

CHOICES

FROM THE CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 2



IN THIS ISSUE:

Ordination 2014



The Vocations team: Fr. Jim Gallagher, C.S.C. (left), director of Vocations, and Fr. Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C., associate director.

Consecration and Commitment

Last fall, two members of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Patrick and Adam, took their Final Vows. They made the commitment to live a life of poverty, chastity and obedience in Holy Cross. In making these vows before God, they committed to remaining faithful to them forever.

The day after cementing their life in Holy Cross, they were ordained transitional deacons, receiving the first of the Holy Orders. During the past several months, they have been growing in their experience of sacramental ministry in the Church — baptizing, preaching and assisting at the Eucharist.

On April 26, 2014, they were ordained priests.

Their vows were the culmination of their commitment to enter into our religious community of Holy Cross. Their Ordination was the pinnacle of their preparation to serve as men conformed to Christ; sent out to minister to the people of God through prayers, counseling, preaching and celebration of the Sacraments.

The paths that brought these two men to ordained ministry in Holy Cross were different, yet there were several similarities, the greatest being their openness to following the guidance of the Lord. In this issue of CHOICES, we offer a bit of their story. It shows a glimpse into the journey with the Lord that brought them to this point. It also reveals a bit about why they felt drawn, not just to the vocation of priesthood, but also to a life in Holy Cross.

If you see aspects of their story that connect to your own, if God's grace working in their lives resonates with a sense of calling within your own life, do not hesitate to be in touch with us. We look forward to the opportunity to assist you in your efforts to hear and answer God's call.

In Christ and His Holy Cross,
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Shining the Light of Christ to Others

Fr. Adam Booth, C.S.C.

"Let us, at long last, be 'children of the light'; let us turn our attention only to the conquest of the Kingdom of Heaven, by devoting ourselves unreservedly to the works of our vocation." — Blessed Basil Moreau (CL 36)

It was in the unlikelyst of places that Adam Booth started seriously discerning his life in the priesthood: teaching math in San Quentin State Prison in California.

"My students were all men who were doing amazing things to turn their lives around. That spirit of conversion is contagious; they inspired me to dream boldly about what God might be calling me to do with my life."

Working with men who were in the depths of darkness helped Fr. Adam see that he wanted to shine the light of Christ "into each recess of our world." Every time he reflected on how to respond to the call, Fr. Adam's heart returned to the healing Sacraments. "I started to let myself wonder if God was calling me to the priesthood."

Fr. Adam, who converted to Catholicism as a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley, began looking for an international religious community with a focus on education. The Holy Cross Center in Berkeley, Calif., was nearby and he found what he was seeking — a band of men with whom he could live, work and pray. "It was the sense of family that invited me to step forward with my discernment."



Deacon Adam Booth, C.S.C., proclaims the Gospel at the Feast of All Souls Memorial Mass on Nov. 4, 2013. (Photo by Br. Charles McBride, C.S.C., Midwest Province)

Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of Holy Cross, had a vision for his Congregation that included a commitment to a common table, common prayer and a common mission. It took Fr. Adam some time to really understand what Fr. Moreau meant. "At first, I thought of community in a very utilitarian way: It's a way to organize our ministry and companionship to keep us healthy while we do it," he said. "I've come to see the common life as much more of a proximate good: a place to journey together to holiness, opening us to God through attentiveness to each other; a witness to a world which knows so much individualism and isolation that unity and communion are realizable, even if imperfectly; a remedy to my tendency to try to row my own boat."

That sense of brotherhood also brought Fr. Adam to another moment of clarity in his religious life. He recalls being drawn to stop at the community cemetery at Notre Dame one night. He was thinking about a terminally ill mentor, Br. Tom Krieter, C.S.C., who was part of the Novitiate community when Fr. Adam was there. His grief turned into calm when he realized that Br. Tom would be coming there to be with the Holy Cross religious who had walked before them. "Then, a realization suddenly hit me: 'I'm coming here.' That was when I discerned Final Vows; that I intended to live and die a religious of the Congregation of Holy Cross."

