

Food for the Soul ...

Kolaczki are very popular holiday treats in most central and eastern European countries. Many different recipes exist to make these delights, but the one included here is very simple, yet extremely good. Only a few ingredients, yet, they produce a very delicious and attractive holiday treat or cookie.

Ingredients for the Pastry

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1/2 cup of softened butter
- 2 cups of all-purpose flour

1. In a mixing bowl, mix at medium speed the cream cheese and butter until smooth.
2. Turn the mixer to a lower speed and then slowly add the two cups of flour until well blended and forms a soft dough.
3. Shape into 2 equal balls and chill overnight (wrapped in plastic wrap) or for at least 4 hours.

The Filling and Dustings

1 cup of any flavored fruit or poppy seed filing. The various Solo brand fillings work well, apricot, raspberry, prune, and poppy seed. You can also make your own if you wish.

You will need powdered sugar for rolling the dough and for dusting the kolaczki after baking and one egg for the egg wash.

4. The next day, or at the least 4 hours later, preheat the oven to 375 degrees.
5. On a smooth surface “floured” with powdered sugar rather than flour, roll the dough out to about 1/8 inch thick.
6. Cut into 2 - 2 1/2 inch squares and place 1/2 teaspoon of the filling you select in the center of the square.
7. Brush opposite corners with egg wash and pinch together–this prevents the pinched dough from separating while baking.
8. Place on ungreased cookie sheets and bake in the preheated oven for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown.
9. Cool completely and sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.



One of our scholastics, **Br. Jimmy Henke, C.S.C.** (seated front and center in the picture to the left), has served as the chaplain for the men’s basketball team at Holy Cross College for the past two years. He is a popular figure at their home games, and some credit him with several of their close victories last year, and they are optimistic that he will be as successful this year as he supports and encourages the team.

God bless you and God bless the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Brother Donnell, CSC

Please remember in your prayers the following members of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers who died recently. May they rest in peace!



Rev. Richard S. Teall, C.S.C.
September 2, 1923 -
October 11, 2019

Rev. Richard S. Teall, C.S.C., died on October 11, 2019, at Holy Cross House at Notre Dame. He was ordained in 1950 and spent his ministry in Chile, and as a former member of the Southern Province, spent many years in parishes in Texas and at the University of Florida in campus ministry. He came to Holy Cross House in 2004. His funeral was at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame, and he now rests in the Holy Cross Cemetery, the community cemetery, at Notre Dame.



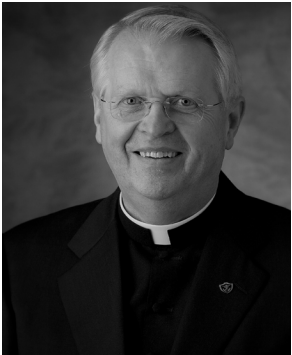
Rev. Robert S. Pelton, C.S.C.
May 29, 1921 -
November 3, 2019

Rev. Robert S. Pelton, C.S.C., died on November 3, 2019, at Holy Cross House at Notre Dame. A native of Evanston, Illinois, he was ordained in 1942. He spent his priestly ministry primarily at Notre Dame, and he spent eleven years in Chile. As a theological advisor in the Second Vatican Council and an expert of the Latin American Church, he devoted his life to teaching and research in the Kellogg Institute at Notre Dame. For the past thirty years, he focused much of his research and writing on making known the life of St. Oscar Romero, who was canonized in Rome in October 2019. In his 97th year, Fr. Pelton was able to attend the canonization ceremony, which was a very important occasion in his long and rich life. His funeral was at Sacred Heart Basilica at Notre Dame, and he is also buried in the community cemetery at Notre Dame.



Rev. Philip Devlin, C.S.C.
September 22, 1930 -
November 13, 2019

Rev. Philip Devlin, C.S.C., died at Holy Cross House on November 13, 2019. He entered Holy Cross in 1948 and was ordained in 1956. He spent almost his entire life in ministry in South America, in Chile for thirteen years and then in Peru for almost thirty-five years where he was the District Superior from 1988 to 1991. He came to Holy Cross House here at Notre Dame during the present year. His wake and funeral were here at Notre Dame where he now rests in Holy Cross Cemetery.



