



The Province Review

Congregation of Holy Cross, United States Province of Priests and Brothers

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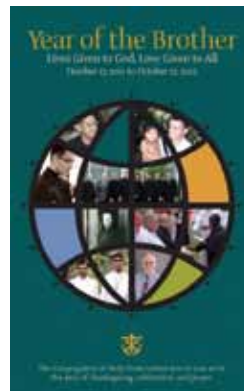
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Monterrey, Nuevo León, México

Bro. André Celebration



The local Holy Cross community gathered for Mass at "Roble," a large church near the formation house. The first reading was read by Sister Patricia Rodriguez Leal, C.S.C. A candidate, Juan Nelson Torres Saldaña, did the second reading. Deacon Carlos Augusto Jacobo de los Santos read the Gospel, and Deacon Matthew Kuczora preached.

After the Mass, the matachines danced before an image of Brother André in front of the formation house.

Afterwards there was a raffle. Prizes included framed pictures of Brother André, the book "El Coleccionista de Muletas," the pamphlet "El Hermano Andres" and medals with a relic of Brother André. Rosalinda Sánchez gave testimony of her healing attributed to the intercession of Brother André.

There was a procession in the neighborhood around the formation house, and, afterwards, a supper of hot dogs and paletas (popsicles).

People in the neighborhood and from the parish learned a lot about Brother André and Holy Cross. They repeated over and over again how much they appreciated the opportunity to celebrate with Holy Cross something as important as his canonization.



The matachines dancing



Father Zurcher gives directions for the procession.



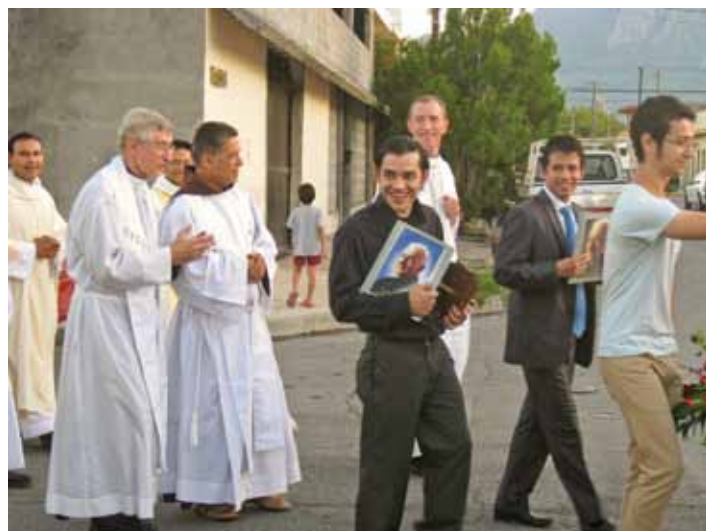
The procession starts in front of the formation house.

El Día de los Muertos

The formation community in Mexico gathered on Friday evening November 4th in order to pray for the members of the Province who died during this past year. After a prayer and reading from the Gospel of John, Deacon Matthew Kuczora invited those present to mention the names of those who had died and light a candle while the community prayed for them. The first to be mentioned were the Holy Cross priests and brothers who died during the past year. Family, benefactors and friends were included. Finally the community prayed for those who had died because of abortion and because of the violence in Mexico (over 1,500 people in the Monterrey area alone). Pictured are the candles lit in the formation house chapel where participants recalled Moreau's motto - *Ave Crux, Spes Unica*



Juan Ramon Alcudia carries the relic of Bro. André.



Father Zurcher and Father Herman in the procession.



The vigil lights in the form of the cross and anchor



Ramona Reyna Rangel, the parish secretary, with part of the supper.



South Bend

St. Adalbert's Parish



Father Pete Pacini, C.S.C. and Father Tom Lemos, C.S.C. concelebrated at the Masses.



There were many angels.



A children's choir led the music at one of the Masses.



There were many who represented Juan Diego.