Throughout formation, Fr. Adam came to better understand how the Holy Cross motto, "Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope," and the symbol of the cross and anchors worn by Holy Cross religious, related to his own life. Serving in hospital chaplaincy, he was reticent about discussing certain grief issues with patients and their families. Talking with others in the community helped him to see that he hadn't finished processing his own mother's death. "Instead of honestly embracing the reality of that cross, I was attempting to silo it. It was only through kissing that cross that I was able to reach a place of healing in my own life and turn my 'siloed' wound into a healed scar out of which I can be part of helping others heal."

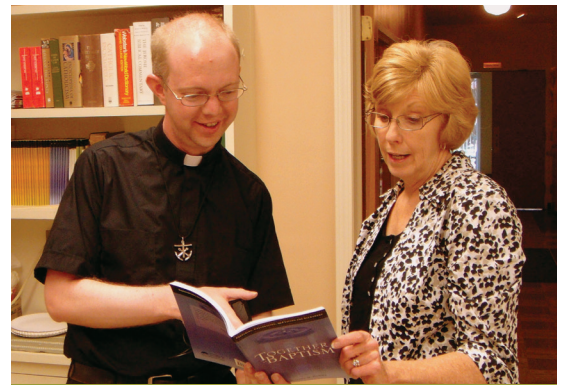


"Wherever there are consecrated people, seminarians, men and women religious, young people, there is joy, there is always joy!"

*Pope Francis,
Address to
seminarians and
novices, July 6, 2013*

As he begins his priestly ministry, Fr. Adam is excited to pray for and with others in new ways. "The greatest joys in ministry will be the times God puts me in just the right place at just the right time, to be pledge and reminder of the reality of God's presence, care and support at the moment when someone is vulnerable enough to be open to that."

"My hope for life in Holy Cross would be that it would help me seek the Kingdom of God together with my brothers; that it would save me from trying to walk this path alone; that it would lead me to places of encounter with Christ Incarnate in God's Holy People; and that I would be able to invite others to journey with us to God." — Fr. Adam Booth, C.S.C.



Deacon Adam Booth, C.S.C., goes over Baptism preparation materials with Linda Jones, business manager at Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus Parish in South Bend, Ind., during his diaconate at the parish.

FR. ADAM D.P. BOOTH, C.S.C.

Born: Feb. 4, 1982, London

Parents: David J. Booth, Hertfordshire, U.K., and the late Carol E. Booth

College: University of Oxford, U.K., Math, 2004

Graduate Study: University of California, Berkeley, 2008; University of Notre Dame, M.Div., 2013

Entered Formation: 2008, Postulant

First Vows: July 31, 2010

Final Vows: Sept. 7, 2013

Deacon Placement: Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus Parish, South Bend, Ind.

Ordained: April 26, 2014

Is God Inviting You to be a Religious Brother?

When considering a vocation of service in the Church, men too often overlook one of the best options — vocation as a religious brother.

In communities such as the Congregation of Holy Cross, there is the opportunity to be either a religious brother or priest. A religious brother is a man who takes the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and participates in the communal life and ministry of the community to which he belongs. He is able to have the support of a community of men striving to grow in holiness, while also being devoted to vital, full-time ministries serving in our schools, parishes and missions.

The unfortunate thing is that many young men are unaware of the possibility of a vocation as a religious brother; yet it is a vocation that has been in the Church since very early on and has been a powerful source of good in the life of the Church.

In the Congregation of Holy Cross, religious brothers have played an integral role in our many ministries throughout the years and around the world. Brothers were there with Fr. Sorin at the very beginning of the University of Notre Dame. Brothers established and teach in Holy Cross high schools across the country. They are missionaries in South America, Africa and Asia. They are rectors in our college dorms and are teachers in the classrooms. It was a Holy Cross brother, St. André Bessette, who is the first canonized saint within our community.

The call to be a brother in the Congregation of Holy Cross is a great gift from the Lord. It is an invitation to dedicate one's life to service and to grow in holiness within the context of a community of men with the same dedication. It is an invitation to become a great man of God.

