

CHOICES

FROM THE CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

VOLUME 34, ISSUE 2



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2013 Ordinations



Fr. Jim Gallagher, C.S.C., (right) speaks to a seminarian about vocations in Holy Cross.

Ordination is Not the Finish Line

Ordination to the Priesthood is often seen as the culminating point in the life of a seminarian. In some ways, it is. Here is a Sacrament that instills character, marking them forever. This is something that they have been considering in their prayer, discernment and studies for many years. Finally it is upon them.

Yet while this is indeed a high point in their life in Christ, it is important to recognize that this is not the finish line. That point is several years down the road and consists of entering into the Heavenly Kingdom of God. The reception of the Sacrament of Holy Orders is one point along their pilgrim journey.

This journey for Fr. Brian Ching, C.S.C., Fr. Mark DeMott, C.S.C., and Fr. Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C., started many years ago with their Baptism. At that moment, their lives were consecrated to Christ. Since then, they have been moving forward and continually recommitting their lives to Christ.

The “yes” to Christ that was first made in their Baptism has been repeated over and over again in little and large ways. It happens in little ways every time they turn to the Lord in prayer and every time that they move out from themselves in an act of care for their neighbor. It has happened in larger ways as well when they first received the Eucharist from the table of the Lord's sacrifice and when they received the seal of the Holy Spirit to strengthen them in their journey.

They also said yes to the Lord when they first entered into formation with the Congregation of Holy Cross, not sure where the step would lead, but confident that the Lord was inviting them to make the move. They said yes each time they continued forward in their formation, recognizing that they were growing stronger in their discipleship as members of Holy Cross. Indeed, their “yes” reached another high point in the fall of 2012 when they committed the rest of their lives to service of the Lord, the Church and the world as finally professed members of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

The day of their Ordination was indeed another great moment of commitment to Christ for Fr. Brian, Fr. Mark and Fr. Jarrod. Yet the journey is far from over. There are a great many more opportunities to say “yes” still to come.

As they move forward, let us pray for these newly ordained priests of Holy Cross. Let us also pray for more vocations to the religious life and priesthood in the Church and in Holy Cross.

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A Zeal to Make Christ Present to Others

Fr. Brian C. Ching, C.S.C.



Fr. Brian Ching is excited about making Christ present to others, especially through the Sacraments.

As he explains it, he has a “growing zeal to do the work of the Lord.”

Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of Holy

Cross, reminded his Community of priests and brothers that “Zeal is the great desire to make God known, loved, and served, and thus to bring knowledge of salvation to others.”

Fr. Brian is amazed at how that zeal plays out in the seemingly small aspects of ministry – things like Communion visits, greeting parishioners after Mass, welcoming children to school or leading a Rosary at a Wake service. “These all seem like very simple things, yet for those we minister to, they often mean a great deal,” he said.

Fr. Brian's understanding of the Holy Cross charism of making God known, loved, and served evolved during his formation. He first experienced it in high school, where he studied under Holy Cross brothers. He was attracted to their life of prayer and community and their dedication to the students. But as he continued in formation, Fr. Brian began to see the charism in a broader context – through work with the poor at André House in Phoenix and in parish life at both St. John Vianney in Goodyear, Ariz., and at St. Joseph in South Bend, Ind., where he spent his diaconate year. “I came to realize that the charism of Holy Cross provides us with an impetus for ministry; it is not necessarily a guide on how to do ministry.”

He came to appreciate his vocation journey as something that had to be taken a day at a time and encourages others in discernment to do the same by asking how God is present to them each day. Fr. Brian said by doing so, you can engage the Lord in answering the bigger question about His plan for you.

Fr. Brian's early experience with Holy Cross began in high school, but his decision to enter the seminary became more clear when he visited Old College at the University of Notre Dame. He was comforted by seeing guys just like him who had a deep sense of faith and wanted to serve the Lord.

But it was the novitiate and pastoral years of formation that were most influential on Fr. Brian. The novitiate year helped him to see who God was calling him to be. During his pastoral year, Fr. Brian served at St. John Vianney, where he began to better appreciate the gift of ministry and the relationships that develop through ministry.