The Hispanic communities of St. Adalbert's and St. Casimir's gathered at St. Adalbert's for two celebrations of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The first was at midnight, beginning at 10:30 p.m. including a rosary, Aztec danzas, and mañanitas.

The second started at 7:00 that evening. It was preceded with Matachines Danzas and was followed by a dinner with Ballet Folklórico, Mexican folkdancing.



Of course, there were many roses presented to Our Lady.

Las Posadas is a celebration of the experience of Joseph and Mary seeking shelter on the night of Jesus' birth.

At first they are scorned and rudely turned away. The dialogue between the innkeeper and St. Joseph takes the form of a song with alternate verses sung by people inside and outside the building.

Finally the innkeeper recognizes them and welcomes them as "holy pilgrims."



Tim Cleaver, a Holy Cross seminarian, poses with "Joseph and Mary" and their burro.



Fr. Pete Pacini, C.S.C., St. Adalbert's pastor, poses with Joseph and Mary.



Joseph and Mary finally find shelter.

St. Joseph Parish



St. Joseph School Named National Blue Ribbon School

St. Joseph School – the educational ministry of St. Joseph Parish – was named a 2011 National Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education. St. Joseph School has educated the hearts and minds of South Bend's children since its foundation by Father Edward Sorin in 1854.

The National Blue Ribbon Award honors public and private elementary and secondary schools that consistently perform at high levels according to state and national standards. St. Joseph School was one of only 49 private schools to be so named in the country, and the only Catholic school to receive the award in the State of Indiana.

The National Blue Ribbon Award honors St. Joseph School principal, Mrs. Suzanne Wiwi, who is in her 23rd year as principal. Fr. John DeRiso, C.S.C., pastor of St. Joseph Parish since 2004, stated: "St. Joseph School received this honor because God continues to bless this parish named in honor of his servant, Joseph. We are blessed with the charism and spirituality of the Congregation of Holy Cross and the inspiration of its holy founder – Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C. We are blessed with a parish community that believes in and supports Catholic education through its stewardship of prayer, service, and sacrificial giving. We are blessed with the gifts and exceptional leadership of Mrs. Suzanne Wiwi. We are blessed with a talented and dedicated faculty and staff, and we are blessed with gifted, hard-working students, and invested and committed parents."

St. Joseph School is proud to share in this honor with Christ the King School – another Holy Cross School – which received this award in 2008.

To read more about the award, visit www.stjoeparish.com and select the "School" tab.

Physical Therapy at Holy Cross House

Most of us think of Holy Cross House as a clinic or as a retirement home. It does have those services, but there is much more.

Holy Cross House also offers physical therapy. There is help with learning and doing exercises to strengthen weakened muscles, loosen joints, and generally help our men to become stronger and to move more easily.

Mary Pat Russ, our physical therapist, and her assistant, Nancy Kuzmitz, recently held an open house to let the men know the services available to them.



Father Bill Miscamble is recovering from knee surgery.



With Nancy Kuzmitz's help, Father Bill Neidhart contemplates exercise and water therapy in the pool.



Father Bill Melody checks with Mary Pat while Brother Frank Gorch samples the healthy desserts.



Father Jim Blaes is ready to roll on the highway of Nu-Step. This machine offers the benefits of walking up stairs without any weight on the joints.

Christmas Decorating

Staff and volunteers helped the men at Holy Cross House to decorate for Christmas. There were many decorations, cookies, music. *A good time was had by all!!*



Mary Pat Russ helps Fr. Bob Hoffman to place Santa Claus on top of the tree.



Fr. Bill Brinker and Fr. Bob Hoffman were also decorated.



Fr. Jim Trepanier also had helpers.



Fr. Leon Mertensotto did some supervising.



There was some live music.



Bro. Tom Combs seems to enjoy the music.

East Africa

Father Tom Smith, C.S.C., in East Africa had a visit from his brother Jerry Smith and his sister-in-law Lillian Smith. The visitors were well-received by the community and had a good time. They received some traditional gifts.