If you feel drawn toward a consecrated life of service in the Church, consider the vocation of a Holy Cross brother.

brother.holycrossvocations.org



"In calling you, God says to you: 'You are important to me; I love you; I am counting on you.'"

*Pope Francis,
Address to
seminarians and
novices, July 6, 2013*

Living, Building and Loving Family

Rev. Patrick Reidy, C.S.C.

"It is in meditation on the great truths of our faith that one learns to detach himself from the swiftly passing shadow of the world, which, like a rushing torrent, carries off in its waves both people and things. It is in such meditation that we train ourselves to see the hand of God in all the events of life." — Blessed Basil Moreau, (CL 35)

Patrick Reidy needed to separate himself from the world he knew before Holy Cross in order to find a sense of peace for himself and with his vocation.

That peace came during his Novitiate year in Colorado. Prior to that, Fr. Pat relied on his relationships, work and accomplishments so heavily, that he escaped "the beautiful work of growing in friendship with God. ... I came to discover a depth of God's love I'd yet known, allowing God to fill a void in me that I'd sought to fill with people and possessions and prestige."

Fr. Pat came to crave that alone time with God and now understands that it's crucial in order to give of himself to others in ministry. In those times of rest in the Lord, the usually active and on-the-go priest finds his spiritual nourishment.



Deacon Patrick Reidy, C.S.C., distributes Communion at a Keough Hall Mass at the University of Notre Dame.

Fr. Pat also finds sustenance for his discipleship through Holy Cross' community life and brotherhood. "Their friendship and support, their wisdom and guidance, their prayerful example, all call me further and further in as I seek to follow Christ. When I've most needed an older brother's ear, time and love, my closest friends in Holy Cross have carried me."

The community has become Fr. Pat's family, something that's always been important in his life. Family was a non-negotiable part of growing up in the Reidy household. "I make sense of my religious vocation, and my relationship with God, through the lived experience of family."

He found the joy and zeal of Holy Cross religious at the University of Notre Dame and overseas during his time in Jinja, Uganda, irresistible. Older brothers in the community, including Fr. Jim King, C.S.C., his rector at Sorin College, and Fr. Pete Jarret, C.S.C., rector of Moreau Seminary, have mentored him, shaped his love for common life and guided his formation.

Family also extends to Fr. Pat's ministry as a rector in Notre Dame's Keough Hall (he also serves in Campus Ministry). Blessed Basil Moreau envisioned the work of Holy Cross as educating both minds and hearts and Fr. Pat takes that mission seriously in helping students to become the best they can be. "It would be a whole heck of a lot easier for Holy Cross to only 'instruct the mind.' We'd have control. It'd all be rational. 'Educating the heart' is a risky thing, especially when the heart is growing. But we dare to risk it, to place education side by side with instruction, never cultivating the mind at the expense of the heart. Because that's what it means to 'make family.'"

Another defining experience in Fr. Pat's formation came when he served in the chaplaincy program at Penrose Hospital's oncology unit during his novitiate year. "Oncology confronts suffering and death



"Becoming a priest or a man or woman religious is not primarily our own decision. ... Rather it is the response to a call and to a call of love. I hear something within me which moves me and I answer 'yes.'"

*Pope Francis,
Address to
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Deacon Patrick Reidy, C.S.C., talks with students in Keough Hall, where he has served as rector since the fall of 2013.

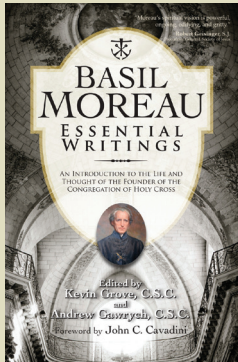
in ways I could not begin to appreciate in other ministry placements. There was so much grace flowing through those rooms. ... It was one of the most humbling experiences in my life, sharing these weeks in people's lives as they confront the depth of their hope in life with God. Oncology taught me to trust that when we feel as if we've failed in ministering to people, God's love continues to draw them close."

