



# The Province Review

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

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On September 13, 2014, Matthew E. Fase, C.S.C.; David J. Halm, C.S.C.; Timothy N. Mouton, C.S.C.; Stephen C. Pepper, C.S.C.; Daniel M. Ponisciak, C.S.C.; and Christopher M. Rehagen, C.S.C. professed their Final Vows at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Rev. Richard V. Warner, C.S.C., superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross, received their vows.

# Six profess Final Vows with Holy Cross

Rev. Richard V. Warner, C.S.C., superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross, presided at the Mass and received the vows of Matthew E. Fase, C.S.C.; David J. Halm, C.S.C.; Timothy N. Mouton, C.S.C.; Stephen C. Pepper, C.S.C.; Daniel M. Ponisciak, C.S.C.; and Christopher M. Rehagen, C.S.C.



The six - the largest class of Holy Cross deacons in more than a decade - have professed the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience according to the Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross. For the past several years, they have been in a period of temporary vows, which they renewed annually.

They were ordained to the Order of the Deacon at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, in the Moreau Seminary Chapel by Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.

**Matthew Fase**, the second youngest of five children of Steve and Patty Fase of Rockford, Mich., is the first man from his home parish, Our Lady of Consolation, to be ordained as priest. He will serve his diaconate year at Holy Redeemer Parish, Portland, Ore.

- B.A., theology, the University of Notre Dame (2010); M.Div., Notre Dame (2014).
- Entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in 2006; first profession of vows July 30, 2011; served in religious education at Christ the King Parish, South Bend, during his formation (2007-2008).
- Sunday hospitality, American College Louvain, Belgium (2008); tutor, South Bend juvenile correctional facility (2009); RCIA team member, Christ the King (2009-2010).
- Hospital chaplain, Penrose and St. Francis hospitals, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Novitiate year, 2010-2011).
- Served at Our Lady of the Road Drop-in Center,

South Bend, (2011-2012); marriage preparation at St. Pius X Catholic Church (2012-2013); and grief counselor for Notre Dame Campus ministry (2013-2014).

**David Halm**, the only son of the four children of Deborah Kuns and John Halm of Clyde, Ohio, will serve as a deacon at St. John Vianney Parish in Goodyear, Ariz.

- B.B.A., Notre Dame (2004); M.Div., Notre Dame (2013).
- Entered Holy Cross August 2000 and made first vows July 30, 2005.
- During his formation in Old College, David was a fifth-grade CCD teacher at Sacred Heart Church in Lakeville, Ind. (2000-2001).
- Participated in the Notre Dame study abroad program in Rome (2001-2002), then assisted with freshmen retreats for Campus Ministry (2002-2003).
- Ministered to the sick at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend (2003-2004), then as math tutor at Notre Dame High School, Niles, Ill. (summer 2004).
- During his novitiate year, he served in the Namaste Alzheimer's Center in Colorado Springs (2004-2005), then at St. Gregory the Great Parish in Phoenix (2005).
- Served as a counselor at Stone Soup Center, South Bend (2005-2006).
- Left formation in July 2006 and worked in Columbus, Ohio, at Huntington Bancshares, where he was a member of St. Andrew Parish in Upper Arlington, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knight of Columbus, Council 11275.
- Certified internal auditor and CPA candidate; served as Central Ohio Chapter president of the Institute of Internal Auditors (2009-2010).
- Returned to formation and professed his vows again on July 30, 2011.
- Served in marriage preparation at St. Pius X Catholic Church, Granger, Ind. (2011-2012); grief ministry for Notre Dame Campus Ministry (2012-2013); and assistant rector and rector of Fisher Hall at the University (2013-2014).

Being a Holy Cross priest could be in **Tim Mouton's** blood. He has two uncles, Revs. Jeffrey Allison, C.S.C., and Daniel Panchot, C.S.C., who are both Holy Cross priests.

The fourth of six children of Martin and Paula Mouton of Houston, Texas, Tim will serve his diaconate year as a campus minister at Stonehill College (Easton, Mass.).

- Entered the Congregation as part of the Old College program; B.A., theology, Notre Dame (2010); M.Div., Notre Dame (2014); first vows July 31, 2011.
- Served in Bible study during his formation at Holy Cross Parish, South Bend (2009-2010).
- Served as hospital chaplain at Penrose Hospital, Colorado Springs (2010-2011).
- Served as youth mentor at Rise Up Academy in South Bend (2011-2012); then marriage preparation at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend (2012-2013).
- From 2012-2013, he also worked as a student teacher at St. Joseph High School, South Bend.

**Chase Pepper** is the oldest of two sons of Barry K. and Lorrie S. Pepper of Huntsville, Ala. Chase will serve his diaconate at King's College.

- Graduated from Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., with a bachelor's degree (2007).
- Entered Holy Cross as a postulant in August 2009.
- Professed first vows July 30, 2011.
- Earned his M.Div., Notre Dame (2014).
- Served his postulant year in adult faith formation Bible study at Christ the King Parish.
- Served at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, the following summer.
- From 2010-2011, as Novitiate, worked in parish ministry at Sacred Heart Church and as a chaplain at Penrose-St. Francis Hospital in Colorado Springs.
- As a first-year professed seminarian, Chase served at the Catholic Worker drop-in center in South Bend.
- Served at Parroquia Nuestra Madre Santísima de La Luz in Monterrey, México the summer of his first year.
- During his final two years as a professed seminarian, Chase served in the marriage preparation ministry at Notre Dame.