Frs. Andrew Massawe, C.S.C., David Burrell, C.S.C., and Pat Neary, C.S.C., join Jerry and Lillian and dancers on the feast day of Holy Cross Parish Dandora, Kenya.



At parish feast in Dandora: Standing left to right: Fr. Cyprian Binaka, C.S.C., a diocesan priest friend, Jerry, Lillian, seminarian Kennedy Abiwekongo, C.S.C.; Seated: Frs. Andrew Massawe, C.S.C., (pastor), David Burrell, C.S.C., and Pat Neary, C.S.C.,.



Jerry and Lillian with Br. Joe Kaganda, C.S.C., Novice Director, Fr. Tom and novices at Holy Cross Novitiate Saaka, Uganda.



The guests receive the gift of a goat after a Small Christian Community Mass in Kitete Parish, Tanzania.



Church leaders in Kitete Parish, Tanzania, dressed their guests in the traditional cloth of elders among the Waiiragw People.

St. Joseph Hill School

Jinja, Uganda

Friends of St. Joseph Hill School made it possible for the school to have a bus for the students.

Brother Joseph says that he has never seen the students so excited before.



Ready for the next trip!



The students enjoy the ride.



The young at heart also enjoy the new bus.



The students arrive safely.

Do you know some one who wants to receive the Province Review??

Do we need to change your address?

If so, please let us know!!

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Notre Dame

The Holy Cross priests and brothers gathered for a Mass on All Souls Day. After the Mass at Fatima, they processed to the community cemetery at Notre Dame where Father David Tyson, C.S.C., provincial superior, led the prayers for those in the Congregation who had died and gone before us.



The priests at the Mass
Photo: Rev. David Kashangaki, C.S.C.



Father Peter Rocca, C.S.C. and Steve Warner gave a workshop on the revised Roman Missal. Over 100 people attended the workshop, including rectors, liturgical commissioners and musicians from all the residence halls, as well as a number of priests from campus. Father Rocca spoke on the changes in the new Roman Missal. This was followed by a session with the priests during which they talked through the Ordinary of the Mass, focusing on new (and old) directives. Meanwhile, all the liturgical commissioners and musicians learned new Mass settings. The workshop concluded with a "Teaching Mass" for all the participants, which included the singing of the new Mass texts.



The procession to the cemetery



Over the Christmas Holidays, our province comptroller, Donna Lamberti and her family went on vacation to San Diego and visited with Fr. Bill Dorwart for a tour of the aircraft carrier *Ronald Reagan* (the ship to which Bill is now assigned) and the *Midway* (the ship to which he was assigned in his earlier stint as chaplain). Left to right in the photo are, Matthew (son), Gary (husband), Sara (daughter), Fr. Dorwart and Donna.



Father Tyson (right) leads the prayers at the cemetery.
Photo: Bro. Charles McBride, C.S.C.

Ave Maria Press

Bishop Kevin Rhoades, the bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend, made a pastoral visit to Ave Maria Press. Bishop Rhoades met with the core leadership team of the Press and listened to presentations about the three main areas of publishing: high school catechetical text books, parish resources and trade publications in spirituality. Bishop Rhoades was most impressed with the service of Ave Maria Press to the Church. After a tour of the building, he blessed all of the employees.



Tom Grady presents Bishop Rhoades with a gift of the four volume set of Quasten's Patrology published by Christian Classics a subsidiary of Ave Maria Press



The bishop prays with and blesses the staff.



Fr. Tony Szakaly, C.S.C.; Bishop Kevin Rhoades; Mr. Thomas Grady, publisher.



The staff of Ave Maria Press

Stonehill College



The "barn" at Stonehill. This is the residence for North Easton Community at Stonehill.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a 375-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student:faculty ratio of 13--1, the College engages over 2,300 students in academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community helps students to develop the knowledge, skills and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.