One of those important relationships in Holy Cross is between Religious in Community. As he progressed through formation, Fr. Brian saw that "community" was more than just a group of guys spending time together and supporting one another. "It's really our charism and our spirituality that tie us together and the product of that is a very good community life," he said.

That brotherhood and a sense of complete support enriched Fr. Brian throughout his formation and pushed him to grow in holiness as a Holy Cross Religious.

Fr. Brian doesn't know where his ministry will take him — a parish, college campus or direct service to the poor — but it doesn't matter. "So long as I get to serve the people of God, I will be happy as a Holy Cross priest."

FR. BRIAN C. CHING, C.S.C.

Born: May 24, 1985, New York, N.Y.

Parents: Debbie and Fred Ching of Flushing, N.Y.

College: University of Notre Dame, B.A., 2007

Graduate Study: Notre Dame, M.Div., 2012

Entered Formation: August 2004, at Old College

First Vows: August 2, 2008

Final Vows: August 25, 2012

Deacon Placement: St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, Ind.

Ordained: April 6, 2013



"With the eyes of faith, consider the greatness of your mission and the wonderful amount of good you can accomplish. And also consider the great reward promised to those who have taught the truth to others and have helped form them into justice: 'they will shine eternally in the skies like the stars of the heavens.' With the hope of this glory, we must generously complete the Lord's work."

Blessed Basil Moreau

"My hope for my future in Holy Cross is actually pretty simple: To serve the Lord and His people and to serve them well. What that service might look like, whether in a parish or on a college campus or in direct service to the poor, may well change, but so long as I get to serve the people of God, I will be happy as a Holy Cross priest." —Fr. Brian C. Ching, C.S.C.



Fr. Brian Ching, C.S.C., spent his diaconate year working in parish ministry at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, Ind. Here he raises the book of the Gospels during Mass at the church.

2013 ORDINATION DETAILS

Fr. Brian Ching, C.S.C.
Fr. Mark DeMott, C.S.C.
Fr. Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C.

April 6, 2013
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
University of Notre Dame

Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.,
Bishop of Peoria, Ill., Celebrant

FIRST MASSES OF NEWLY ORDAINED

Fr. Brian

- 10 a.m. April 7; St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, Ind.
- 10 p.m. April 7; Chapel of the Little Flower, Morrissey Manor, University of Notre Dame
- 10 a.m. April 14; St. Kevin Parish, Flushing, N.Y.
- 9 a.m. April 15; Holy Cross High School, Flushing, N.Y.

Fr. Mark

- 11:45 a.m. April 7; Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame
- 9 p.m. April 21; Chapel of Christ the Teacher, University of Portland, Portland, Ore.
- 10:30 a.m. May 26; Saint Francis de Sales Parish, Holland, Mich.

Fr. Jarrod

- 12:15 p.m. April 7; Christ the King Parish, South Bend, Ind.
- 11 a.m. April 20; St. Patrick's Parish, Parsons, Kan.

Relationships Strengthen Holy Cross Charism

Fr. Mark E. DeMott, C.S.C.



"Our mission sends us across borders of every sort. Often we must make ourselves at home among more than one people or culture, reminding us again that the farther we go in giving the more we stand to receive." —Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross, 2:17

Fr. Mark DeMott understands the transformative experience of crossing borders of every sort. His formation ministries have taken him to different parts of the United States and – for about nine months last year – to Jinja, Uganda. He taught chemistry, biology and music to students at Lake View Senior Secondary School, a Holy Cross high school in the District of East Africa. "Seeing myself as part of the broader Holy Cross Community helped to solidify my identity as Religious and serving in an international setting helped to develop my sense of confidence as a minister," he said.

His time in East Africa allowed Fr. Mark to listen better to God's call and to develop a stronger prayer life. "The vows remind me that my life is not my own – that we belong to one another and, ultimately, that we belong to God," he said.

Fr. Mark began to hear God's call at Holland (Mich.) High School, when Fr. Steve Gibson, C.S.C., gave a presentation on missionary work in East Africa. Fr. Mark heard it again as a student at the University of Notre Dame, when he formed relationships with Holy Cross priests and brothers. It's in those relationships – with God, other Religious and the poor – that Fr. Mark found his vocation as an "educator in the faith."

