Dear friends,

This year of our Lord has been quite a trial. We have had to pivot in small and great ways. Those of you with young children have taken on the mantle of teachers in addition to your regular occupations and feel the pressure of succeeding at both; cherished friends and close-knit families have been asked to forgo the celebrations and special moments that are markers of joy in our lives; and, perhaps most painfully, those stricken with grave illness needing hospitalization have not been able to be close to those they love in their time of suffering.

And those are just the effects of the pandemic. There are many more sources of pain and injustice our society is facing right now as the very conscience of our nation is stirred. Yet, our resilience continues to overshadow sorrow and hope is constantly renewed allaying our fears. Relevant for these times is Constitution 215 from the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross:

“Our concern for the dignity of every human being as God’s cherished child directs our care to victims of every injury: prejudice, famine, warfare, ignorance, infidelity, abuse, natural calamity ....”

Every human being. Every injury. That is where we drop our anchor, put into the deep, and raise up sails of hope. And, it’s impossible without you. We are in this work together. Your response to the needs of the communities in which we live and serve through the recent COV-AID fund, and beyond, are an amazing safety net for so many. More than 900 friends and benefactors, acting out of love and compassion, partnered with us in caring for those we serve who are suffering as a result of the pandemic. These gifts are meeting immediate and drastic needs in the United States and in every Holy Cross location around the world, literally saving lives. My gratitude is shared by my Holy Cross family around the world.

In this issue of Pillars, you will read of our Holy Cross charism — the gift that the Holy Spirit gives the Congregation in order to build up the Church and to respond to the needs of the world for the good of all. Needs that you, our lay brothers and sisters, have addressed alongside us in this time of Covid, and throughout our history.

Be well and stay safe, my friends. Let us pray together for peace and prosperity of health and the dignity of life for all God’s children. We are praying for you, as always, and we humbly ask that you continue to pray for us, too.

Yours,

Rev. William M. Lies, C.S.C.,
Provincial Superior
“Why are there so many religious orders?”

“How is Holy Cross any different?”

“I thought you guys were Jesuits.”

“What’s your charism?”

We’ve all heard questions and comments like that and struggled at times to answer. I know I’m not the only member of Holy Cross guilty of unleashing a long rambling response that enveloped the poor listener in a fog of religious verbiage. Ironically though, our recent experience of the Covid-19 virus actually helps to highlight the difference between our charism, our spirituality, and the communion that results from our brotherhood.

The world has been carrying the cross of social distancing and fear of the virus’ destructive potential while persevering in hope since mid-Lent. That is how we have all been living even if 99.9% of the planet doesn’t recognize it as a manifestation of our spirituality.

Our charism, to be “Educators in the Faith,” is what we do, and we have been doing it radically different lately. Teaching, preaching, service to the poor, and Sacramental ministry have been adapted and truncated as we have gone online with students, parishioners, and other constituents who can neither attend classes nor celebrate Eucharist.
It is easy to confuse the two, but Jesus’ life provides the same parallel. St. Paul writes, “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit” (1 Corinthians 12:5-7).

Jesus’ “workings” or the “what” was his teaching, preaching, healing, and suffering. The “how” was achieved by bearing the sins and hope of the world on his shoulders, most tangibly by the cross he carried on his last day. We don’t carry his same burdens, but we do live by the motto, “The Cross, Our Only Hope.” It is the pathway for our journeys no matter whatever ministry we do.

But there is a third element too reflected in that same chapter from Paul’s letter to the Christians at Corinth. A few verses down, he articulates the concept of the Body of Christ by using the human body as an analogy to the Spirit’s work: “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ” (v. 12).

The entire Church is one communion, but within that body, there is a great variety of “whos” within it, from local parishes to international religious orders. Who we are is best described by our Constitutions. “This family is the Congregation of Holy Cross, founded by Basil Anthony Moreau ... a religious congregation composed of two distinct societies of clerics and of laymen bound together in one indivisible brotherhood” (I.6).

All religious communities like ours in some way emulate the example of the earliest disciples following Pentecost: “They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers ... All who believed were together and had all things in common” (Acts 2:42,44).

One day some years back, I was having breakfast in one of our rectories. A parish staffer walked in and blurted out, “You guys are different, so normal and approachable. It’s more like being with a family.” Others have noticed that quality spills out into our ministries, and it is not usual for us to refer to the “(Parish/School name) family” wherever we serve. That tendency stems directly from the inspiration of Blessed Basil Moreau who modeled our congregation upon the Holy Family and consistently implored his religious to embrace a spirit of union based upon it.

Since we know the what, how and who, it may sound strange that a community approaching 200 years of existence struggles at times to respond to basic questions about its identity, especially now in an age of slogans, elevators speeches, and sound bites. Many of us have sat through strategic planning sessions in which we have been counseled to define our mission and goals concisely. You’d think we would have held a meeting

CHARISMS

Mind.
Seeking understanding through the integration of faith and reason.

Heart.
Discerning our personal vocation in service to the Church and world.

Zeal.
Enkindling the desire to use our gifts to boldly proclaim God’s Word.

Family.
Embracing Christian community as the context for lifelong formation.

Hope.
Trusting in the cross and God’s promise of the kingdom.

Fr. James King, C.S.C., is theology instructor at the University of Portland, Portland, Ore. Prior to that, he was instructor and administrator at district headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. He also spent 18 years in a variety of capacities at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., including: religious superior and director of Campus Ministry. He is the author of Known by Name: Inside the Halls of Notre Dame and Holy Cross and Christian Education.
and ironed out our messaging by now!

Ironically, as hard as that is within the workplace, it may be even more of a challenge within the Church. While the manifestations of God’s Spirit provide it with an abundance of charisms, spiritualities, and communities, that diversity has also caused serious divisions to erupt within the Christian world.

The unity spawned by Pentecost was tested when St. Paul and the other apostles sparred about how to accommodate their Jewish heritage with Christianity’s expansion into the Gentile world. It would take almost 300 years for the Church to sum up its essential tenets of faith in the Nicene Creed but only in the face of an existential threat caused by numerous heresies about the nature of Jesus as one both human and divine.

Today, Catholics, Protestants, and Orthodox believers are subdivided into hundreds of variants of Christian belief and still sorting through what Jesus really intended. Ask ten or a hundred or a million people, “What’s the main point of Christianity?” Chances are you’ll get close to as many answers.

So perhaps we shouldn’t be surprised that charismatic figures who have founded religious orders have encountered resistance from their own members. Through the ages, religious life has been shaped by saints and blesseds who were often driven, iron-willed and consumed with zeal, a “burning desire to make God known, loved, and served,” as Moreau himself described it (Christian Education, 1856). Holiness rocks to a different beat, and it is not easy for mere mortals to live within the aura of those who personify it.

Little wonder that the Franciscans nudged St. Francis aside shortly before his death because they could not live up to his standard of radical poverty. A month shy of eighty-five, St. Alphonsus Liguori was deposed and the Redemptorist order he founded taken away from him by the pope.

Basil Moreau suffered a similar fate eighty-five years later when competing factions within Holy Cross during a time of financial distress engineered his dismissal. When a community reacts by spurning its founder, it can take a long time for the wounds to heal and later generations to get onboard with his message.

My friend, Fr. Kevin Grove, C.S.C., who clarified the distinction between a charism and a spirituality for me in a retreat he gave four years ago, also noted that Moreau is the only person in the history of the Church to have described education in terms of resurrection. He went on to point out how Moreau makes a critical connection in this concluding paragraph from his Christian Education:

This is what you can and must do for your students, if you truly have zeal for their salvation. Make haste, therefore; take up this work of the resurrection, never forgetting that the particular goal of your institute is, above all, to sanctify youth. By this, you will contribute to preparing the world for better times than our own; for these children who today attend your school are the parents of the future and the parents of future generations. Each one of whom bears within him or her a family. Influence them, therefore, by all the means of instruction and sanctification that I have just explained. Then, and only then, will you be able to hope to achieve the end of your vocation by the renewal of the Christian faith and of piety. Fiat! Fiat!

So we can only achieve our educational goals by living out our vocations through a commitment to our spirituality that inspires our students to embrace our vision. That insight helps to clarify an important distinction between the what and the how in Moreau’s thought. I agree with it wholeheartedly.