Another view of the Barn



left: The Holy Cross community chapel at Stonehill

below: The interior of the community chapel at Stonehill



The Holy Cross Community Cemetery at Stonehill



Holy Cross Retreat House at North Easton. It was originally the dairy barn and was later used by Holy Cross as a formation house until the construction of the new formation house in the late 1950s. It is now a retreat center operated by the Province.



Holy Cross Retreat House Chapel



Holy Cross Parish in South Easton, MA.



Holy Cross Parish rectory in South Easton, MA.

Do you have stories or pictures for the Province Review?? We can't always promise to use everything, but we try!!

If you have news for the Province Review, please send it to the editor!!

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Connerton House at Stonehill. It originally was the home of the estate manager. In Holy Cross's time it has served as the Provincial House and as a guest house.



left: St. Mary's Church in Taunton, MA. The parish is the mother church of Taunton, and Holy Cross has served there for several years. Fr. Jim Doherty, C.S.C., is the pastor, and Fr. Marc Fallon, C.S.C., is the associate.

right: The rectory of St. Mary's Church



The local community at St. Mary's consists of Fr. Jim Doherty, C.S.C.; Fr. Marc Fallon, C.S.C.; Fr. John Phalen, C.S.C., the director of Holy Cross Family Ministries. They are also joined by Fr. David Marchum, a diocesan priest who works at Holy Cross Family Ministries.



St. Joseph House at North Dartmouth. This building originally served as the barn/carriage house for the estate. Currently it is used as a residence for religious.



The main house at North Dartmouth, MA. The North Dartmouth community is a residence for retired but active priests and brothers. It originally served as the novitiate for the Eastern Province. It sits on about 60 acres of land not far from the ocean.

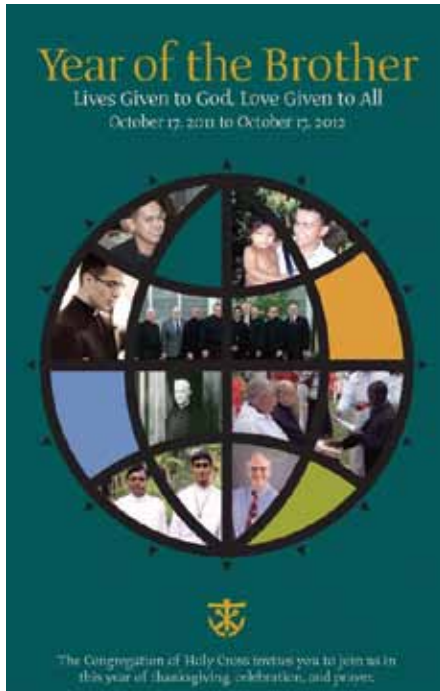


(left to right) Bro. Harold Hathaway, C.S.C. (M), Rev. James Preskenis, C.S.C., Rev. James Lackenmier, C.S.C.



North Dartmouth Chapel

Year of the Brother



The General Chapter of 2010 recommended that the members of the Congregation of Holy Cross celebrate a special year as a time of thanksgiving for the gift of the canonization of Brother André and to recognize and reflect on the life and ministry of the Brothers of Holy Cross.

The Chapter's desire to celebrate this Year of the Brother was also to underline the significance of the special mark of our Congregation as found in Constitution 1:6: "We are a religious Congregation composed of two distinct societies of religious, one of religious priests and one of religious brothers, bound together in one indivisible brotherhood," and "The same Spirit moved Father Moreau to found the community of Holy Cross in which we have responded to the call to serve Christ. We live and work as priests and brothers together. Our mutual respect and shared undertaking should be a hopeful sign of the kingdom, and they are when others can behold how we love one another." (C2, 11) To be Holy Cross is to be both Religious Priests and Religious Brothers together....

