run by the three Holy Cross brothers who were our cross-country coaches, it was held at the Brothers’ former novitiate in upstate New York. A diocesan priest at a parish near Holy Cross High School in Flushing joined us for a couple of weeks as chaplain for the sports camp, and awakened in me an excitement for religion and worship that I previously had not experienced. I discovered my call to religious life through the wonderful witness of the Holy Cross Brothers at Flushing, and my call to priesthood through a young diocesan priest who showed me the joy of the priestly ministry of word and sacrament.

Born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island, I attended Stonehill College after graduation from Holy Cross High School. After three years in Holy Cross candidate program at Stonehill, I completed my senior year and graduated with a major in psychology and a minor in religious studies. For the next two years I taught religious studies at nearby Cardinal Spellman High School in Brockton, Massachusetts, while also doing graduate studies in Theology at Boston College.

During my years of teaching, the call to religious life and priesthood in Holy Cross returned and grew ever stronger, to the point where I could no longer escape the “Hound of Heaven.” I re-entered the Congregation, and after completing my novitiate year in Waterford, New York, I attended the University of Notre Dame where I earned my Master of Divinity. I professed final vows in the Congregation of Holy Cross at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on September 3, 1983, and was ordained to the diaconate the following day at Moreau Seminary. I was ordained to the priesthood the following June at Holy Cross Parish in South Easton, Massachusetts.

I served my diaconate and first three years of priesthood at St. Stephen’s Parish in South Bend, where I also worked with the Hispanic youth of the city through La Casa de Amistad Youth Center. I served as associate pastor for two years at Most Holy Trinity Parish in Saco, Maine, and for five years at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, where I then served as pastor for four years.

I moved to Stonehill College in 1998 when appointed the director of vocations for the Eastern Province, residing with first year and sophomore students for the next ten years in O’Hara Hall. After six years as vocation director, I served as director of campus ministry at Stonehill for the
following four years, after which I was asked to assume the pastorate of Holy Cross Parish in South Easton, where I am currently serving, working as well with the Easton Knights of Columbus, the Stonehill Alumni Association, and as chaplain to the Easton Police Department.

Twenty-five years of priesthood in the Congregation of Holy Cross have passed quickly, a testament to the richness of the Catholic priesthood and the great satisfaction one can find in this life and ministry.
Participation in our CSC mission as educators of the faith is a source of thanksgiving to many persons and to our good Lord. In a special way I thank discriminated persons and groups in Latin America, who have been offering me gifts of wisdom and spirituality; with them throughout these years I have rediscovered ministry, community, a joyful justice.

A long part of my life has been learning, teaching, writing, sharing faith (in CSC parishes and in various educational institutions). 1948-1960: elementary and high school in Saint George’s (Chile). 1962-6: undergraduate in Notre Dame. 1966-69: licentiate of theology, Catholic University of Chile. 1974-5: master in religious studies, Chicago Divinity School. 2002: biblical work in Tantur, Jerusalem. I deeply thank many students and colleagues with whom I have been teaching theology: Catholic University of Santiago (1970-1973), Instituto Bartolomé de las Casas, Lima (1975-1981), Diocesan Seminary in Puno (1980-2003), Catholic University Silva Henriquez (2005-2009). Throughout most of these years I have been part of small CSC communities living in areas of social poverty.

In different contexts, teaching has been intertwined with parish work. In Santiago (1970-73), Chimbote (1975-81), Chucuito (1981-2004), Santiago (2005-2009). In 1994, on the feast day of Alberto Hurtado, patron saint of social justice in Chile and also feast day of my mother, I was ordained a priest in the village of Chucuito. In local language I said (among other things): “yuspagararaktwa taki jumanakaru Congregación de Santa Cruz”. In these indigenous areas I was pastor from 1994-6, 1999-2001, 2003-2004. Interaction between autochthonous culture and the Christian message has been at the heart of my ministry and my religious life. I have been collaborating in programs of initial and continuing formation to the religious life; presently in our CSC house of formation in Chile; and in the past with various religious congregations in Peru and in other parts of the continent.