But I wonder whether the question of who we are encompasses both our charism and spirituality? Many communities have educational apostolates. We and the
Jesuits both have a knack for higher education. Our spirituality of the cross is rooted in Scripture and Basil Moreau’s writings, but it is not really original. Hundreds of saints, mystics, and theologians have written about the salvific power of the cross. St. Augustine preached that it was “our greatest hope” 1400 years before Moreau was born.

As important as it is to us, most people would have a hard time gleaning our spirituality from their everyday interactions with us. Likewise, whenever I’m asked a question like “What’s your charism?” and respond, “To be Educators in the Faith,” the inquirer inevitably stares at me with glazed-over eyes awaiting further enlightenment.

And typically, it doesn’t take more than a second or two to expand my sound-bite answer. I go on to talk about our emphasis upon establishing a family-like sense of community wherever we go. The family element is admittedly hard to pin down, like pinching a bead of mercury, but easier to explain with examples, like the atmosphere in our universities’ residence halls or the parish staffer’s observation above. That’s because it is a feeling and a manifestation of mystical communion which is easier to describe than define.

I think that’s one reason why our attempts to explain our charism tend to result in wandering responses. But another is because we are still struggling to fully appreciate Moreau’s legacy, especially how oneness in the Body of Christ is the end to which all charisms and spiritualities aim.

Our founder was practically obsessed with the principle of union. He tied it to the Congregation’s ability to succeed in its works in a circular letter considered to be his “Magna Carta” for the then new community: “We do not realize all the good we could do for others through union with Jesus Christ in the spirit of our rules and constitutions” (Circular Letter 14, 1841). For Moreau, unity was the foundation block upon which all Holy Cross’ works rested, but perhaps not only for the benefit of his brothers.

The difference between what we do as educators in faith from other religious orders’ charisms can be found in the combination of urgency and mystical communion evident in Moreau’s final charge in Christian Education. We take enormous pride in the achievements of our universities’ valedictorians and post-grad fellowship awardees, but any one of us who lives in a residence hall would tell you that the most consistently joyful, uplifting aspect of our existence is our weekly celebration of Mass with those students — although an interhall sports championship might be a close second!

We attempt to shepherd minds and hearts not only toward individual achievement but to live and
learn in an atmosphere where experiences of communal joy become utterly transformative. That combination is uniquely a resurrection-inspired work to encourage students to become natural communion builders wherever they go. As Moreau once wrote in a teacher’s guide that has mostly been lost: *They should be trained in such a way that they may be everywhere what they were in school.*

Cécile Perrault, a Moreau scholar who conducted an extensive analysis of his writings on St. Paul in her book *To Become Another Christ,* observed that, for him, to be Holy Cross meant simply to be a Christian in its fullest sense. Moreau “does not distinguish between Christian life and religious life; on the contrary, he makes of the former the foundation of the latter.” The form of what we do and how we achieve it may differ for those who do not take religious vows, but Moreau challenged us all to the same end.

It’s a revealing insight. Far ahead of his day and more than any of his contemporaries, Moreau leveled the usual cloister wall between lay people and religious who are typically thought to occupy some higher plane on the holiness scale and called both — students too — to aspire to glory while cherishing the same spirit of unity. In doing so, he helped to create the sense of family that remains so prevalent in Holy Cross institutions today.

Fr. Grove expressed his belief on that retreat that Fr. Moreau should be declared a doctor of the Church for articulating education as a work of the resurrection, but I wonder whether Basil Moreau’s thirst for communion or unity, within our brotherhood and beyond, may prove to be his most enduring legacy?

Perhaps the most poignant expression of this sentiment came from Yves Le Saux, the current bishop of Le Mans where the Congregation was founded, who gave a remarkable homily on September 21, 2014, the day Holy Cross’ conventual church was dedicated as a shrine to Blessed Basil Moreau.

... we should also keep in mind that the condition for missionary fruitfulness comes to us by way of communion and fraternal charity. And we all know that on this path, there is always progress to be made. This charity among us is born out of our personal union with Christ. As Saint Thérèse of Lisieux admirably said, “the farther I am from Jesus, the farther I am from my sisters; the closer I am to Jesus, the closer I am to my sisters.”

Lastly, Saint Paul says again, “we all will attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ” (Eph 4:13). Together, not alone. It seems to me that Basil Moreau says to us: together, not alone.

The founder of Holy Cross never phrased it quite that way. Bishop Le Saux should be commended too for so eloquently linking success in our works to communion and charity. It is not our charism or our spirituality, but it is who we strive to be. His tribute summarizes Moreau’s thinking on that score perfectly and captures the aim of St. Paul’s analogy between Church and body quite fittingly with those three key words: together, not alone.

As we continue to confront Covid-19, what more fitting words could express our common plight and our challenge as believers in the days that follow? Basil Moreau’s spirit is challenging us to take up the cross in communion with people from pole to pole and use its hope to transform the damaged landscape that will emerge in the aftermath of this virus. It is a work of the resurrection that we can only do together. 🙏
Family is a charism spoken of considerably in Fr. Jim King’s reflection, in the context of the Holy Cross Community. For those who have come in contact with the Congregation of Holy Cross, either through our missions, pastoral work in parishes, or through our schools, nearly everyone steps away from those experiences with a comment related to the ‘family-like’ feeling they encountered. Not a surprise for those who work closely with the Congregation. Blessed Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, envisioned his community to be similar to that of the Holy Family. In many respects, it reflected the home in which he was raised. It is what makes the Congregation of Holy Cross uniquely distinctive.

Our families have become increasingly important since the world started battling with the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) in December 2019 when it was first reported. This pandemic is, without question, a defining moment for a generation and countless have been impacted in catastrophic ways.

In an interesting way, however, it has been fascinating for me to see families and communities come together to support one another. Entire neighborhoods have been seen reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in unison, businesses of all sizes re-tooled manufacturing to support the need for mission-critical medical supplies, and ultimately, we were ordered to shelter in place. The latter provided an opportunity to experience the simple pleasures of family, prayer, self-reflection, and community spirit, which I found uplifting. Ultimately, I believe simplicity in life was the powerful vision of Moreau.

“Let us, then, stand in closely united ranks and, far from separating and scattering, let us live in such a manner that, as it sees the members of our family, the world may say of us as the Gentiles said of the first Christians: See how they love one another!” (CL, 170)

Mr. Brian T. Lohr is the new director in the Office of Development. Most recently, Brian worked in Admissions at the University of Notre Dame, beginning his career with the MBA program at the Mendoza College of Business and then transitioning to Undergraduate Admissions, a tenure spanning 22 years. He and his wife, Kelly, have four grown children and recently became grandparents.
The Brothers

CELEBRATE 200 YEARS

by Br. George Klawitter, C.S.C.
The Brothers of St. Joseph have been vibrant in education for 200 years. From a small one-room school in Ruillé the second year of their existence, to schools today enrolling thousands of students in 19 countries, the Brothers continue the good work of Holy Cross, true to the ideals that Father James Dujarié, Brother André Mottais, and Father Basil Moreau set out for them two centuries ago.

In 1818 at the annual retreat for priests in the diocese of Le Mans, France, the bishop asked a gentle country priest named James Dujarié to found a community of brothers to teach boys in the diocese. Since the French Revolution had destroyed the Church’s system of education, an entire generation of boys was growing up without formal training in their religion and without the rudiments of arithmetic and language skills.

Father Dujarié was the likely candidate for such a foundation because a dozen years earlier he had founded a group of pious women to educate girls in the area. These women had become the Sisters of Providence and had proven to be a strong catalyst for the revival of education in northwest France.

By 1820 Father Dujarié had gathered four young men in his rectory to be trained as teachers. He called them the Brothers of St. Joseph. His goal was to send them out into small towns where the Christian Brothers would not work because their rules required multiple Brothers for each school—no single Christian Brother could live alone. The villages that could support but a single teacher needed a community like Father Dujarié’s to bring their schools back.

One recruit to the Brothers of St. Joseph was a blessing—André Mottais. Twenty years old, a farmer from Larchamp, France, he was selected by Father Dujarié to become the kingpin of the fledgling community. He was sent first to Le Mans for training with the Christian Brothers and then for six months to their novitiate in Paris. Of all the early Ruillé commune recruits, André Mottais received the most solid religious formation. He did not disappoint either Father Dujarié or the Brothers. As the novice master, he was responsible not only for their introduction to religious life—he also taught them to be teachers. Many of them had scant knowledge in the subjects they would be expected to teach: catechetics, arithmetic, penmanship, and grammar. Brother André worked with them to get them ready to run their own schools, a daunting task since many of the recruits were not even twenty years old.

continued on next page
By 1821, the Brothers of St. Joseph were already running three schools. By 1825, they were running 40 schools, returning to their motherhouse in Ruillé only once a year at the end of August for a two-week retreat. Every year Brother André visited each of the little schools — in some years as many as fifty schools — to check on the quality of the teaching there. He became, in fact, the heart of the Brothers, guiding the novices, training the prospective teachers, supervising the men out in the schools.