This observance is an opportunity for all members of the family of Holy Cross to thank God for our Brothers and for their unique contributions to the life and mission of the Congregation. From their founding in 1820 as the Brothers of St. Joseph by Father Jacques Dujarié to their union in 1837 with the Auxiliary Priests, founded by Blessed Basile Moreau, they were the first missionaries: in Algeria, then in North America and in Bengal – all within the first 15 years of the Congregation's life. It was their life of zeal "to make God known, loved and served" that laid the foundation for the mission and ministry of our Congregation. They were teachers and builders of our many institutions – including the University of Notre Dame, the beginnings of the first colleges in Québec and Acadia, the orphanage in New Orleans and the difficult mission territory of Bengal. They went in large numbers as the Congregation of Holy Cross as they were the larger of the two founding groups. History

tells us that they went willingly, worked hard, suffered privations, and did so with zeal and hope.

Over the history of the Congregation, Brothers have served in many roles. They have been teachers and administrators in elementary schools, high schools, colleges and universities. They have served those who had been abandoned by society in orphanages and social service agencies. They have served as pastoral associates in parishes. They have been architects and builders and kept things in good repair; they have been cooks, farmers, secretaries, bookkeepers, and accountants and have served in internal ministry. They have lived lives in service to us, to each other and to the Church. They have dedicated themselves to the "building of the Kingdom of justice, love and peace."

---excerpts from the letter of Father Richard V. Warner, C.S.C., Superior General

Portland



Rev. Gerard J. Olinger, C.S.C., has been appointed Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Portland,

In his new role, Fr. Olinger will oversee the Offices of Residence Life, Public Safety, Student Activities, Career Services, and International Student Services, as well as the

University's Health Center and Moreau Center for Service and Leadership.

"Fr. Olinger is an extraordinarily talented priest and leader," said Fr. Beauchamp, president of the University. "Since his arrival on the Bluff in 2009, he has served us well in many capacities. Among other duties, Fr. Olinger has managed the University's recently completed strategic planning process, directed legal affairs, coordinated the affairs of our Board of Regents, served as the executive assistant to the president, and has been a member of the University's officers' group. He also serves as a concurrent assistant professor of political science and co-teaches a popular class on the judiciary. In addition to all this, he is first and foremost a priest who has devoted himself to the pastoral care of our students, alumni, and friends. It is that aspect of his character and his professional work that makes him such an excellent fit for this essential job."

Obituary

Rev. William Bailey Simmons, C.S.C., passed away on December 19, 2011 at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame. He was 84 years old.



Fr. Simmons was born in Quanah, Texas to George and Hazel (Carter) Simmons on June 14, 1927. After two years at Lubbock High School, he transferred to Holy Cross Seminary in 1941.

After a year of study at the University of Notre Dame, he entered St. Joseph Novitiate and made his First Profession

on February 2, 1946. He graduated from Notre Dame in 1948 with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and then studied theology at Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 1952 at Sacred Heart, Notre Dame. His first assignment was to his alma mater, Holy Cross Seminary, where he taught until 1954. Then he entered the University of Michigan, where he obtained a master's degree in linguistics in 1955. Upon returning to Holy Cross Seminary in 1955, he became its last principal and



superior. During this time, he also obtained a Master of Science degree in library science from the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC in 1964.

After Holy Cross Seminary closed in 1967, he



became the principal at Notre Dame High School in Niles, IL., until 1969. Fr. Simmons returned to teaching at St. Joseph's High School in South Bend from 1969 to 1970.

In 1970, he moved to Moreau Seminary and became the Director of the College Formation Program while also teaching at Holy Cross Junior College. In 1972, he began teaching full time until 1986.

Fr. Simmons became Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish at Notre Dame in 1986 and he remained there until 1992 when he moved to Fatima Retreat Center. In 1994, he was named Superior at Holy Cross Mission House. When his term ended six years later, he moved to Corby Hall. From 1998 to 2007, he was the Archivist. In 2010, Fr. Simmons moved to Holy Cross House where he resided until his death.



Eulogy by Rev. Thomas Jones, C.S.C.