Also I belong to several theological and pastoral networks: Amerindia in Latin America, the Ecumenical Association of Theologians (where I have been in leadership, 1996-2006) in the Third World. I also collaborate in the Editorial Board of CONCILIIUM (2005-9), and in other Journals. My reflection, teaching and writing has moved in several areas: dialogue between cultures and religions, the Christian faith in the midst of indigenous and other poor people’s journeys, Bible, liberation theology (and have published 14 books and many essays in Journals).

What has been most important is being church and doing theology in day to day contact with common people (in our parishes and in educa-
tional endeavors). A wonderful gift in my journey has been a rebirth in the midst of indigenous and mestizo andean communities. I hope that sharing knowledge, from the underside of history, may continue strengthening our being human and our being faithful to the living God.
I was born in Poughkeepsie, New York and grew up in the rural part of Hyde Park, New York, the northern corner of Duchess County. It is in the mid-Hudson region of New York, along the Hudson River, a beautiful part of our state. I came to Notre Dame as a first-year student in 1974, reluctantly, because I wanted to be closer to home and friends. In fact, “reluctantly” is mild; I couldn’t believe I was coming here. But, now it seems providential.

As I look back, two threads seem to connect a varied series of apostolic assignments: acquiring a fairly good command of another language (Spanish) and a habit of worrying about getting things done. So, early on most of my interests were focused on Spanish literature and culture, and I spent significant amounts of time in Spain, Peru and Chile. I majored in the Program of Liberal Studies at Notre Dame, although all my electives were in Spanish. I graduated in 1979 and continued in Cascade, and back again to South Bend for theology. I was fortunate to have been approved for studying one year in France and lived with the Holy Cross community at our school in Paris.

Finally professed in 1983, I was ordained a deacon in Phoenix at St. John Vianney, and to the priesthood in 1984 at Sacred Heart with three wonderful— and talented— classmates.

My assignments over the 25 years as a priest have been a series of challenges, and one more welcome than the last. I completed a master’s degree in Spanish and French at Cambridge University, assisted with the beginning of the return of Holy Cross to Saint George’s College, and completed law school in 1994. Carl Ebey asked me to assist him as steward and assistant provincial in his final three years as Provincial, an opportunity that gave me the grace to meet most of the Province here and abroad. Fr. Dave Link asked me to join him in the Law School as associate dean and that opportunity allowed me to minister among law students and faculty at Notre Dame.

In 1999, the Provincial asked me to return to Chile as rector of Saint George’s College, and I spent almost five years there, years that were challenging but also rewarding. Many of the people I had met and ministered to early on in my life as a priest, had then become parents of students in the school, and it was a large family. In some ways I feel more at home in Chile than anywhere else.

Most recently, John Jenkins asked me to assist him at Notre Dame, where I serve as Associate Vice President and Counselor to the President. I have varied and interesting responsibilities: working with our wonderful trustees, chairing committees (Laetare, Honorary Degrees, Wall of
Honor, Opening Mass), leading the board of the Tantur Ecumenical Institute, relating to the hierarchy of the Catholic Church in the United States and Rome, and working to promote the understanding of Holy Cross’ role at Notre Dame. This assignment has allowed me to meet and befriend hosts of interesting people who share a special affection for Notre Dame. In these past four years I was most marked by the visits of Harper Lee, Dave Brubeck, Martin Sheen and Jim Caviezel.

Finally, I reside in Alumni Hall where I can minister among students, something that I have always found enjoyable. Education has been my environment and focus all my life, and I am grateful for the challenges along the way.

Vocation to Priesthood

The distance between my home and the church is less than 10 minutes walking. My grandfather used to go to church every morning. My father used to tell me Bible stories very often and taught me prayers. Every evening we used to have rosary prayer at home. Being inspired by my family members and the nuns in the school I used to go to church almost every morning and there and I was a regular altar boy. All these were inspiring me to be a priest one day.