Through that ministry experience, Fr. Pat found part of one of his favorite quotes in the Holy Cross Constitutions to be true: "And, as in every work of our mission, we find that we ourselves stand to learn much from those whom we are called to teach." (2:16)

The beginning of that quote signifies his hope for his own students some day: "Wherever we work we assist others not only to recognize and develop their own gifts but also to discover the deepest longing in their lives." Fr. Pat came to know Holy Cross because men shared that gift with him; now he wants to pay it forward in his own ministry.

He also expects that to be his greatest joy in ministry. "At some point during college, every student falls in love – with another person,

Discover the Writings of Blessed Moreau



One of the things often overlooked in the telling of the life of our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, is how acclaimed he was as a teacher and preacher.

As a professor of philosophy and theology, Fr. Moreau was sought after by seminarians for the quality and

dynamism of his teaching. He was also in great demand as a preacher. In fact, it was Fr. Moreau's preaching ability, in large part, that led him to become connected with the Brothers of St. Joseph (who he would later merge with his Auxiliary Priests in 1837 to found Holy Cross).

What made Fr. Moreau such a sought-after teacher and an in-demand preacher? Accounts from his contemporaries report that he was a charismatic speaker, but his writings and sermons reveal something deeper. Fr. Moreau had a noticeable gift for weaving in Sacred Scripture and the wider Catholic tradition in a way that made the faith really come alive. He also had the gift of being able to make otherwise seemingly abstract doctrines or dogmas, like that of the Immaculate Conception, practical to everyday life. He made the faith meaningful for people, probably because all of Fr. Moreau's teaching, preaching and writing centered on the singular question of how we could better imitate Jesus.

There are many graces we could reap from Blessed Moreau and a new book from Ave Maria Press, "Basil Moreau: Essential Writings," can help. It includes highlights of Fr. Moreau's writings — from his sermons and his treatise on Christian Education — to his spiritual exercises, meditations and circular letters. An extended introduction addresses the context, influences and major themes in Fr. Moreau's thought, which helps his writings speak to us more powerfully today. It becomes clear why the Holy Spirit chose this teacher and preacher to found a religious community of educators in the faith who preach the Cross as our only hope.



"Do not be afraid to show the joy of having answered the Lord's call, of having responded to his choice of love and of bearing witness to his Gospel in service to the Church."

*Pope Francis,
Address to
seminarians and
novices, July 6, 2013*

with an idea, with a place, with God. It's a love that seizes the imagination, affecting everything. Rectors witness this love in a privileged way, helping students discover their lives' deepest longing in joy and gratitude."

"Vocation used to be a static concept for me, one linked with my identity as a person. I'm increasingly convinced that my initial conception of vocation — God's uniquely given call for each person — while not incorrect, remains incomplete without accounting for the dynamism of grace. ... It's not only who I am, but how I am to be with God. That shapes everything about my understanding of ordained ministry, seeking conformity to Christ." — Fr. Patrick Reidy, C.S.C.

FR. PATRICK E. REIDY, C.S.C.

Born: Dec. 26, 1985, New York, N.Y.

Parents: Jean and Michael Reidy, Greenwood Village, Colo.

College: University of Notre Dame, B.A., 2008

Graduate Study: Notre Dame, M.Div., 2013

Entered Formation: 2008, Postulant

First Vows: July 31, 2010

Final Vows: Sept. 7, 2013

Deacon Placement: Keough Hall and Campus Ministry, University of Notre Dame

Ordained: April 26, 2014

2014 ORDINATION DETAILS

Fr. Adam Booth, C.S.C.

Fr. Patrick Reidy, C.S.C.

April 26, 2014

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
University of Notre Dame

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend
Diocese, Celebrant



Passionate Missionary, Servant of God

It is beautiful to see how the life and ministry of Holy Cross missionary, Bishop Vincent J. McCauley, C.S.C., reflected the inspiration of his early education and formation at a grade school named after St. Francis Xavier.

The Church's patron saint of missionaries left Europe in the 16th century to spread the Gospel through India and the Far East. Bishop McCauley journeyed just as far when he left his home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in the 20th century to serve the people of God in Bangladesh and East Africa. Francis Xavier was canonized a saint in recognition for his sanctity of life and work. Bishop McCauley's own cause for canonization was opened in 2006, granting him the title "Servant of God."