The Brothers grew. By 1829, there were 100 of them working in 48 schools. But in 1830, a mini-revolution in France brought havoc to the Brothers. One-third of them were gone by the end of 1831. Elderly Father Dujarié, sick with debilitating gout, was no longer capable of shepherding the Brothers. So Brother André wrote to the bishop in Le Mans to see about transferring the Brothers over to the care of a younger priest. The bishop agreed, and at a tearful ceremony in 1835, at the Ruillé motherhouse (the Grand St. Joseph), Father Dujarié turned over the Brothers to the hands of young Father Basil Moreau, assistant rector of the seminary in Le Mans. The Brothers of St. Joseph moved north to Le Mans, their new home.

Father Moreau had experience with religious communities since he already supervised the Good Shepherd Sisters in Le Mans, and he had gathered a few priests around him to form a community devoted to home-missionary work. In 1837, he decided to blend the Brothers of St. Joseph with his auxiliary priests into one community. Since both groups were headquartered in the Le Mans suburb called Sainte-Croix (“Holy Cross”), the religious community came to be known as the Congregation of (from) Holy Cross.

The Brothers soon started to work outside of France.

In 1840, Brother André Mottais was selected for a missionary venture to Africa, but after two years the Holy Cross missionaries all returned to Le Mans. In poor health from work in Algeria, Brother André died at Le Mans two years later at age 44. Holy Cross lost a religious giant. Without him there may have been a short-lived community of brothers at Ruillé, but there would never be today what the Brothers have become, education their primary apostolate.

Of the many strong leaders among the early Brothers, Brother André Mottais was the first and most important. But there were other noteworthy Brothers working in education. Brother Leonard Guittoger had been one of the four Brother-Directors in Ruillé and became a fierce advocate for the Brothers when the Community was threatened with financial collapse, an eventuality that thankfully never happened. Brother Vincent Pieau, another one of the Brother-Directors, was chosen in 1841 to join the mission-band heading to Indiana, where, as patriarch of the group, he trained new teachers. He died in 1890 and is buried in the Community Cemetery on St. Mary’s Road at Notre Dame.

Of the early Brothers at Notre Dame, Brother Lawrence Menage and Brother Francis Xavier Patoy were standouts. Brother Lawrence became the business brains of the university, making valuable contacts locally and representing the university in court when necessary. Brother Francis Xavier supervised the trade school at Notre Dame and...
outlived all seven of the original Indiana missionaries: he died in 1896.

Of course there were some heartaches among the early Indiana Brothers, notably in 1845, with the loss of twenty-year old Brother Anselm Caillot, who drowned in the Ohio River at Madison, Ind., where he had been happily running St. Michael’s School. He was memorialized with a cenotaph erected on July 12 this year at Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame, Ind.

Brother George Klawitter, C.S.C., retired in 2012 from St. Edward’s University where he was a professor in the English Literature Department. He has presented fifteen papers at the Holy Cross History Conference over the years and has published translations of early Holy Cross letters (Adapted to the Lake and Holy Cross in Algeria). He has recently published Early Men of Holy Cross and The Brothers of St. Joseph to help celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Brothers.
“The door is always open.” This is something we say to convey our willingness to assist someone in need. Jesus, the only door through which we may achieve salvation, revealed His Father as the very Being of openness: “Knock, and the door shall be opened to you” (Mt 7:7).
Br. André Bessette, C.S.C., was a man who knew how to open doors. He spent most of his life welcoming the stranger, the lost, the sick, and the suffering. But, this remarkable porter didn’t just open doors made of wood and metal. He opened his heart to whomever he encountered, and he invited them to open the doors of their hearts as well.

Whereas many religious serve as teachers, pastors, and laborers, Br. André served faithfully for years the ministry of porter. He spent his life literally at the door of a school in Montreal and welcomed others in need. He talked to people and listened to them as they waited to do business or receive guidance from the priests. Soon his reputation spread as a healer and a spiritual guide — so much so that hundreds and then thousands started coming to Montreal to see him.

Whenever anyone asked Br. André for a cure or for an answer, he would get a little angry and say, “It is not I who heal. That comes from God alone. Go, ask St. Joseph to bring your petition to God.”

Like St. Joseph, Br. André was completely opened to God’s will. He believed that, through service to our brothers and sisters in need, we are, indeed, serving God. Through the grace and intercession of Br. André, we pray that we may open doors for one another.

This reflection on St. André Bessette, the first canonized saint of the Congregation of Holy Cross, was written by the now Most Rev. William Wack, C.S.C., Bishop of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee. It appeared in the first edition of The Cross, Our Only Hope, published by Ave Maria Press.

Bishop Wack, a member of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers, was serving as Pastor of St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin, Texas, when he was named bishop by Pope Francis in 2017.

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**Rev. Michael DeLaney, C.S.C., to be Installed as Rector of Saint Joseph’s Oratory**

This fall, Fr. Michael McGrath DeLaney, C.S.C., will be installed as the next rector of Saint Joseph’s Oratory. Fr. DeLaney will succeed Rev. Claude Grou, C.S.C., who has been rector for the last 14 years.

Because of uncertainties linked to the Covid-19 pandemic and the Canadian Borders remaining closed for many more weeks, the number of guests are expected to be limited at this time. As soon as conditions are more favorable and gatherings permissible in Canada, a public celebration will be organized with all the proper pomp and circumstance.

“Fr. DeLaney is certainly a gift from heaven to the life of the Oratory. His past experience and current leadership and pastoral qualities — whether as the Superior of the District of Chile or as Director of the Holy Cross Mission Center or at many other places he ministered around the world - will greatly contribute to the future success of the legacy of Saint Brother André,” said Rev. Mario Lachapelle, C.S.C., Provincial Superior of the Canadian Province.
As Holy Cross religious we are called to “a single-hearted intimacy with God” (Constitution 543). This call to single-hearted intimacy with the Lord echoes back to the heart of the covenant God made with his chosen people, Israel, who regularly had to be called back from double-heartedness (leb welb) to single-hearted devotion (bekol leb). It also reaches back to the earliest days of Christianity where, in the Syrian tradition, there was the ihidaya variously defined as the single one, or the solitary. This was at times expressed by particular vocations to the monastic or eremitical life, but it really was the call for all Christians to oneness with God through single-hearted dedication. We in Holy Cross, in our service and ministry, are at our best when we too cultivate our own unique single-hearted intimacy with God.

Our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, was strongly influenced by the “Heart Spirituality” of the French School, and especially of St. John Eudes*. In one of his sermons on the Sacred Heart, he employs a rhetorical technique of repeating two phrases multiple times. The first phrase is: Ecce quomodo dilexit

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*Revised to correct error in previous text.*
("Behold how he loved") and then the second is: "Look and make it according to the pattern." And really, these two phrases together provide a simple two-step instruction: Behold how Jesus loved (via the Sacred Heart) and allow him to remake your own heart "according to [that] pattern."

But how is this done?

Fr. Moreau, earlier in the same sermon, tells us: "It is our Lord himself who invites us [through] his side opened with a lance, so that the bloody wound may be a door through which we may enter the more easily into his heart." The crucified heart of Christ is the proof of how God loves and the open, wounded and vulnerable heart of Christ is the re-patterning to which we are each called. And in our response to this call, Fr. Moreau reminds us, "Let us not enter alone, bringing only ourselves to partake of this precious treasure; let us draw along all those whose salvation is confided to us and compel them with holy violence to enter with us." The language may be a little jarring, but the point is clear: single-hearted intimacy with God requires an intimate relationship with the Sacred Heart of Christ into which we are called to enter, never alone, but rather through our shared human woundedness and vulnerability. And this is perhaps brought into even sharper relief in the midst of our current global pandemic.

In terms of how this is reflected in our Holy Cross mission, I think it suffices to turn to, what is perhaps one of Fr. Moreau’s best known quotes drawn from his Circular Letter 36 where he writes:

> We do not want our students to be ignorant of anything they should know. We shall always place education side by side with instruction; the mind must never be cultivated at the expense of the heart. While we prepare useful citizens for society we shall likewise do our utmost to prepare citizens for heaven.