I suspect Father Bill would be a little surprised tonight. I was not one of his best students. My fear is that he will get up out of the casket and say: "I thought I had died and gone to heaven; but as I see whose preaching at my wake, I guess I have died and ended up in purgatory!"

Bill, we love you deeply and you will be missed! Your Holy Cross family who gather around you tonight, your former students and spiritual directees, your parishioners at Sacred Heart Parish, the seminarians brothers and priests you have mentored in your long and distinguished career of almost 60 years as a priest. I must say, Bill, that the Church and Holy Cross, has been blessed by your ministry and your presence.

Your life was devoted to education, pastoral ministry, and the formation of Holy Cross religious and priests: 18 years as a high school teacher and administrator, 16 years teaching full-time at Holy Cross College, 6 years as Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, 6 years as Superior at Holy Cross Mission House, 9 years as Province Archivist, 10 years assisting with Masses in the crypt.

Thank you, Father Bill, for your example of religious life and your commitment to teaching which inspired so many of us to pursue God's call to be educators in the faith. Despite your shortcomings and weaknesses, you have touched the lives of so many people and brought them closer to the Kingdom.

You could be tough on both students and peers. Father Knoll tells the story of the time you and he were preparing to have a few CSC's from campus over to the little sem for a libation one evening. Father Bill had purchased a special brand of bourbon for the occasion --- really high class stuff, not the usual "swill" that was sometimes served. Father Knoll told Father Bill: "We have bottles already opened which we should use up before opening a new bottle."

"Jerry," you said. "I'll give you a chance to learn the difference between good bourbon and ordinary bourbon." Father Bill prepared two small shot classes with the bourbon and offered one, then the other to Father Knoll. Father Knoll tasted the one, and then tasted the other, and then said they both tasted the same. Father Bill's response: "Jerry, you're an idiot!"

Or the time in Latin class when we were translating some Latin passage into English. Each student would translate one line, and you would go down the row. When it was my turn I read the sentence in my English translation about some church in Rome

which included the line in Latin *ecclesia extra muros*, which I translated as a "a church without walls."

Mr. Jones," Father Bill said. "The Latin says outside the walls, not without walls. How can you build a church without walls?" I humbly responded: "Father, I guess you have to use lots of pillars to hold up the roof."

We all know that Father Bill was an outstanding preacher all the way up to the end of his life. For me, he was the best preacher ever! His retreats at Moreau, at Deer Park, at Corby Hall, at LaPorte Center were powerful spiritual occasions for those who participated. His homilies at Mass were insightful, practical, and most important of all, brief and to the point. A good homily has a beginning and an end, and the two are as close together as possible!

Father Bill, your life was not without its share in the passion of Jesus Christ. When discouragement, physical suffering, illness, and later in life when disability and illness slowed you down, you gracefully let go of activities and ministries which were very dear to you --- you embraced the cross, knowing that your desire to please the Lord does, in fact, please him.

When I visited you a couple weeks ago at Saint Joseph Medical Center, very weak and with an oxygen mask over your face which prevented you from talking, I asked for your blessing as your successor at Sacred Heart Parish. And you raised your hand and blessed me. I have no doubt that God said to you early Monday morning, "Well done, good and faithful servant."



Homily for Father Simmons's Funeral

by Rev. Nicholas Ayo, C.S.C.

We are gathered this morning to celebrate the life of a beloved priest of many years. We are here because we grieve and we know sorrow shared is some relief. Father Simmons would have known what more to say at this moment. Father Simmons fulfilled the priestly role of prophet. He was a preacher's preacher – thoughtful, rich in faith, eloquent in prose that was elegant, and offered in a voice persuasive. In sermon or conference he was surely among our very best in Holy Cross – perhaps at his best, *the* best.

Father Simmons was a priestly priest. Toward the end of his days he was holding on to the early 6:30 Sunday morning mass in the Crypt. He loved the people he knew so well, and they loved him. He was not steady on his feet. He used a cane. We all held our breath at moments. He leaned against the altar to give us the bread of life. And his words came strong and clear at homily time. He knew us and he loved us, and I never came away without a thought to cherish the entire day. He was a priest's priest.