Rev. John B. Wironen, C.S.C.
April 2, 1941 -
October 16, 2019

Rev. John B. Wironen, C.S.C., died on October 16, 2019, at Holy Cross House at Notre Dame. Fr. Wironen was a Holy Cross Brother for 18 years, and, as a registered nurse, he first worked in the old Community Infirmary and then at the new Holy Cross House. He taught in the Nursing School at the University of Portland. He was ordained in 1979 and was pastor and an associate pastor in California and Oregon. He also served as a chaplain at Providence Hospital in Portland, Oregon, before coming to Holy Cross House in 2017. His funeral was at Sacred Heart Basilica at Notre Dame, and he is buried in the community cemetery.

CROSS LINKS

CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS, UNITED STATES PROVINCE OF PRIESTS AND BROTHERS
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November 2019

Dear Friends,

As I sit in the office today preparing for the Christmas issue of Cross Links, I am admiring the first significant snowfall of the season. The purity of the clean white snow reminds us in so many ways of Christmas for those of us who live in the part of the world already experiencing winter. Late November and December brings closure to many different things that mark the end of the present year and anticipates a new year. Living on a university campus, we witness the end of the football season, students completing their fall semester classes, writing papers that some students have postponed doing for far too long, and then, preparing for final exams. However, what follows these hectic weeks is anticipating the Christmas Season with a few weeks at home and with family.

By this time of the fall and early winter, it is also interesting to observe what our seminarians and scholastics are doing as they wind down their semester. For many of them it involves interests they have beyond classes and completing assignments. One of the traditions that goes back decades for young men in our formation program is the annual Thanksgiving Day football game—touch football that is! Two teams are formed, and in the early afternoon on Thanksgiving, they are engaged in a very spirited competition, hopefully without any serious injuries. Later all enjoy a very festive meal with the usual bountiful table and a couple days to relax before the last weeks of the semester.



The 2018 Moreau Thanksgiving Football Teams



Three of the Band of Brothers performing, from left to right, Bradley Stalcup, C.S.C., playing the drums with his head hidden by the music stand is Julian Druffner, C.S.C., and standing is Cameron Cortens, C.S.C., playing the keyboard.

Several of the seminarians with musical talent have organized a group, which they have named “A Band of Brothers.” These young men write some of the music they perform and generously provide entertainment to a variety of venues. So far, during this semester, they have performed at St. Joseph and Christ the King Parishes here in South Bend, Indiana, on the Notre Dame campus, and even at Fiddlers’ Hearth, a popular local Irish pub that features local musical talent.

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CHRISTMAS IS A TIME OF PEACE



....in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace.... Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem.

The above quotation from the Roman Martyrology for Christmas Day is the formal announcement of the Birth of Christ. Many of you have listened to this over the years in most of your parishes. During the time before the Mass at midnight during the period of singing Christmas carols, someone will read the Martyrology for that day outlining salvation history from the beginning of time to the day Christ came to us as an infant.

The Roman Martyrology provides a rich history of the Church's saints. Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 authorized the original document, which initially included ancient martyrs. However, the Church since then has continued to include additional martyrs, confessors and virgins providing a rich heritage of men and women who have given their lives in service to the People of God. The Church suggests reading it on the eve of the feast day during the hours. Religious communities and seminaries have traditionally read it after their major meal of the day. The reading of it on Christmas Eve before the Mass at midnight begins is a common practice that we look forward to each year in most parishes.

The reading introduces the announcement of the birth of Christ by reading the historical background of the time Jesus was born. The beautiful statement that emphasizes, “when the entire world was at peace, Christ was born!” Immediately after this reading, the congregation usually sings “O Holy Night”, and Midnight Mass begins. This vivid peaceful setting for the beginning of the Christmas Season of an infant born in a simple stable with Angelic choirs singing of peace on earth to all people of good will is for most of us what we think of that night. These poignant examples of a beautiful period is certainly the theme of Christmas. In addition, we witness the humble shepherds coming with their animals to adore the newborn infant, and eventually the three kings who come to worship the child with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. This beautiful quotation referring to “the whole world being at peace,” is perhaps very important for us to hear today given the unrest that exists in our times. One cannot help but wonder if Christ would come into our world today with the unrest that exists among us personally, in our country, and in the world.