I would suggest for Fr. Moreau, it is not only the mind that must not be cultivated at the expense of the heart, but nothing in our vows, in our community life, or in our service and ministry should ever be done at the expense of the heart. And not just at the expense of the heart of the minister, or the recipient of the ministry, but above all at the expense of the Sacred Heart into which we are each called to be re-patterned and into which we must never enter alone but always inviting along all those we meet.

When we, Holy Cross brothers, priests, sisters, and lay collaborators, live out this single-hearted intimacy with the Sacred Heart of Christ, then this Holy Cross charisma, wherever it is exercised, school, parish or mission, will shine through. In a world that can sometimes seem filled with double-hearts, broken hearts, and harden-hearts, we are each called to never live or serve at the expense of the Sacred Heart of Christ.

* Fr. Moreau was interested in encouraging devotion to the Three Hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as was popular piety at the time in France. But Fr. Moreau also, symbolically, assigned each of these three hearts to each of the three branches of his Congregation: the Heart of Mary for the Sisters, the Heart of Joseph for the Brothers, the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the Priests. All three hearts comprise Holy Cross spirituality and charism, but for brevity sake here we will focus only on the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
During the pandemic, André House in Phoenix, Ariz., continues to minister to the poor and homeless in the area. Because of concern for their volunteers, they are only operating with a core community of Holy Cross religious.

Even though they have had to reduce some of the services they usually offer, they are doing amazing work with such a small group of people. Two or three times a week they are ordering more than 600 pre-packaged meals from local restaurants so the other services can be staffed. This has the added bonus of helping local restaurants.

The U.S. Province sent a small cadre of young religious to provide support. What follows are accounts from Rev. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C., and Rev. Ryan Pietrocarlo, C.S.C. Upon their return, they headed back to their homes for a 14-day quarantine, and a group of eight young men in formation followed in their footsteps to assist and again return to quarantine. We appreciate the service of these men and the formation staff for organizing this.
“One of the amazing things that I experienced at André House was the overwhelming support of people from the community,” said Fr. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C. “Below, Fr. Dan Ponisciak, C.S.C., (the Director of André House) and I are packaging meals on Sunday night. Sunday night is typically goulash night, but recently, a patron known by the guests and staff as ‘the Chicken Man’ would bring 400 pieces of fried chicken for dinner on Sunday nights. He had only missed one Sunday in recent memory because the pandemic had caused the store to be understaffed ... incredible! The homemade goulash was delicious, but the guests were very excited to eat some good fried chicken as well.

“When Fr. Bill Lies, C.S.C., our Provincial, reached out to me about the possibility of going to André House, I was thrilled for the ask,” said Fr. Ryan. “I serve as a Rector at Notre Dame, but with no students on campus and no firm plans for what the close of the semester or beyond would look like, I was energized by the possibility of serving at a place where some extra hands were welcome and needed. The icing on the cake was finding out that there would be other CSCs in my formation group who would also be responding to the call. In Arizona, the six of us all lived in one of André House’s emergency houses. We prayed morning and evening prayer together, had Mass together on the day off, caught up on life in our apostolates and local communities and processed this experience together. This slice of the folks whom I spent time with at Moreau Seminary in formation would never have spent this time together except to respond to this call at André House. We felt deeply ‘Holy Cross’ when we responded to the call at André House. We felt deeply ‘Holy Cross’ when we responded to the call, but even more deeply ‘Holy Cross’ in that we were able to respond to the call as brothers in community.”

“I was struck midway through my time there, though, that the lesson I was learning in hospitality was not about my creating it or giving it; I was receiving it,” said Fr. Ryan. “The staff welcomed me and the other men of Holy Cross with open arms, greeting us like family and plugging us right into the work. And the guests treated us like we were old friends. At a place like André House which is blessed with so many volunteers, the volunteers change more frequently than the guests. And while I thought that I might be going there to make folks feel a sense of welcome and belonging, it was the guests and the staff who extended this to me. Their openness, receptivity, and hospitality flipped the script on what I expected. We ourselves, indeed, stand to learn much from those we are called to serve.”

— Fr. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C.

Fr. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C., is in his second year as Rector of Keough Hall, University of Notre Dame. Following a quick detour into the world of public accounting, Fr. Brogan returned to South Bend to enter formation with the Congregation of Holy Cross. Fr. Brogan was ordained a priest in April 2019. He currently helps lead Notre Dame’s RCIA process.
“This is probably the closest we’ll get to Baby Priest Camp this year. It was a remark we made a few times during our two-week stint at André House in Phoenix. Baby Priest Camp is the informal name of the Transition Years Workshop, an annual gathering of young Holy Cross religious in LaPorte, Ind., who are within five years of perpetual profession of vows. It serves as a time of fellowship and communal reflection on our experience of religious life,” said Fr. Ryan Pietrocarlo, C.S.C.

“But because of the Coronavirus, we knew chances were slim that it was going to take place this year. I suppose God had other plans for the six of us, Fr. Brogan Ryan, C.S.C., Fr. Chris Brennan, C.S.C., Fr. Brendan McAleer, C.S.C., Fr. Karl Romkema, C.S.C., Fr. Brian Kennedy, C.S.C., and myself. As we were serving at our respective apostolates, we got the email from our provincial asking for help at André House. The virus had sidelined the hundreds of volunteers that flock weekly to help there, leaving only a small core team of no more than 10 to run the operation.

And that they did, for a whole month, until director Fr. Dan Ponisciak, C.S.C., saw the need to call in reinforcements.

It was certainly something that we did not expect to do but truly felt blessed to have the opportunity to do. While we were limited in our ministries to basically many Zoom meetings and online masses, it was a refreshing and motivating call to do hands on work to serve the guests of André House.

All of us could concur that this experience was beautiful for the chance to serve the most vulnerable, especially in the midst of the Coronavirus, but the beauty of the experience came also in doing it together.

Much of the work of the day consisted in keeping André House clean. Here, Fr. Brendan McAleer, C.S.C., prepares to mop as he helps the Core Team with the end of the day cleaning at André House. Hydration was essential while we were in Phoenix. Temperatures already reached to the 100s every day. Fr. Brendan McAleer, C.S.C., and I (far right photo) serve cold drinks during the evening dinner service to help André House guests stay hydrated.

I am truly grateful for this opportunity to have served at André House during a time of great need, and also truly grateful to my brothers I shared it with. My own view of brotherhood has changed, my resolve in community life renewed and the power of a common apostolate re-inspired in me. Yes, I, like perhaps other young Holy Cross religious in the province may be disappointed that there is no Transition Years Workshop this year, but I concur that this was a pretty blessed replacement. I think we all took something away from it and saw this as a great transitioning moment in our growth in religious life, one that we will carry with us in the brotherhood that we share.”

— Fr. Ryan Pietrocarlo, C.S.C.
Fr. Ryan Pietrocarlo, C.S.C., graduated with a B.S. in biochemistry from the University of Notre Dame in 2011, and earned his M.Div. from the University in 2016. He was ordained a priest in April 2017. He is currently serving as Parochial Vicar at St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, Ind.
Lending Support Worldwide

As the Provincial described in his letter preceding this issue of Pillars, the efforts — worldwide — to lend support, compassion and care to our fellow brothers and sisters in faith during a global pandemic has been astonishing. Each day brings more people to our doors in need of material assistance. While the suffering is immense, the stories of resilience, hope and determination are greater.

It should touch your heart to know that in our ministries in East Africa, South America, Mexico and in the United States, your generosity and work of mercy is helping us directly aid men, women and children in their greatest needs — often the most basic needs — such as food, face coverings to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, and programs that shelter, protect and sustain God’s children in numerous other ways.

You generously provided and continue to provide needed pandemic relief with “COV-AID” via the United States Province website, COV-AID.HolyCrossUSA.org. This initiative is having a beautiful ripple effect, and as an example, two groups formed — one in Chile and one in Haiti — where a portion of assistance was distributed, sewing centers were established with the necessary materials, for local folks to sew masks. In turn, the sale of these masks provides needed work and money for food, while better protecting those who use the coverings.
Supplemental funds for food were provided to the families of children under the protection of Fundamor, our long-standing foundation caring for abandoned, abused or orphaned children. St. George’s College has a strong tradition of supporting Fundamor but since it has been closed, no funds have come from the families in the grade school.