While he always imagined he would attend medical school, marry and have a family, Fr. Mark found God was calling him to a different vocation – teaching. "I love this life – and I am grateful



"A priest never belongs to himself. People must sense our zeal, through which we bear credible witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Pope Benedict XVI,
Holy Thursday
Chrism Mass,
April 5, 2012



Fr. Mark DeMott, C.S.C., taught chemistry, biology and music to students at Holy Cross Lake View Senior Secondary School in Jinja, Uganda, for almost a year during his formation.

for the way that it places me in relationship with others – and in relationship with God," he said.

Teaching others helps to build a sacred relationship, Fr. Mark said. "I learn something new every time I teach. Whether teaching in the classroom, teaching in a parish or teaching through service to others, I hope that I will continue to grow as an educator in the faith," he said.

He's also found a healing dimension in ministry, as well as a deep brotherhood in Holy Cross. The relationships Fr. Mark has built helped his discernment.

Fr. Moreau urged his Community of priests and brothers to be "men with hope to bring." That hope lies in the Cross and is the motto of the Congregation: "*Ave Crux, Spes Unica* – Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope!" That part of the charism has taken on different meaning for Fr. Mark since he made his First Vows.

"During my first year in vows, I shared some struggles with a priest. He told me, 'That's the 'Cross' part of Holy Cross.' At first I thought he was being funny," Fr. Mark said. "Then I realized he was serious. Slowly the Cross has become a central part of my spirituality – realizing that God makes something beautiful out of all our brokenness."

Fr. Mark is excited about the possibilities for his ministry with Holy Cross – whether that's being an educator in the classroom, serving among the poor or being in international ministry. He knows there will be both joys and challenges along the way. "Witnessing new life and real love is beautiful," he said. "Witnessing

suffering is painful. Understanding and proclaiming that new life and real love in the midst of suffering – the mystery of the Cross – will be one of the greatest joys and challenges for me.”

Fr. Mark is both excited and humbled in undertaking his new ministry as a Holy Cross priest. “I believe in the power of the Holy Spirit working in me and I trust that God will give me wise judgment, healing hands and a passionate heart as I seek to reflect God’s presence and self-gift to every person.”

FR. MARK F. DeMOTT, C.S.C.

Born: March 10, 1980, Kansas City, Mo.

Parents: Dr. John and Jodi DeMott of Holland, Mich.

College: University of Notre Dame, B.A., 2002

Graduate Study: Notre Dame, M.Div., 2007

Entered Formation: August 2007 in Postulant Program

First Vows: August 1, 2009

Final Vows: August 25, 2012

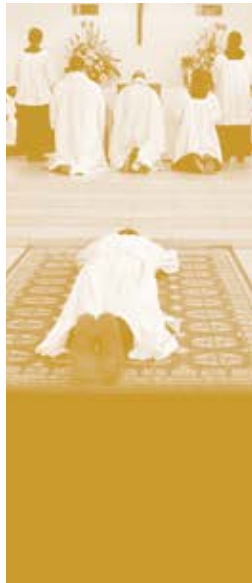
Deacon Placement: University of Portland

Ordained: April 6, 2013

“I hope that life in Holy Cross will place me in real relationship with many kinds of people. I hope that it will challenge me to embrace the Gospel. I hope that it will draw me more closely into God’s presence. And, I hope that sharing my journey with others will offer them the same.” —Fr. Mark F. DeMott, C.S.C.



(From left) Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C., Brian Ching, C.S.C., and Mark DeMott, C.S.C., at their Final Vows in 2012.



“Accepting His invitation means no longer choosing our own path. ... It means handing over our very lives to Him, living in profound intimacy with Him, entering through Him into communion with the Father in the Holy Spirit, and consequently with our brothers and sisters.”

Pope Benedict XVI, Dec. 17, 2012, announcing the 50th World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Following in the Footsteps of Holy Cross Heroes

Fr. Jarrod M. Waugh, C.S.C.



Holy Cross’ first saint, St. André Bessette, could barely read and write.

Fr. Jarrod Waugh thinks it’s significant that God made a largely illiterate Br. André the first saint from a Community dedicated to

providing a world-class education to people all over the world. “I think that should give us a moment of pause each day – before we dig into whatever work is in front of us – to ask God to ensure that the work is really for Him,” Fr. Jarrod said.

