Recipes for the Soul ...

Jean Killian from Warrensburg, NY sent Fr. Gary the following recipe for cranberry layer cake that I will try this coming month as autumn sets in and the smell of freshly baked cake in a warm kitchen is most welcome.

*Cranberry Layer Cake*

1 pkg. white cake mix (regular size)
1 and 1/3 cups water
3 large eggs
1/3 cup canola oil
1 Tbsp. grated orange peel
1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries (thawed if frozen and coarsely chopped)
1 cup finely chopped walnuts

*Cream Cheese Frosting*

1 pkg. (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup butter softened
1 tsp. vanilla extract
3 and 1/2 cups confectioners’ sugar
1/2 tsp. grated orange peel
1/4 cup finely chopped walnuts

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line bottoms of two greased 9-inch round baking pans with parchment paper; grease paper. In a large bowl, combine the first five ingredients; beat on low speed for 30 seconds. Beat on medium speed for 2 minutes. Stir in cranberries and walnuts. Transfer batter to prepared pans.

2. Bake for 30-35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes before removing to wire racks; remove paper. Cool completely.

3. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter and vanilla. Gradually beat in the confectioners’ sugar and orange peel until smooth. Spread frosting between layers and over the top and sides of the cake. Sprinkle with walnuts. Refrigerate leftovers.

Enjoy!

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**Dear Friends of Holy Cross,**

A picture paints 1,000 words, so I’m going to let the pictures and short news briefs tell the story of recent highlights with the United States Province.

Five young men professed their Final Vows as Holy Cross Religious on Saturday, August 25, 2018 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame. The following day, Bishop Kevin Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend ordained Brian Kennedy, C.S.C., Brogan Ryan, C.S.C., Karl Romkema, C.S.C., and Bryan Williams, C.S.C., to the transitional diaconate. The fifth young man, Michael Thomas, C.S.C., was ordained a deacon at St. George’s College in Santiago, Chile on September 15 where he is spending his diaconate year. These men will be ordained priests in the Congregation of Holy Cross on April 16, 2019.

**Fr. Leonard Banas, C.S.C.** was a native of Chicago who entered Holy Cross in 1946 and was ordained in 1952. He taught classical languages at Notre Dame for many years, was the Superior of Corby Hall, and Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Letters. He also served as a weekend priest at St. Thomas Parish in Elkhart, IN for more than 25 years. His funeral Mass was at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on August 28, and burial followed in the Community Cemetery at Notre Dame.

**Fr. Howard Kuhns, C.S.C.** was a native of Canton, Ohio who entered Holy Cross in 1939 and was ordained in 1946. He received his doctorate in history from Georgetown University and taught at Notre Dame and Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C. He served at St. Casimir Parish in South Bend from 1974 to 1987 as an associate and pastor. He also served for more than 15 years as pastor of St. Michael Parish in Gila, AZ. His funeral Mass was at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on September 18, and burial followed in the Community Cemetery at Notre Dame.

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Rev. Leonard Banas, C.S.C.
Nov. 6, 1926 - Aug. 22, 2018

Rev. Howard Kuhns, C.S.C.
March 11, 1918 - Sept. 13, 2018

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Halloween is difficult to ignore in the United States. Stores lay in huge supplies of costumes, plastic pumpkins, and all kinds of decorations that make the event the second most celebrated “holiday,” second only to Christmas in total sales. We have even come to decorating the outside of houses with orange lights, carved pumpkins and strings of ghosts made easily out of old linen sheets. Parents of smaller children plan their trick or treat routes, and households lay in huge supplies of candy to pass out to those who appear at their doors that evening. Weeks before the actual day, weather forecasters try to predict good weather for at least the few hours children will be outside on October 31. Given the amazing amount of money spent and time used to plan for Halloween, it is easy to see how much our spending and decorating take in the entire month of October. Do we ever stop and consider the origins of Halloween? If we try to answer this question, we quickly see how what we have secularized as a holiday actually did come from religious practice.

The actual day of Halloween, October 31, is the eve of the Feast of All Saints, and the next day, November 2, is All Souls Day. The word “Halloween” referred originally to the eve of the feast of All Saints, or the vigil of the Feast of All Saints, and was referred to in years past as “All Halows Eve.” a day in which we would recall those who had gone before us and were awaiting the Communion of Saints. It was and still is a beautiful way to remember those who had gone before us but were not yet enjoying the Beatific Vision as members of the Communion of Saints. The celebration of All Saints and All Souls Days are vivid reminders each year of remembering the dead. This practice has become so widespread that Catholics eventually set aside the entire month of November to remember those Holy Souls waiting to see God fully.

Over the centuries, the Church provided specific ways for us to remember those faithful souls in purgatory. For example, on All Souls Day, priests have the privilege of offering three Masses, which represents the importance of having Masses said for the deceased. The Church also offered plenary indulgences on All Souls Day, if we say a prayer for them. The most common prayer is the prayer for the deceased said in this Chapel in November. A slip is included in this mailing inviting our friends for a Book of Prayer that will remain in the church to remember them in prayer. In our four universities and colleges, books of prayers are very popular and people respond well to this invitation to remember those who have gone before us. As well, our parishes and religious houses have books of prayer for the deceased.

A very old custom, going as far back as the early Church in Rome, when Catholics would visit the graves of their deceased. These were the catacombs where Christians secretly celebrated liturgies to avoid Roman persecutions. There, they offered prayers for their deceased relative. Today, in almost every country and culture, those who survive the dead often visit the graves of the faithful departed. They elaborate decorate the graves and light candles for the deceased, especially on the eve of All Souls Day. Many Catholic cemeteries were frequently next to the Church so that parishioners could visit the graves of their relatives after Sunday Masses. The Church for many years offered a plenary indulgence for visiting the graves of the faithful departed during the first week of November each year.

The priests and brothers of our Province each year gather on All Souls Day at Our Lady of Fatima House on the Notre Dame campus for Mass for all those members of our Holy Cross Community who died during the past year. After the Mass, the congregation processes to the Community Cemetery and spends some time visiting the graves of these men. A prayer service concludes the ceremony in the cemetery with the singing of the Salve Regina, and this annual event has become a very impressive way of remembering our departed brothers who we worked with and lived with for so many years.

Another recent and growing practice is providing a Book of Prayer for the Faithful Departed during the month of November in which the names of deceased individuals are listed. These books of prayer remain in churches or chapels through the entire month of November, and at each Mass and public devotion the celebrant or leader will ask the congregation to remember them in prayer. In our four universities and colleges, books of prayers are very popular and people respond well to this invitation to remember those who have gone before us. As well, our parishes and religious houses have books of prayer for the deceased.

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As November nears, then, let us use those days to remember our dear ones who have gone before us. We might use the opportunity to recite that beautiful prayer we say for someone who has died every time we see a reminder of Halloween. By personalizing this prayer with the name of an individual we would like to remember is a very easy way to recall the true meaning of Halloween while praying for someone close to us who has departed.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on (insert the name of a loved one you wish to remember). And, may the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

As we have been doing all these years, we men of Holy Cross will be remembering not only our own beloved dead, but yours as well.

If you wish, jot down the names of those you would like us to remember on the enclosed prayer sheet. They will be placed by the altar at Moreau Seminary throughout the month of November.

No offering is required, but any gift that is included will be used for the needs of Holy Cross.