As my SSC (Secondary School Certificate) exam was going on, I was in need of taking a final decision for my future life. I decided to become a priest. Fr. George Pope, CSC, was the Parish Priest of our parish. I told him of my wish. Holy Cross priests in Bangladesh did not have a formation house yet for the candidates of my stage. So, Fr. George Pope guided me to join the diocesan seminary at Bandhura. On 10th January 1973, I left home for Bandhura Little Flower Seminary. Traveling the whole day I reached my destination, which was only 30 miles away from my home. I stayed one year there with nine other post-SSC seminarians. After my one year stay in Bandhura I was sent to St. Joseph’s Intermediate Seminary, Ramna, Kakrail to study HSC (Higher Secondary Certificate) at Notre Dame College.

Vocation to Holy Cross Congregation

Staying at Ramna Seminary I was studying at Notre Dame College. I finished HSC and got admission in BA in the same college. At this time through the help of my spiritual director I realized that religious life can enable me to fully offer myself to the service of God and His people. From my early life I was acquainted with only one religious priests Congregation-Holy Cross. Later I came to know some others. On the other hand, during my studies at Notre Dame I came to know the Holy Cross Fathers who run some social works at the College. I got involved in the social works. At this time I decided to join Holy Cross. Fr. Charles Gillespie, CSC, was the Asst. Director of Ramna Seminary. I told him of my decision. He accepted my application and sent me to the formation house at Mathis House in

REV. ADAM SUBASH PEREIRA, C.S.C.

**Ordination**

Completing my Major Seminary studies I was ordained deacon in June 1984 and was posted in Jalchatra Parish. After six months I was ordained to the priesthood on January 4, 1985. After ordination I was assigned to the same parish. After two years and a half in the parish I was selected to work in the formation house—Holy Cross Scholasticate for seminarians in theology.

**Director of the Scholasticate**

Before I started my job at the Scholasticate I was given a two month short course (Atma Darshan, i.e. knowing the self). Coming back from Bangalore I went to the USA to take part in the annual assembly of the Indiana Province and after that took some classes in the Summer Institute. Spending two months—June and July there, I returned to Dhaka and went to Holy Cross Novitiate, Barisal, to be acting Novice Master for two months. Then, in October 1987, I came to Mathis House, Dhaka to take over my main job at the Holy Cross Scholasticate. There I worked until June 1990. When Fr. Moses Costa, CSC (later Bishop of Dinajpur) finished his studies in Rome and returned home to take over my job I was released for higher studies.

**Director of the Pastoral and Retreat Center**

I was asked to go to the Manila, Philippines, to study the Guidance and Counseling course in La Salle University. Fr. Patrick D’Rozario, CSC who was Director of the Pastoral and Retreat Center of Sagardi, Barisal, and was just elected bishop of Rajshahi, was sitting in front of me when I opened a very important letter from La Salle University. This letter brought me a news that my course in La Salle University was going to begin in the first week of January 1991. That means I had six months in hand. Bishop-elect Patrick D’Rozario immediately placed a request to the Superior (Fr. Thomas Zimmerman, CSC) to make me the acting director of the Pastoral and Retreat Center of Barisal. I happily agreed to take the job.

**Studies in the Philippines**

On the 1st of January 1991 I left Dhaka for Manila. In 18 months I completed my studies, including writing a thesis and got an MS degree on Guidance and Counseling. During my studies I was informed by my Superior that my next assignment in Bangladesh would be in the Pastoral and Retreat Center, Sagardi, Barisal. Before I finished my studies I received the appointment letter from Bishop Joachim Rozario, CSC, Bishop of Chittagong Diocese. My Superior advised me to follow a renewal course in the East Asian Pastoral Institute, Manila in order to prepare myself for the Pastoral Center in Barisal. I followed a four-month course and returned to Bangladesh and started to work in the Pastoral and Retreat Center from January 1993.
Plan for me to join Notre Dame College CSC Staff

I was enjoying my work in Chittagong Diocese. I went from parish to parish, from village to village; held a lot of seminars; made an action plan for the Diocese and was getting ready to implement it. In the mean time Fr. Benedict Costa, CSC died in a road accident. This young priest was one of the three CSC priests who were prepared to work at the College. Unfortunately he died and another of them left the priesthood. So the Community asked me to come to Dhaka and prepare myself to work in the College. In order to teach in the College I needed to get a Masters Degree in a subject that is offered by our College. So I decided to study English literature. I got admission in National University.