St. André, the humble and frail brother who prayed with the sick and became known as the “Miracle Man of Montreal,” is one of Fr. Jarrod’s Holy Cross heroes. He also admires the “zealous energy” of Blessed Basil Moreau, founder of Holy Cross, who made education the key ministry of his fledgling religious order. Fr. Moreau called upon his Community of priests and brothers to be “educators in the faith” through education, parish and mission settings.

Fr. Moreau’s vision for Holy Cross was a Community committed to a common table, common prayer and a common mission. That community life – the brotherhood – is what attracted Fr. Jarrod to Holy Cross and identifying with the Community and seeing himself living and working within it is what helped him better hear God’s call.

Like many Holy Cross Religious, Fr. Jarrod’s early interactions with Holy Cross helped him get an initial understanding of what it means to be an educator in the faith – that is, through the work of priests and brothers in the classroom. But as he progressed further through formation, Fr. Jarrod recognized the charism

is much more than that. "I have begun to see how our presence in a parish and grade school can help to build a foundation for children and families to keep Christ as a central focus in their lives," he said. "When I can help illustrate for our school kids how all these seemingly disparate parts of life – faith, schoolwork and service – are all parts of one larger plan that God has for them, I am so grateful that that opportunity is also part of God's call to me."

Fr. Jarrod served his diaconate year as Pastoral Associate at Christ the King Parish in South Bend, Ind., where he led the RCIA team, served as Chaplain to the third- through fifth-graders at the school, worked on baptismal and marriage preparation programs, chaired the Vocations Promotion Committee and assisted with visits to the sick and homebound. Earlier in formation, he worked with the homeless at St. André Bessette Catholic Parish (Portland, Ore.), served as Chaplain at Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo., was a crisis pregnancy counselor at the Women's Care Center in South Bend and was Assistant Director of the Old College Undergraduate Program at Notre Dame. Fr. Jarrod also spent a summer in the mission office of Holy Cross Family Ministries (Easton, Mass.), which was founded by Servant of God Patrick Peyton.

This is where Fr. Jarrod gained a great appreciation for Fr. Peyton – the Rosary priest – and his devotion to the Blessed Mother. Fr. Peyton, who is known for coining the phrase "The family that prays together stays together," traveled the world promoting the Rosary and the cause of strengthening families through prayer.

It's no surprise, then, that Fr. Jarrod's favorite form of prayer is saying the Rosary and through it he draws inspiration and strength. "I find that no matter what I am dealing with, that some part of the Rosary always seems to have the right answer," he said.

Fr. Jarrod feels blessed God has chosen him and looks forward to presiding at Mass and offering the Holy Sacrifice on the altar. He loves that Holy Cross serves in all of the ministries that allow Catholic education to flourish, from the Sacraments to campus ministry to classroom learning, and he is excited about where his own ministry will take him.



"The footsteps of those men who called us to walk in their company left deep prints, as of men carrying heavy burdens. But, they did not trudge; they strode. For they had the hope. It is the Lord Jesus calling, 'Come. Follow me.'"

Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross, 8:122–123



Fr. Jarrod Waugh, C.S.C., was a Chaplain for third- through fifth-graders at Christ the King School in South Bend, Ind. He also served in parish ministries for the church during his diaconate year.

FR. JARROD M. WAUGH, C.S.C.

Born: November 5, 1985, Parsons, Kan.

Parents: Jerry and Carolyn Waugh of Edna, Kan.

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

Graduate Study: Notre Dame, M.Div., 2012

Entered Formation: August 2006 in Old College

First Vows: August 1, 2009

Final Vows: August 25, 2012

Deacon Placement: Christ the King Parish, South Bend, Ind.

Ordained: April 6, 2013

"I get really excited when I think about what my future might hold in parish work or someday in another area of ministry. One of the reasons I joined Holy Cross is because of the diversity of personalities and talents of the Holy Cross Religious that I have met over the years. We are definitely not all alike or cookie-cutter copies. I look forward to working with this talented and varied brotherhood in so many of the places where we minister." —Fr. Jarrod M. Waugh, C.S.C.



Sacred Heart of Jesus: Powerful Intercessor, Inspiring Teacher

Blessed Basil Moreau was the consummate educator, and so when looking to consecrate the priests and seminarians of Holy Cross, he searched not only for a powerful intercessor, but also an inspiring model and teacher.