Father Simmons was a priestly king, a role somewhat anachronistically given to priests in their role as leader of their people and the one appointed to encourage the common good. He had been king in the classrooms of Holy Cross Seminary on the hill between the lakes; he taught at our high school in Chicago, and he taught at Holy Cross College. Students of Father Simmons still remember his lines and his generous approach, and perhaps most of all his concern and care for them. Father Simmons was the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, as many here today know and for which they remain thankful.

We pray today as a community of the people of God, those who knew and loved him. We pray *for* Father Simmons as he prayed for us. And we also pray *to* Father Simmons, much as we pray to our patron saint. It helps to have the ear of someone special given to us in baptism and given to us in the circumstances that brought us into Father Simmons pastoral care. Most of all we pray *with* Father Simmons in the Communion of Saints. Look around you. We cannot afford a stained glass window for all in the Communion of Saints, but the Church is not full without us, and we pray many of

us, indeed every one of us of all time enclosed in the Communion of Saints.

We do not have a video of the life of Jesus. We have the Word of God. We have the testimony of faith -- a testimony revealed in a life lived with care for others and for the common good. That testimony of faith is continued today in our midst, whether preached from the pulpit or silently preached in our daily life in Christ – perhaps a bit of both, word and deed, the life of Jesus among us long ago and even today and yet to come.

When I write a letter of condolence, I try to make three points. (1) No one can take the place of a beloved; we each are unique and precious, and so we must grieve. (2) A conversation never finished has been interrupted but not ended. We shall see each other again and come to know so much more of those we knew but hardly knew. (3) And finally, with the death of anyone close to us our own mortality draws closer. Father Simmons has gone to God, and we will follow in our day. We have come to his funeral; he has not come to his funeral but to his wedding with the Lord God he loved so well. That is also our hope; that is our faith. Father Simmons would have said it all so much better. Perhaps, in a silence and quiet we can hear an echo of his voice calling us even now to the ways of God.

This poem, a meditation based on a poem by W.B. Yeats, was written by Fr. Simmons and read by his niece, Susan Simmons, at his wake service.

Day That I Have Loved, Night Has Come!

*An aged man is but a paltry thing,
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing
For every tatter in its mortal dress....*

Aging is inevitable, but does not mean helplessness, fear, uncertainty. To surrender to fear or regret is indeed to become a person who is elderly, pitiful, stumbling, foolish.

But does "elderly" mean helpless?
"foolish" mean silly and pointless?
"Stumbling" mean a nuisance?

The answer is "yes" to all of these.
Helpless, silly, a nuisance.
So the coat of life is tattered with errors, and mistakes,
signifying nothing more than the story of life's ending.

*...unless
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing
for every tatter in its mortal dress.*

To learn that faithfulness
can be found. To know the salvation promised.
To experience the joy of forgiveness, the comfort of
welcome, the place of a new home.

Tribute from the Little Sem

A man who touched my soul died this morning leaving behind a legacy any one would wish for themselves. For myself and my twenty-four classmates at the Little Sem in 1965, Fr. William Simmons was our Superior. He was a man who led by example, was strongly opinionated, passionate in his belief in us as men and seminarians. He understood we needed to know who we were as young adults as much as we needed to know who we were as seminarians. Most of us came right from grade school to the community life of Holy Cross Seminary and knew nothing, really, of life.

Father Simmons understood that and worked diligently to allow us the true opportunity to understand the decision we were making. For that alone I would hold him dear to me. But he went so much further. He and the staff at the Little Sem developed in us such a sense of community that forty five years later we are still joined as a class. This was shown by our reunion at Notre Dame this past summer. This sense of community, of belonging to each other is what Father Simmons and the staff showed us during the last two years at Holy Cross Seminary. Here are just a couple of quotes when Father Herb Yost informed us of his death:

Pat O'Keefe: "I'm grateful that we had the opportunity to pay them attention last June, and to witness, even if for a few moments, revival of the old sharpness and fire in their eyes."