A group of women are also making masks which are now required in metropolitan Santiago. These women received the materials for sewing and purchased one more machine. The masks can be then distributed and sold for income to provide for their needs, or those of their families during this time.

Additionally, food supplies were made available to the families of the three parishes served by Holy Cross in Santiago and in Calle Larga. Many people were laid off from their jobs and have no income. Also, packages of food were assembled and made available to the homeless who would otherwise have a daily meal at the parish dining rooms.

In Peru, food baskets and items for personal hygiene have been distributed to 400 families of the parish in Canto Grande, and supplemental needs and outreach with food has been extended to the families and children who would normally come to Yancana Huasy ministry. Canto Grande is a place of significant and profound poverty. This food supplement, along with bottled water and personal items have reached many families and individuals in need who would otherwise be quite isolated.

Holy Cross religious serve many poor communities in northeast Brazil and in Santarem, on the Amazon. They arranged for personal needs, medical needs, food and other supplies to be distributed to this vast region. Brazil is the third most affected country by Covid-19.
**MEXICO**

Another creative initiative of the community was to propose purchasing a cell phone for the Catholic chaplaincy at the women’s prison. After permission was received from the prison’s leadership, Ángel Lazaro de la Cruz, C.S.C., a seminarian from Mexico, helped spearhead the effort. With familial visits being suspended, it has allowed the women to maintain contact with their families during these difficult days. It also allows the women to connect with our pastoral ministers who usually accompany them. The funding came from the District’s own Apostolic Fund.

**GHANA**

Holy Cross religious and lay colleagues from their schools are producing hand sanitizers and soaps to distribute to the villages served. They also have collected funds for food supplements during this time when no one can work, yet need to feed their families. Families in need of assistance for their school fees have also been helped, so their children do not have to leave the Holy Cross schools.

**HAITI**

Holy Cross religious personally took food to some of the poorest, most vulnerable and isolated people. Materials and oil were also made available for the automation of sewing machines for the Women’s Sewing Project, a woman’s group that started making masks for distribution. They provided a business plan, petitioned for an investment, and indicated how many masks could be produced (masks are now required in Port au Prince) and sold. These women now have some self-sustaining income and the ability to get food for their family. In addition to personal items and health needs, food was distributed to four parts of the country where Holy Cross serves, including some of the poorest and most isolated families and orphans.

**EAST AFRICA**

Food and personal items were distributed in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, in our parishes and school communities, and salary supplements for the teachers at St. James School in Nairobi were offered. Some students live quite a distance from the two residential schools in Uganda, and needed a place to stay until they could safely return home. Your assistance provided meals and personal needs.
Thanks to cov-aid giving, food is being distributed at our tribal parishes feeding thousands for two weeks at a time. In these tribal regions, some children are staying in the hostels for the sake of their well-being, necessitating additional food and resources. Small repairs in such a hostel have also been made possible through these funds, and some families from Holy Cross schools administered by the Saint Joseph Province of Brothers, serving very poor regions, were allotted food rations along with food for teachers to help them survive.

**INDIA**

Your generosity led to distribution of food in each of the four Holy Cross provinces/vicariates in India, where special attention is paid to the needs of orphaned children which two of the vicariates serve extensively. In Northeast India, funds were also used to transform spaces in five schools, in the five states of Northeast India where Holy Cross serves, to be used as isolation centers for those who contracted the virus. Our funds went to construction and supplies to get this set up to accommodate people.

**BANGLADESH**

From Holy Cross parishes in Bandarban and Jalchatra, Bangladesh we see the many stages of the process of providing for food for their hungry parishioners. With no work due to the shutdown, they have no food. They have come together to harvest from the garden, divide out supplies of rice and flour, and prepare and transport them so families can get food and nourishment for one month at a time. Pictured at top is Rev. Binoy Gomes, C.S.C., pastor of Bandarban distributing funds for some parishioners to purchase their supplies.
The Extra Mile

In May 1980, I was a member of the eighth class of Notre Dame alumnae. In the late 70s, co-education at ND was new and we were the minority – six women’s dorms and fifteen men’s dorms. This led to combined courses of study, learning both inside and outside of the classrooms.
By participating in The Trail, I was seeing the University differently – through the eyes of the men who believed and risked.

I made friends from all across the country, including the fella that became the love of my life. Mark was a student of The General Program (today, the Program of Liberal Studies), and he was in the marching band. He was a leader of bringing band alumni back to campus for their own Reunion.

Consequently, I was adopted into the band family. That’s how I learned the endearing chant of “C! S! C!” when assistant band director Fr. George Wiskirchen ND’51 (1928 – 2005) was introduced. I must admit that chant and knowing of the Bengal Bouts was the extent of my knowledge of the Congregation of Holy Cross for a long time.

Fast forward to summer of 2015, Mark was diagnosed with a terminal brain cancer. Life changed to one day at a time — sometimes one hour at a time. It was an extraordinary journey with family and friends, including our ND family of friends. In November 2016, Mark made his way to be with Jesus.

In 2017, I heard of the preparations for 175th Anniversary of the University. Being a historian at heart, I read all posted on the website, including the announcement of “The Notre Dame Trail.” A unique plan to follow the 300-mile journey that Fr. Sorin and six Brothers made to the place that would become the home of University de Notre Dame du Lacs. The planners goals of The Trail were to recognize the Congregation of Holy Cross, educate about the 175 year history of Notre Dame, and create a pilgrimage for Our Lady. It was a great success as 1,000s joined.

I was intrigued and made the decision to participate because I wanted to strengthen my relationship with Notre Dame. I already admired Fr. Sorin for his unashamed visionary thinking.

But let me explain, I did not walk the 300 miles. Nor did the 1000’s. There was a group of thirty who did make the trek — amazing. The plan was for alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends to participate in the last few days and conclude at the Grotto on campus. I was in that group that walked 36 miles. It was so well organized. There were buses, nicknamed “The Oxcart” that followed to aid any walkers’ need. Each rest stop was fully stocked with water, energy snacks, sunscreen and a mobile restroom!

By participating The Trail, I was seeing the University differently — through the eyes of the men who believed and risked. There is so much more to the University of Notre Dame when the charm of Holy Cross is understood.

That experience caused me to pay more attention. I had a few Holy Cross priests for class when I was a student. Others were only associated with the administration and the dorms bearing their names.

That summer, for me, Holy Cross is forever entwined with Notre Dame, yet also separate. (perhaps a topic for a different article.)

Once I received a request letter from Holy Cross … with the message of beginning the school year and the challenging cost of books and supplies for just one student seminarian, I remembered that with my sons — as well as the cost of clothes, towels, laundry quarters, health checkups, meal plans … and the negotiations for the “not now” purchase.

I was moved to make a donation. Yet, there was something about that letter that stayed with me. I kept thinking about it … college has lists that don’t stop and finances that rarely keep up. That prompted my decision to provide an ongoing monthly gift, or become a sustaining donor. A way to help ease some of the worry about keeping up.

For over 175 years, the CSC’s influence in education, parishes and missionary service near and far does not stop. The need for financial support does not stop either.

God bless.
And as in all things … Go Irish and “C! S! C!”

— Joyce Ravnikar-Kulyk ND ‘80
With abundant joy and thanksgiving, the United States Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross announces the ordination of four new priests on Saturday, September 5, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. (EDT) at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders on Rev. Mr. Vincent Nguyen, C.S.C., Rev. Mr. M. Joseph Pedersen, C.S.C., Rev. Mr. Zachary Rathke, C.S.C., and Rev. Mr. Gilbrian Stoy, C.S.C. The ordination Mass was previously scheduled for April 18 but postponed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the safety of all, ordination will be streaming live at ordination-live.holycrossvocations.org.

On August 30, 2019, Deacons Nguyen, Pedersen, Rathke, and Stoy professed perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and committed themselves to the common life and apostolic work of the Congregation of Holy Cross.
REV. MR. VINCENT NGUYEN, C.S.C.,
is the first of four children of Hoa and Kelly Nguyen of Warner Robins, Ga. He graduated with a B.A. in economics and philosophy from the University of Notre Dame in 2014, where he also earned his M.Div. in 2019. Deacon Vincent entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in Aug. 2010 as undergraduate seminarian in the Old College program at the University of Notre Dame. He made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 1, 2015.