Director of the New Holy Cross Priests’ Apirancy

As I was trying to get admission in a university I was waiting for the semester to begin. My Community gave me a job to oversee the construction work of the new Scholasticate at Rampura. When the construction was over the scholastics moved to Rampura. The Mathis House rooms that were being used by the scholastics were vacant. In the meantime the Holy Cross Brothers decided to have a separate aspirancy for themselves. So we priests had to open our own pre-novitiate formation house. It was decided the Mathis House building to use for the new aspirancy of the Priests Society and I was selected to be its first director. Being director of the formation house I was also doing my studies. This is the way I completed my studies in 1999 and started to work in the College in 2000.

Youth Ministry

The Catholic Bishops Conference of Bangladesh (CBCB), at a meeting in 1997, decided to have a youth commission in Bangladesh which was going to be effective from January 1998. The CBCB was looking for a person who could be the Secretary of the newly-born Youth Commission and at the same time serve as National Youth Director. The President of the CBCB wrote a letter to the Provincial of the Holy Cross Fathers for a person who would be capable of doing that job. As one of the councilors of the CSC Fathers I was present in the Council meeting. After looking for someone more than one hour the Provincial asked me to take over the job. I accepted the job for “six months” in order to help it starting well—with a new constitution, etc. After six months I could not leave it—had to continue for eight years. This was a very tough job, but I learned a lot.

Teaching at Major Seminary

The National Major Seminary was looking for a teacher of Pastoral Counseling. The Rector and his Assistant approached me in December 1997 and earnestly requested me to accept their request. They placed the need in front of me in such a way that I could not say ‘no’ to them. So I started to teach Pastoral Counseling at the Major
Seminary one semester a year beginning in 1998. I am continuing that until now.

**Writing Text Books**

The National Curriculum and Text-Book Board was in need of textbook writers and editors. Very few Catholic persons were interested to do this hard job. If we the Catholics did not do it, the Protestants were very eager to take over the job and write books in their own way. So I took the time to write and edit text books—books for Grades 1 to 5 and 9 and 10. All these things I did sacrificing a lot of my sleep. No doubt, it was very tough, but I feel satisfied now when I see my books are being used in the schools.

**My Present Jobs at Notre Dame College**

I teach English Literature to the Degree students and coordinate the English Department. My second job at the College is counseling the students. There are many students who need to be listened to. I give plenty of time to listen to their problems. In order to help the students sometimes I call their parents, other members of the family or relatives. This experience helps me to enrich my teaching in Banani National Major Seminary and on the other hand my teaching there helps me do my counseling at Notre Dame meaningfully. My third job at the College is to be a member of the administrative staff.

**Superior of Mathis House**

In January 2009 I got elected superior of Notre Dame College Community, a community of fourteen Holy Cross men.
From early childhood I had a strong desire to be a priest. I started serving Mass as an Altar Boy when I was only six years old and from that time until I joined the Minor Seminary at Bandura at the age of 14 I walked about 2 KM daily in order to serve at Mass. I did my Primary School studies at my Home Parish Primary School and my High School Studies at Bandura Holy Cross High School run by the Holy Cross Brothers. I did my College studies at Notre Dame College, Dhaka, run by the Holy Cross Priests and then my Philosophy and Theology at Holy Spirit National Major Seminary at Dhaka. During my College studies, I took one year off for Novitiate and made first vows on January 20, 1978. I pronounced final vows as a religious of Holy Cross on January 3, 1984.