Leon Petelle: "For me, this represents the end of a big part of my life. He and Fr. Dave Verhalen helped mold us. Whatever good we do now -- or have done in the past -- is in large part due to them."

Andy Mahoney: "These are the guys who helped me grow up. I still have my brick from the Little Sem."

When I left the Little Sem in June 1966 it was for one year only to better understand those whom I would be working with as a Holy Cross priest. It was Fr. Simmons and Fr. Verhalen who showed me that I needed to be the best that God had made. I can honestly say that over these years my entire life has tried to live up to what Fr. Simmons taught me. Although I never returned as a Seminarian I can honestly say that what I was taught by word and example those wonderful years at the Little Sem have directed my lives and the lives of my children. I know that Fr. Simmons is in Heaven now looking down with the slightly sardonic smile and probably saying something like "Well, isn't this the way it's supposed to work? Why do you sound surprised?"

Andy Mahoney's reference to the brick he has is a wonderful testament to what all of us believe. I also have my portion of a brick from the walls of the Little Sem and as Fr. Simmons stated in his talk this past summer -- those walls didn't want to come down. Our Class shares a bond that was forged in the spirit and lives of the dedicated priests who taught us those years ago, and it is a very fine metal that will withstand the trials and tribulations of time because they all cared.

Bless you, Father William Simmons, and remember us this day in paradise.

Robert V. Stephens
Class of Little Sem 1966

To sing, and further sing...never ending.

...unless

*Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing
for every tatter in its mortal dress*

Not a knowledge from books or lectures,
not just another's urgings, but coming
to understand my worth before the Lord.
I will not be measured by rulers of inches and feet.
My measure will be in terms of Incarnation,
human experience, Calvary, Resurrection.

My life, so dismal at times, finds hope anew,
Trust in Him, and let my torn cloak teach me:
in the light of his redemption, of renewed
forgiveness and salvation shall I find at last
my true worth before the King of my faith!

*And therefore I have sailed the seas and come
To the holy city of Byzantium.*

Thus the story of the journey
that has been my life. I have lived long, and now
I see the value of sailing the seas
of my life and vocation.

I can see now the towers and harbor
of the city of forgiveness
the welcome given to the boat,
Sails tattered with all the storms of life,
but now glorified because of the one
Who welcomes even the most feeble of boats,
to the final and holy city of life and work:
forgiveness, salvation, welcome --

*And therefore I have sailed the seas and come
To the holy city of Byzantium.*

Please pray for those who have died

Bro. Leo Rossignol, CSC (M)
Mrs. Frances Beaupré, mother of Rev. Bradley Beaupré, C.S.C.
Bro. Joseph Dudek, C.S.C. (MW)
Sr. M. Carmelita (Morales), C.S.C.
Sr. M. Basil Anthony (O'Flynn), C.S.C.
Bro. John Dobrogowski, C.S.C. (MW)
Rev. William B. Simmons, C.S.C.
Rev. Ovil Melançon, C.S.C. (C)
Bro. Thomas More (Edward) Beere, C.S.C. (MW)
Sr. M. Rosine (Hammett), C.S.C.
Bro. Joseph Ballard, C.S.C. (MW)
Sr. M. Laurentia (Boyle), C.S.C.
Bro. Frank Robinson, C.S.C. (M)
Rev. Paul J. Duff, C.S.C.
Mrs. Lois Ray, the sister of Rev. Lawrence LeVasseur, C.S.C.
Bro. Lucien Poitras, C.S.C. (C)
Mrs. Donna Doyle, mother of Rev. Thomas Doyle, C.S.C.
Rev. Andrew M. Sebesta, C.S.C.
Sr. Patricia Jean Garver, C.S.C.