Deacon Vincent served as a chaplain at the Center for Hospice Care, South Bend, Ind. (2015-2016); at the Shrine of Blessed Basil Moreau, Le Mans, France (Summer 2016); as a marriage enrichment leader at Christ the King Parish, South Bend, Ind. (2016-2017); at Holy Cross Family Ministries in Easton, Mass. (Summer 2017); in multi-cultural ministry at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. (2017-2018); at André House in Phoenix, Ariz. (Summer 2018); and as assistant rector of Sorin College at the University of Notre Dame (2018-2019).

“It’s a little surreal thinking that ordination is close,” said Deacon Vincent. “There’s an excitement about priestly ordination like the excitement of a new journey but its more than that because priesthood is neither the end nor is it the beginning of something. It is the continuation of the journey. I’m excited for preaching and for Sacramental ministry. I look forward to the opportunity to bring Jesus to people in a unique way through the Sacraments.”

*Deacon Vincent has been serving at Holy Cross Parish, South Bend, Ind.*

REV. MR. M. JOSEPH PEDERSEN, C.S.C.,
is the fifth of six children of Michael and Mary Pedersen of Waterloo, Iowa. Deacon Joe graduated with a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2009, earned his master’s from the University in 2011, and his M.Div. in 2019. Prior to entering the Congregation of Holy Cross, he was a theology teacher at Benilde-St. Margaret School in St. Louis Park, Minn. He entered Holy Cross in Aug. 2013 as a postulant, and made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 1, 2015.

During his formation, Deacon Joe served as a hospital chaplain at Penrose-St. Francis Hospital, Colorado Springs, Colo. (2014-2015); at the Catholic Worker House in South Bend, Ind. (2015-2016); in Bible study outreach in Campus Ministry at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. (2016-2017); as a pastoral assistant at La Luz Parish, Monterrey, Mexico (2017); as an intern in the development office at the University of Portland, Portland, Ore. (Summer 2018); and as assistant director of Old College Undergraduate Seminary on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. (2018-2019).

“I am both excited and nervous as ordination approaches,” said Deacon Joe. “Living the priesthood well is an enormous responsibility and a difficult task. At the same time, I have a lot of peace knowing that Christ, the High Priest, will strengthen and sustain me in my ministry.”

*Deacon Joe has been serving as rector at Siegfried Hall at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind.*

REV. MR. ZACHARY RATHKE, C.S.C.,
is the youngest of three children of Charles and Anne Rathke of College Station, Texas. He graduated with a B.A. from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, earned an MTS at Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Mass., and earned his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. in 2019. Deacon Zach entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in Aug. 2013 as a postulant, and professed First Vows on Aug. 1, 2015.

During his formation, Deacon Zach served in youth and outreach programs at La Luz Parish, Monterrey, Mexico (Summer 2014); school and ministry programs at Holy Redeemer Parish, Portland, Ore. (Winter 2015); Yancana Huasy and Fe y Alegría Schools in Lima, Peru (Summer 2016); St. Ignatius Martyr Parish, Austin, Texas (Summer 2017); Spanish language immersion program in Puebla, Mexico (Summer 2018), and El Señor de la Esperanza Parish in Lima, Peru (Fall Pastoral Semester 2018).

“I feel a profound sense of peace about priestly ordination,” said Deacon Zach. “It feels like a logical conclusion to what I already discerned and professed. I have desired to bring Christ to people in such a profoundly tangible way, especially in the sacrifice of the Mass. I look forward to that moment with great excitement and yet great peace.”

*Deacon Zachary has been serving at St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin, Texas.*

REV. MR. GILBRIAN STOY, C.S.C.,
is the youngest of three children of Thomas Stoy and Brigid Fitzgerald of Little Falls, Minn. He graduated with a B.S. in Preprofessional Studies from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2013, and earned his M.Div. from the University in 2019. He entered Holy Cross in Aug. 2013 as a postulant. He made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 1, 2015.


“People keep asking me if I am nervous as priestly ordination approaches,” said Deacon Gil. “I think after so many years of formation, I am simply ready. I am excited to serve the people of God as a priest. I know that I still have so many areas in which I will and need to grow, but I am very excited to begin that life consecrated for service.”

*Deacon Gil has been serving at Christ the King Parish, South Bend, Ind.*
With joy and thanksgiving, the Congregation of Holy Cross will celebrate the Perpetual Profession of Vows of five men. Mr. David Smith, C.S.C., Mr. Geoffrey Mooney, C.S.C., Br. Pablo Jose Quan Lopez, C.S.C., Mr. Robert Lisowski, C.S.C., and Mr. Felipe Campos Reséndez, C.S.C., (pictured left to right, above) will profess Perpetual Vows at 2:00 p.m. ET, Friday, Sept. 4, 2020, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. Rev. William M. Lies, C.S.C., Provincial Superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, United States Province of Priests and Brothers, will preside at Mass and receive their vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience. Mr. Robert Lisowski, C.S.C., Mr. Geoffrey Mooney, C.S.C., Mr. Felipe Campos Reséndez, C.S.C., and Mr. David Smith, C.S.C., will be ordained to the Order of Deacon at 1:00 p.m. ET, Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020, along with four to be ordained priests (see page 28) in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart by the Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese. The Sept. 4 Final Vows Mass will be broadcast live via FinalVows-live.HolyCrossVocations.org, and the Sept. 5 diaconate (and priestly) ordination will be broadcast live via ordination-live.HolyCrossVocations.org. For safety reasons, only Holy Cross religious and close family members will attend these Masses in person, whilst practicing safe distancing and all other CDC recommended guidelines for preventing the spread of Covid-19.
MR. ROBERT LISOWSKI, C.S.C.,
graduated with a B.A. in philosophy with minors in psychology and Classical Languages (Summa Cum laude) from St. John’s University, Queens, N.Y., in 2014. He earned his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in May 2020. Robert entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in August 2014 as a Postulant. He made his First Profession of Vows on July 30, 2016. “It is my hope that my living of the religious life ultimately signals to the world that God is alive, that God has spoken to us uniquely in Jesus Christ, and that God has sent God’s Spirit into our hearts as inspiration and consolation for this journey back to God’s self,” said Robert. “The great spiritual task that we all face is to believe in the love and nearness of this God and to live each day as best we can out of this conviction.”

Robert is currently assigned as a rector at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind.

BR. PABLO JOSÉ QUAN LÓPEZ, C.S.C.,
graduated with a B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2013, and attained his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame in 2020. Br. Pablo entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in August 2013 as a Postulant. He made his First Profession of Vows on August 1, 2015. “I was helping out with adult faith formation and preparing adults for the Sacraments of Initiation, and found great joy in teaching others about the Catholic faith. As I listened to people’s journeys of faith, I found myself learning a lot about what it means to follow Christ, to have faith in God’s providence, to carry the Cross, and to find true hope and joy amidst difficult circumstances.”

Br. Pablo is serving at St. André Bessette Parish (“Downtown Chapel”) in Portland, Ore., and is also assisting in Campus Ministry at the University of Portland, Portland, Ore.

MR. GEOFFREY MOONEY, C.S.C.,
graduated with a B.S. in mathematics and a B.A. in theology from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2009. In 2011, he received his M.Ed. from the same, and attained his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame in 2020. Geoffrey entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in August 2014 as a Postulant. He made his First Profession of Vows on July 30, 2016. “In the summer of 2019, I spent six weeks in East Africa, visiting our Holy Cross parishes, schools, and formation houses in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania. Everywhere I went, the same refrain greeted me and reminded me how much we are united as God’s family: God is good all the time. All the time God is good — because that’s his nature: God’s nature is pure goodness, and he wants us to be good like him — good to ourselves, good to others, and good to him. I pray that this lesson from my time in East Africa will guide all my future ministry in Holy Cross.”

Geoffrey will serve as a deacon at Christ the King Catholic Church, South Bend, Ind.

MR. FELIPE CAMPOS RESÉNDEZ, C.S.C.,
graduated with a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., in 2013, and earned his M.Div. from the University in 2019. He entered Holy Cross in August 2013 as a postulant, and made his First Profession of Vows on August 1, 2015. “I hope that by my vows I can show to others God’s goodness and love for every one of us. He has transformed my life, given me so much more than I deserve or can repay, and loved me beyond anything I could ever imagine or express. I can only hope that my life will be seen as a thanksgiving for that love and goodness, and in even the smallest way help others move to that same joy and thankfulness with which I have been blessed.”

Felipe will serve as deacon at St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church in Austin, Texas.