Through his studies as a young priest with the Sulpicians in Paris, Moreau had become immersed in devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The French School of Spirituality, of which the Sulpicians were a part, saw the heart as the central trope of not only God's love for humans and humans' love for God, but also the encounter between those two loves. As a result, the French School championed and developed devotions to the hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Moreau found the model and teacher that he desired for his seminarians and priests, and so in 1841 he consecrated the priests and the seminarians of Holy Cross to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It was the Sacred Heart of Jesus that was "the center of the most perfect virtues that ever existed; a veritable treasure of candor, innocence, purity, gentleness, patience, and humility; in a word, a living mirror reflecting the most admirable human perfections and the rarest gifts of grace." (*Spiritual Exercises*)

"One of the principal goals of this devotion," preached Moreau in one of his sermons, "is to present us a model for imitation. The sight of the Savior's adorable heart should say to each one of us, as in the past when Moses was given the plan for the Ark of the Covenant and the tabernacle, 'Look at this example and make a faithful copy.' This is the heart of the One given to you as master; your duty is to conform your heart to His. Study His admirable dispositions in relation to His Father, to the world and to Himself, from His incarnation to His triumphant ascension into heaven. 'Look and make a faithful copy.'"

Moreau wanted his priests to become a "faithful copy" of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, because "(Jesus) chose us priests to speak to people about His love. He called us to the remarkable and formidable honor of making Him present every day on the altar, of receiving Him every day in our heart by Holy Communion. And finally, He confided to us the care of all souls for whom He gave up His life." (*Spiritual Exercises*)

The only way that anyone could hope to imitate faithfully the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, however, would be to plunge themselves into that very same love. For Moreau, what made the Sacred Heart the best of educators was that, unlike any other teacher, the Sacred Heart of Jesus not only provided



the lessons in virtue one needed, but it also gave the graces necessary to learn them and appropriate them in one's life.

In particular, Moreau exhorted Holy Cross seminarians and priests to the particular spiritual practice of envisioning themselves carrying out all of their religious and priestly duties within the Heart of Jesus: "Let us celebrate the holy mysteries within the heart of Jesus; let us recite our office there, let us hear the confessions of our penitents there, and let us proclaim God's word there; in a word, let us fulfill all our duties there and He will permeate the work of our ministry with the most abundant blessings." (*Sermon on the Sacred Heart*)

For Moreau, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was intimately and essentially tied to the Eucharist. He never wrote or preached long about the Sacred Heart without coming to the Eucharist, which Moreau saw as both the principal gift to flow out of Jesus' heart as well as the greatest manifestation of that heart's love for us.

"It is at the altar that, in order to console the sufferings of our exile, Jesus offers us a manna more appealing than that of the desert; there that He gives us His flesh to eat and His blood to drink; there that He becomes present in such a way within our soul, His heart speaking to us with all of its affection and bringing our own hearts to beat with His." (*Sermon on the Sacred Heart*)

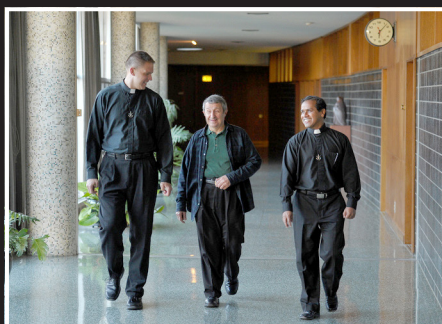
Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.

Along with dedicating the priests and seminarians to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fr. Moreau also dedicated the Holy Cross brothers to St. Joseph and the Holy Cross sisters to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The patron of the entire Congregation of Holy Cross is Our Lady of Sorrows.

“Come follow me.” It was the Lord Jesus calling us.

We asked how we might follow,
and we found many footprints on
the road. A great band of men had
passed this way, men who had
made and lived by their vows, men
who had walked side by side in
their following of the Lord. They
beckoned us to fall in step with
them. We wanted to be part of the
family they formed in order to
share in their life and work.

Constitution 1,
Congregation of Holy Cross



If you have ever had the feeling that
God may be calling you to religious life
or the priesthood, please visit us at

holycrossvocations.org