Fortunately, the Church provides the weeks of Advent, which is a period of approximately four weeks that provides us the opportunity to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. We have the opportunity during Advent to examine our lives in terms of how well we are prepared to welcome the newborn infant who became man to redeem us. The

Prince of Peace is born on Christmas, and we need to look at our own lives and to consider whether there are some practical things we might do to better prepare for Christ's birth. Perhaps the most important questions we have for ourselves during Advent are: how peaceful am I as an individual within my own family? Do I get along with my siblings? Would the newborn infant be welcome in our family situation? Are there things I might do to provide a more peaceful setting for myself and for those I live and work with closely? Advent is certainly a good time to assess our own lives, and especially in regards to individuals with whom we have had difficulties with in the past. It is important for us to begin with strong and peaceful families. Society is dependent on the health of family life upon which to build states and countries. It is the base of their very existence. So, let us use Advent as a time to examine our own lives and family situations in order to provide a peaceful setting that would welcome the coming of Christ into our homes.

For most of us, Christmas has become a time for families to gather and exchange gifts and greetings followed by New Year's when we offer our best wishes to those we live with and know well. Fortunately, most families do take great care to provide welcoming opportunities for their relatives and friends to celebrate these great feasts and enjoy the company of those closest to them with their families. The danger today is that many of us become so overly busy in preparations for these celebrations that we forget to emphasize the meaning of these days. That's why

preparing for Christmas by following closely the liturgies of Advent will provide for us the appropriate setting for Christmas.

Pope Francis last year encouraged us to make use of the Advent Season to make peace within ourselves (Pope Francis' Homily, St. Martha's Chapel, December 4, 2018). He said, “Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for the Prince of Peace by being at peace first of all within ourselves.” He went on to say “we are so used to looking at the souls of others rather than our own soul which often is in need of healing.” Until we are at peace with ourselves, will we be at peace at home with our families? He said he notices much sadness in families that struggle too often, and in their homes, there is much discord. He referred to these difficult family situations as “small wars.” He urged us to examine ourselves as to whether we are at peace or at war in our families or against others and to determine whether there are bridges or walls that separate us. He then advised us that Advent is the perfect time for us to examine ourselves and when “small wars” do exist, we should stop short and try to make peace. He concludes his homily by stating, “Never, never wound others by speaking ill of them or firing the first cannon. In healing these unfortunate ‘small wars’, we become men and women of peace.”

In every Christmas message since becoming Pope, Francis has asked us to pray and work for world peace too. There is much war, disunity, hatred and exploitation that exists all around us, and as Christians, we

should ask ourselves what we are doing about creating peace in the world. First by working for peace in our families where we set the tone for a peaceful home. Then in our neighborhoods by befriending those who live closest to us. Even in our schools, where so many children experience bullying today, we could encourage our children to avoid these unfortunate incidents. In the workplace where there is sometimes discord with people we work closely, we must avoid hatred and talking ill about others. Francis reminds us that before we can work for peace in the world, we must find peace with those who we live and work with daily.

In his Christmas Mass two years ago, Pope Francis made clear to us his concern for peace in the world. Serenity is solely lacking at a time when the “winds of war” and an outdated model of development are taking a toll on humanity, society, and the environment. In particular, he pointed out the plight of migrants and refugees drawing a parallel between their travails and that of the Holy Family at the time of the birth of Jesus. They could not find lodging when Mary was ready to deliver the Child Jesus, so he was born in a humble stable. Yet the humble and simple birth of the Prince of Peace is our reminder of the importance of peace at this time of year. When there was no room in the inn, Christ found a way to come to us as an infant symbolizing a majestic event that serves to be our model as peacemakers.

In these days of Advent as we prepare for the Coming of Christ, let us work and pray diligently for peace. Beginning with ourselves, peace starts within our soul, and after making its journey of peace throughout our life here on earth, it returns to the soul where we will enjoy the blissful state of peace forever. Pope Francis urges us as Christians to make ourselves small, humble, and to become the servants of others. Only then, he says will, “The Lord give you the ability to understand how to make peace, and He will provide you the strength to make it.” If we could in our lives this year during Advent come to this understanding of peace, we too may be blessed on Christmas knowing the meaning of those beautiful words, Christ was born when all the world was at peace!

God's blessings on you and your families during the beautiful Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Family is so important at Christmas, and you are a part of the Holy Cross family as are your loved ones. If there are specific individuals (living or deceased) you would like us to remember this Christmas season, jot them down on the enclosed prayer slip and return it to us. No offering is required, but any gift would go a long way to help support the apostolic priorities of Holy Cross. May God bless you this holiday season!