MR. DAVID SMITH, C.S.C.,
graduated with a B.A. in political science from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. in 2014, and earned his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind. in 2020. David entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in August 2014 as a postulant, and professed First Vows on July 30, 2016. “Each of us as Christians are called to follow Jesus and, in a special way, this calling to the consecrated life is a gift that grants the opportunity to embody and identify with Christ in such a radically explicit way. My hope is to grow each day through this witness to be able to say, alongside St. Paul, that, ‘It is no longer I who live but Christ.’ Our world stands in need of much peace, hope, and love.”

David will serve his diaconate year at St. John Vianney Parish, Goodyear, Ariz., as associate pastor.
First Vows Anniversaries

70TH ANNIVERSARY
Br. James Lakofka, C.S.C.

60TH ANNIVERSARY
Br. Patrick Lynch, C.S.C.
Br. Donald Stabrowski, C.S.C.

Ordination Anniversaries

60TH ANNIVERSARY
Rev. Nicholas Ayo, C.S.C.
Rev. Kenneth Grabner, C.S.C.
Rev. William Hund, C.S.C.
Rev. Jerome Knoll, C.S.C.

50TH ANNIVERSARY
Rev. John Connor, C.S.C.
Rev. Stephen Gibson, C.S.C.
Rev. William Kelley, C.S.C.
Rev. Edward Malloy, C.S.C.
Rev. Leo Polselli, C.S.C.
Rev. Oliver Williams, C.S.C.
Rev. Frank Quinlivan, C.S.C.

25TH ANNIVERSARY
Rev. James Burasa, C.S.C.
Rev. James Foster, C.S.C.
Rev. John Herman, C.S.C.
Grady Honored with ACP Hall of Fame Award; CEO/Publisher to Retire from Ave Maria Press in Fall 2020

Thomas Grady, chief executive officer and publisher of Ave Maria Press, was honored with the Association of Catholic Publishers 2020 Hall of Fame Award for his contributions to Catholic publishing.

“I cannot think of a person more deserving of this honor than Tom Grady,” said Rev. Anthony V. Szakaly, C.S.C., chairman of the board of Ave. “Tom epitomizes all the best in Catholic publishing, providing excellent leadership of Ave Maria Press in challenging times for the industry. He has served the Church well in helping Ave become a leader in religious and spiritual trade books, high school catechetical texts, and parish resources. He is focused on ensuring that the Press is an essential ministry of the Congregation of Holy Cross in making God known, loved, and served.”

Grady joined Ave in 2005. Prior to that, he ran his own literary agency and served as publisher, editorial director, and editor at HarperSanFrancisco (now HarperOne) from 1986 to 1997. He was also an editor at both Winston-Seabury Press and Meadowbrook Press.

In addition to his duties as publisher and CEO, Grady also took on the role of editorial director for the past few years. During that time, the publishing team increased the number of titles released from thirty to forty annually.

“Tom Grady has been a blessing not just to Ave Maria Press, but to the entire apostolic effort of the Congregation of Holy Cross,” said Rev. William M. Lies, C.S.C., Provincial Superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, United States Province of Priests and Brothers. “Our education and parish ministries have been so much enhanced by Tom and his wonderful team’s great work, as have so many ministries of the Church. We have all been blessed by Tom’s vision and leadership.”

Circosta named new CEO/Publisher

Karey Circosta has been named publisher and chief executive officer of Ave Maria Press, effective August 31, 2020. Circosta will succeed Tom Grady. Circosta is the eleventh publisher, third lay person, and first woman to serve in the role in the organization’s 155-year history.

Circosta joined Ave in 2003 as institutional marketing coordinator, responsible for Ave’s high school textbook marketing and sales. She was promoted to manager, director, and in 2010 to vice president and director of sales and marketing. She added associate publisher to her role in 2018.

Circosta earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Saint Mary’s College and an MBA from Bethel University. She received an executive education certificate in book publishing from the Yale School of Management.

Circosta and her husband Nic have two children and live in the South Bend, Indiana, area, where they are parishioners at St. Joseph Parish.
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Since the beginning of the year, many updates have come from the University of Notre Dame in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Travel advisories were issued by the University, the Rome Global Gateway was ended for the remainder of the semester and the students returned to the U.S. for quarantine. On March 6, a coronavirus website was unveiled to provide resources and updates on the University’s programs, and shortly thereafter, the Notre Dame Washington Program students returned to their homes. Further, the Jerusalem Global Gateway closed, and most recently, guidelines were issued for returning to work. The University will resume classes in the fall, with an early start. Of course, a number of Holy Cross religious that educate and serve on the campus have also sheltered in place during this time. Only one Holy Cross priest, Rev. Nathan Wills, C.S.C., has tested positive for coronavirus in the U.S., and was interviewed by local news media about his illness and recovery: https://bit.ly/2B05oiK

Holy Cross religious moved into the new Corby Hall at the beginning of July. They celebrated the occasion as a community with a Mass and dinner on July 8. The dedication is still to come, and there is some work to be done on the chapel, but it’s a full-fledged operation now! Look for news on the dedication on the U.S. Province website, www.HolyCrossUSA.org.

UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND

On Monday, March 16, the University of Portland transitioned to online instruction in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. On May 19, University of Portland President, Rev. Mark L. Poorman, C.S.C., announced plans to resume classes, in person, on August 17. The modified semester eliminates the traditional Fall Break.

STONEHILL COLLEGE

On May 21, Stonehill College President, Rev. John Denning, C.S.C., announced his intent to resume on-campus classes at the college this fall. The guidelines set forth by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will play a critical role in defining how the college will do so safely and effectively. The College assembled an Emergency Response Group - a team of individuals from across the institution – to develop procedures and guidelines to open campus, for employees and for the start of the academic year. Additionally, a task force was charged with developing a comprehensive academic plan for the upcoming year, which covers all aspects of teaching and learning on campus, including the structure of course schedules, and models for in-person, remote and hybrid course delivery, as well as an updated academic calendar.

KING’S COLLEGE

On March 11, King’s College suspended all in-person classes and resumed distance learning for the remainder of the semester. Prior to that announcement, several groups,
programs and facilities were subject to different hours, closure and alterations in light of Covid-19. On June 5, Rev. Jack Ryan, C.S.C., president of King’s College, announced that students will return to in-person instruction for the fall semester.

PARISHES

At St. André Bessette Catholic Church in Portland, Oregon, in mid-February, it was decided that having guests gather in an enclosed space like the Hospitality Center would put volunteers at risk. They began to serve ‘to go’ meals at the door of the church. While they were not able to provide that ‘space’ of respite from the streets, they were able to offer food. In mid-March, the ‘Stay at Home’ order went out and the Archdiocese closed down all churches. After several days of re-thinking how they could offer some aid to neighbors, and given the number of phone calls that were coming in asking for food bags, they decided to offer food bags ‘by appointment’ so that they could avoid crowds gathering at their door. They did this until it became evident that they would need to furlough most of the staff at which time ALL outreach services came to a halt.

At time of printing, they had reopened to congregations in a measured way, with a total number of those gathering confined to 25.

At St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Parish, they recently began the process of distributing Communion after their Sunday Live-Stream Masses in Spanish and English. The numbers are relatively small, but they don’t mind, as it tells them that, as a community, they are continuing to walk the process slowly and cautiously. The bishop extended for all of the faithful the Dispensation from attending Sunday Mass. They will continue to lead those who remain at home watching the Live-Stream Masses in the Prayer for Spiritual Communion. Rev. Thomas Eckert, C.S.C., pastor of SJV, has not scheduled public Masses yet, but is proceeding slowly, prayerfully and prudently. Meanwhile, the SJV Pantry devised a plan to restart their service of Emergency Food Boxes to assist those most in need.

At Sacred Heart Parish, Colorado Springs, Colo., public Masses resumed the weekend of Pentecost, May 30 and 31, at all three of the churches (Sacred Heart Church in Colorado Springs, Holy Rosary Chapel in Cascade, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel in Manitou Springs); however, the amount of people who can attend Mass at each chapel is limited to ten. Parishioners must make a reservation to attend.

At Saint John the Evangelist in Viera, Fla., the Pentecost return to church brought great joy. Those who felt comfortable joining were given recommended cautionary protocols and guidelines from Rev. John Britto Antony C.S.C.: “You are

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highly encouraged to wear a mask out of consideration for others. Please consider it an act of charity rather than an infringement of your rights. Consider bringing with you a personal hand sanitizer.