On December 28, 1984 I was ordained a priest in the Congregation of Holy Cross by His Grace Archbishop Michael Rozario of Dhaka Archdiocese. During my 25 years as priest I have done a variety of ministries in different pastoral fields. My first assignment was with Fr. Joseph Voorde, CSC and Fr. Joseph Lehane, CSC at Srimangol where most of the people belong to different tribal groups and have their own languages and cultures. After two full years at Srimangol I was sent to London in 1987 for a short course on Radio and Television Production. Then in August of the same year I went to Manila, Philippines to work for Radio Veritas, the only Catholic Radio Station in Asia. I worked there for four years and simultaneously completed a Masters Degree in Journalism at the University of the Philippines. After finishing these studies and my commitment at Radio Veritas, I returned to Bangladesh and joined the Christian Communication Center at Dhaka as the Editor of THE PRATIBESHI (The Neighbor), the only Catholic Weekly Magazine in Bangladesh. I worked as the Editor for little more than four years and then I was sent to Srimangol again as assistant to Fr. Frank Quinlivan, CSC. After two and a half years among the tribal people there, I was transferred to St. Augustine Church, Mathbari as pastor. During my four years there, I was also asked to oversee the construction work at Bhadun, the Holy Cross Prayer and Retreat Center, and to direct Holy Cross Family Ministry activities in Bangladesh. My next assignment was as pastor of Corpus Christi Parish, Jalchatra, where for almost six years I ministered among a very poor tribal people. The challenges were many, but our Lord is so good, and everything worked out well in the end. In February 2008, I was assigned to work for Province Development, staying at the Provincial House in Rampura (Dhaka), but by December of the same year I was back in a parish, asked to be pastor again at St. Augustine Church, Math-
bari, while at the same time continuing to take care of the Province Development Office.

I was inspired by the veteran Holy Cross Missionaries to Bangladesh, by their spirituality and their community living. I had seen in my childhood how strong was the community life of the Holy Cross Missionaries, their fraternal feeling for one another, the moral support they offered one another, their loving care and concern for one another especially in times of sickness and difficulties. I was inspired by their selflessness, their spirit of sacrifice, their dedication and commitment.

After twenty five years of priestly life, I can truly say I have enjoyed my priestly life. I am a happy priest and I have tried my best to do the best for the glory of God and for the welfare of His people.
At age fourteen, I went to Seton Hall Prep on the campus of Seton Hall University, then to college at Georgetown, then to three graduate degrees at Notre Dame, including seminary studies. Except for one year in the novitiate in Colorado, and two years in a parish in Hayward, California, I have spent 39 of the past 42 years living, working, or studying in the university environment. For as long as I can remember, I have been immersed in the Catholic educational system, from kindergarten to graduate school. At every stage, I have benefited from the generous dedication of priests, brothers, and sisters. From an early age I had a desire to contribute to the education of others in the same way.

When I first arrived at the University of Portland to take a tenure-track position in the History Department in 1987, Fr. Tom Oddo, the University president, asked to see me. He explained his concerns about maintaining the Catholic character of the University, and asked that I participate in his plan to have a more visible presence for Holy Cross on campus. He asked me to live in a student residence hall, to wear a Roman collar often, to go as often as possible to student athletic events, theatrical productions, recitals, student government events – to be a highly visible priest on campus. He also asked me to develop studies abroad programs for the University, as he knew I was coming from an assignment in London.

His request was agreeable to me, as I had intended to ask to live on campus from the time I had received my assignment. At age 35, I had some experience to bring to the Portland position. I had done five semesters working as a residence director and adjunct faculty member for Notre Dame’s center in London, and had served as the hall manager for a graduate residence at Carroll Hall at Notre Dame. I had finished a doctorate in history before entering Holy Cross at age 26 and had served one year as a deacon and one year as a priest at St. Clement’s Parish in California, near San Francisco.

Over my 22 years at the University I have served as a history faculty member for 22 years, as an Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for eleven years, as Director of Studies Abroad for 13 years, as pastoral resident in an all-male residence hall for one year, as pastoral resident in a mixed (male and female) residence hall for 18 years, and now as pastoral resident in an all-female building for my third year. I also have directed a full year program in Austria and twelve summer programs in England, France, Germany and Austria.

There are some surprises. When I first entered Holy Cross in 1978, I did not expect that I would someday live as the lone male in an
eight-story building with about 370 female college students!

Lastly, I will always be grateful to my parents, now deceased, who gave such good example and who made so many sacrifices for their six children. Both parents had severe health and family challenges in their youth, and both turned to God for support from an early age. When my mother was near death, a nurse commented that she had never seen a couple so obviously devoted to one another as my parents. The longer I work with students, the more I appreciate what a blessing I had in my upbringing and the more I realize that my own vocational commitment has benefitted from faithfulness of others.