After grade school and graduation from Creighton Prep in Omaha, Neb., Vincent entered formation with Holy Cross at the University of Notre Dame. He was ordained a priest in 1934, after his theological training at the Foreign Missionary Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Like Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of Holy Cross, and others of the great band of men who possessed a zeal for missionary work overseas, the young

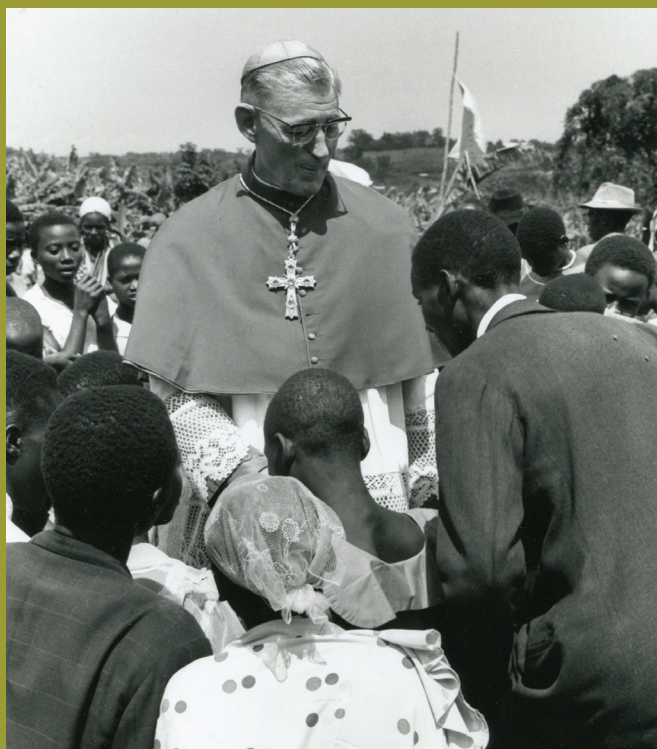
priest wanted to join the Congregation's mission in East Bengal (now Bangladesh). However, the Great Depression affected financing for mission work. Two years later, Fr. McCauley and three other religious finally made the trek to Bengal, where he served in formation as an assistant and rector at the Little Flower Minor Seminary in Bandhura. He also worked with the tribal people in Agartala.

As a missionary in East Bengal, Bishop Vincent J. McCauley was infected with two things: a painful skin cancer that disfigured his face and a passion for spreading the Gospel to new cultures. Illness ultimately brought Fr. McCauley home to America in May 1944 where, after nearly an entire year in recovery, he joined the formation staff at Holy Cross's Foreign Mission Seminary (the Bengalese) in Washington, D.C.

Fr. McCauley returned to mission work in 1958, when he and three newly ordained priests — Frs. Burton Smith, C.S.C., Francis Zagorc, C.S.C., and Robert Hesse, C.S.C. — went to Uganda to begin Holy Cross missions in the East African country. Fr. McCauley spearheaded a mission that undertook the establishment, renovation and strengthening of parish churches and schools throughout western Uganda. When the Holy See split western Uganda into northern and southern dioceses in 1961, Fr. McCauley was appointed the first bishop of northern Fort Portal. Holding true to Blessed Moreau's vision of bringing the word of God to others through education, parish and mission settings, Bishop McCauley built the Fort Portal diocese from the ground up, founding numerous parishes and diocesan structures, along with St. Mary's Minor Seminary for local priestly formation. He also built a new cathedral to replace one lost by fire.

Remembered for his compassion and leadership, Bishop McCauley guided the Church in aiding countless refugees, widows, orphans and migrants in the East African region during the 1960s and 1970s.

Bishop McCauley retired in December 1972, but his missionary zeal never faded. He assumed administrative roles in East Africa's episcopal associations. His leadership in the establishment of an East African seminary, as well as the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, remains part of his distinctly Holy Cross legacy.



Servant of God Vincent J. McCauley

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