Please use the main doors only to enter the church. The side doors will remain closed for now. The holy water font and stoups are empty for health reasons . . . Weekly offertory was also made available by mail or online and contributions were used, as always, to offset the costs associated with day-to-day operations of the parish and its programs, including payroll, maintenance and cleaning of buildings, utilities, and supplies.

Indiana’s Catholic Bishops allowed public Sunday and weekday Masses as of May 23, 2020, which includes Sacred Heart Parish, Notre Dame; St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Bend; Holy Cross Parish, South Bend; St. Adalbert/St. Casimir Parish, South Bend; and Christ the King Catholic Church, South Bend. Parishioners are to wear a mask, except children under two years old. Anyone with a cough or fever, or who may otherwise be feeling sick, is reminded not to come for Mass or even for a visit.

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

Rev. Herb Yost, C.S.C., is a chaplain at St. Paul Retirement Community in South Bend, Ind. Recently, he wrote a blog post with ‘thoughts on solitude’. Fr. Herb reports: As a resident, I’m bound by the restrictions that are in place. We’re basically locked down. No visitors except in case of a dying resident, meals delivered to apartments, no gatherings of any kind, social distancing. The latter is a bit problematic. While most folks adhere to the distancing, some forget, some don’t understand why, and there are a handful that just will not give up their routines (e.g., playing cards after dinner). As a minister and member of the staff, masks and gloves are the order of the day, as are daily temp checks. It’s fun for me, since I need to read lips for conversations!

Creativity also extends to the ministry. The two Protestant chaplains cannot come in, so the Pastoral Care Director and I also take care of the Protestant community. Sadly, we cannot distribute the Eucharist. Confessions are on request but with a table between us . . . Instead of a sacramental ministry, the shape of our service has taken on the likeness of foot-washing in order to keep morale up. On Palm Sunday we distributed palms and mis-salettes, encouraging everyone to pray the Triduum services at

CASA SANTA CRUZ

Holy Cross religious at Casa Santa Cruz, Phoenix, Ariz., put together and handed out many toiletry kits during the pandemic, and have safely wrapped utensils with napkins to avoid cross contact with others’ utensils. They have also been praying for all of us and all of you constantly.

the time we would have been having them ... it's a way to get the whole community praying together. On Holy Thursday we distributed baggies to each apartment containing little squares of fresh-baked bread and a prayer. After the Vigil we distributed little bottles of Easter water. On Sunday the staff put together little Easter baskets for everyone.

AUSTIN, TEXAS

In Austin, Texas, Rev. Frank Zlotkowski, C.S.C., is one of many Holy Cross chaplains throughout our province. The system where he works has eight hospitals in three counties around Austin. He reports “in some cases, we have multiple family members in the hospital. Covid patients are not allowed to have visitors — we have been helping them visit by FaceTime and phone. We are also recording and broadcasting Mass and prayer through the Internet.”

INTERNATIONAL LATIN AMERICA

(District of Chile /Perú, Region of México)

Rev. Andrew Gawrych, C.S.C., reports: As the coronavirus was arriving to Chile, the community at the Santa Cruz House of Formation helped set up a solidarity network among our apostolates to try to provide for needs that would arise. Called “Solidaridad Hno. Andrés,” the network has helped collect over $1,000 USD, which has gone primarily to helping stock a food pantry for immigrants in San Roque parish and buying toiletries and other necessities for the women at the prison where several men in formation and I, have been helping out. The network has proved especially useful, because so far the mandatory quarantines have not included the part of the capital where the house of formation is located. That has allowed people in quarantined parts of the city to send money to the community to make purchases for these vulnerable groups.

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HOLY CROSS MISSION CENTER


We also mourn the loss of Holy Cross Archbishop Moses Costa, 69, of Chittagong, Bangladesh, who died on July 13 after suffering from a series of strokes - just weeks after recovering from Covid-19.

For several years, Archbishop Moses traveled to the U.S. to assist the HCMC in conducting its annual Mission Appeals in our Holy Cross parishes across the country. In his appeals, he spoke of the many needs of those who are poor, live on the margins of society, are oppressed and undereducated; especially those in Bangladesh.

After being ordained a priest on February 5, 1981, he served as assistant parish priest in two parishes from 1981 to 1984, then was sent for higher studies to Rome, where he obtained licentiate degrees in pastoral theology and spirituality at St. Thomas Aquinas University in 1986 and in psychology and counseling at the Pontifical Gregorian University in 1989. He taught psychology and pastoral theology at the National Major Seminary in Dhaka and became director of the Holy Cross Seminary and Holy Cross Scholasticate. He also became rector of the National Major Seminary and a member of the Holy Cross Congregation General Council. On July 20, 1996, Saint Pope John Paul II appointed Father Costa as the 6th bishop of Dinajpur Diocese, where he served until 2011. Bishop Costa was appointed the 5th bishop of Chittagong in 2011 and became archbishop when Pope Francis elevated Chittagong to an archdiocese in 2017.

HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Venerable Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., 7 was featured on the program, “They Might Be Saints,” produced and presented by EWTN on June 3 and 4, 2020. Providentially, the program was aired on the anniversary of his death on June 3, 1992. The popular TV series examines the lives of people on the path to sainthood. This episode explores Father Peyton’s miraculous healing from tuberculosis, his remarkable life inspiring millions of families around the world to pray together and his ongoing Cause toward Sainthood. In October, Family Theater Productions will release an inspiring documentary, “Pray: The Story of Patrick Peyton.” Go to www.PrayTheFilm.com to subscribe for updates.

FAMILY THEATER PRODUCTIONS

When Los Angeles County mandated the safer-at-home rule, Family Theater Productions used the limitation to their advantage, by pumping out more content that requires a solitary producer.

Rev. David Guffey, C.S.C., head of production at FTP, repurposed and re-released vintage radio dramas, created by FTP founder Father Patrick Peyton, by recording audio intros and outros and offering them for free on Soundcloud (more platforms to come).

Rev. Vincent Kuna, C.S.C., and blog editor, Kate O’Hare, also increased the number of blogs they write and promote feature-film content over Zoom interviews with media outlets. In the case of livestreaming Sunday Rosary on the FTP Facebook page, they were able to accomplish the task with a minimal, socially distanced crew.

AVE MARIA PRESS

Four Ave Maria Press authors earned honors in the 2020 Excellence in Publishing Awards from the Association of Catholic Publishers. Macrina Wiederkehr, O.S.B., was given second place in the prayer category for her final book, The Flowing Grace of Now. She passed away in April.

In the resources for ministry category, Roy Petitfils was awarded second place for his book Helping Teens with Stress, Anxiety, and Depression. Mary E. Lenaburg won third place in the spirituality category for Be Brave in the Scared. Andres Arango earned third place honors in the Spanish category for Renovacion Carismatica Catolica, which is part of the Recursos para el ministerio hispano series.
In Memory

“In memory of those who gave their lives in service to the Congregation of Holy Cross.”

BR. ROBERT VOZZO, C.S.C.
September 4, 1943 – February 19, 2020
Final Vows: July 16, 1969

BR. ROBERT SIMON, C.S.C.
June 1, 1934 – May 23, 2020
Final Vows: August 16, 1961
Ordained: June 7, 1961

REV. ERNEST BARTELL, C.S.C.
January 22, 1932 – April 16, 2020
Final Vows: August 16, 1959

REV. JEROME MATTHEWS, C.S.C.
August 22, 1934 – March 9, 2020
Final Vows: August 16, 1958

REV. JEROME KNOLL, C.S.C.
August 24, 1933 – July 3, 2020
Final Vows: August 16, 1955
Ordained: June 8, 1960

REV. FERMIN DONOSO, C.S.C.
May 21, 1938 – May 15, 2020
Final Vows: December 29, 1965
Ordained: September 15, 1967

REV. DAVID SCHEIDLER, C.S.C.
January 26, 1965 – June 6, 2020
Final Vows: August 28, 1993
Ordained: April 9, 1994

“For more information on the life and ministries of each Holy Cross religious on the right, please visit www.holycrossusa.org/obituariesall/.

Memorial contributions in honor of our Holy Cross priests and brothers and in support of the mission and ministries of the Congregation of Holy Cross can be made by using the envelope inserted in this magazine. Thank you for your prayers and support!”

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest ...”
— Matthew 11:28

The prayers of the members of the Congregation and the usual suffrages of the Religious of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers are requested for the repose of the souls of our religious who’ve passed away recently.

“May he rest in the peace of Christ.”
The new Corby Hall is...

**COMPLETED**

*See page 34 for more details.*