**Daniel Ponisciak** is the middle of three boys of Dorothy and Michael Ponisciak of Fox Chase Manor, Pa. He will serve as a deacon at St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin, Texas.

- Bachelor's degree, psychology, University of Richmond (2002); Master's of education, counseling, College of William and Mary (2005).
- Entered Holy Cross as a postulant in 2009 after working as a professional school counselor in Williamsburg, and served in the adult Bible study program at Christ the King Parish.
- M.Div., Notre Dame (2014); first vows July 30, 2011.
- Chaplain at Penrose Hospital, Colorado Springs his Novitiate year (2010-2011); also worked in homeless ministry at St. André Bessette Catholic Church, Portland, Ore.
- Served in homeless ministry at HOPE Ministries, South Bend his first year of temporary vows.
- Worked in marriage prep at Christ the King Parish his second year, and in homeless ministry at André House in Phoenix late that summer.
- Coordinated preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation at Notre Dame in his final year as a seminarian.

**Christopher Rehagen** is a native of Jefferson City, Mo., a twin, and the oldest of the four sons of Mark and Susan Rehagen. He will serve as a deacon at Christ the King Parish, South Bend.

- Graduated from Notre Dame in 2009 with a double major in finance and economics.
- M.Div., Notre Dame (2014).
- Entered Holy Cross in 2009; professed first vows July 30, 2011.
- During formation, Christopher served as a team member for the Notre Dame Confirmation program (2009-2010); chaplain at Penrose Hospital, Colorado Springs, where he assisted with liturgies; and RCIA at Our Lady of Woods Parish, Woodland Park, Colo.
- Assisted at St. John Vianney Parish, Goodyear, during his Novitiate year (2010-2011); Stone Soup Community in South Bend (2011-2012); St. André Bessette Catholic Church (summer 2012); and RCIA team member at Christ the King Parish (2012-2013).
- Also served as assistant director in the Old College Undergraduate Seminary at Notre Dame (2013-2014).

# Notre Dame



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church volunteer, Tom Norris, is pictured above speaking with Fr. Rudolph Arty, C.S.C., former provincial of the Haitian Province (Notre-Dame du Perpetuel Secours).

## Haitian Holy Cross priests visit Holy Cross House

On Friday, July 11, 2014, six Haitian priests and seminarians who were being hosted in an English immersion program at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Naperville, Ill., made a stop at Holy Cross House before returning home to Haiti.

The group, which included two Holy Cross priests and four Holy Cross seminarians, arrived late June for the immersion course, which proved helpful to them in mastering the English language.

Many parishioners of St. Thomas provided instruction, tutoring, and support for this one-of-a-kind, memorable experience, not only for our Haitian guests, but our blessed at home.



Fr. Dougherty, C.S.C., and his uncle, Br. Fulgence Dougherty, C.S.C., are pictured here with the scarecrow they sponsored in the image of St. Brother André.

## Annual fundraiser sees saint among scarecrows

Fr. John Dougherty's hometown of Buchanan, Mich. hosts an annual fundraiser making scarecrows to be placed throughout the town. Each sponsor donating to the fundraiser may request whom the scarecrow should look like. The Holy Cross Community at Holy Redeemer Parish in Portland sponsored the friendly scarecrow above in the image of St. Brother André.

## Fr. Peter Logsdon visits Holy Cross House

Fr. Peter Logsdon, C.S.C., recently stayed at Holy Cross House. When he was released from Holy Cross



Fr. Peter Logsdon, C.S.C.

House, he was awarded a Holy Cross House Alumni shirt. He returned to his ministry at St. Rita's in Dade City, Fla. The investigative reporter of the *Province Review* noticed that his intentions were to stay put until after the Notre Dame—Rice game!



Fr. Patrick H. Maloney, C.S.C., reigns supreme in a recent game of hearts.

## King of hearts

Fr. Pat Maloney, C.S.C., “shot the moon” winning his first-ever, three-time Hat Trick Crown win. The members of the Holy Cross House (HCH) Hearts group include: Fr. Pat Maloney, Fr. Joe Tate, Fr. Moss, Br. Pat, Fr. David Kashangaki, Br. Tom Tucker, Nancy, and endless volunteers.

After his crown-winning game, the members made sure the win wouldn’t go to his head, and awarded him their hearts for the rest of the week.

The HCH Hearts group will challenge the seminarians, and HCH volunteers this winter as monthly card parties are planned.

## Boston numbers strong at annual club Mass

The annual Boston Notre Dame Club Mass for new Notre Dame freshmen from Boston saw the enrollment of 37 new frosh, and a total of about 75 parents and students attending the Mass held at St. Agatha’s Parish in Milton. Tim Mouton, C.S.C., served as acolyte and bread minister. Tim Weed, C.S.C., served as cup minister.



# King’s

## Students complete summer enrichment program

King’s College McGowan Hispanic Outreach Program recently completed its eighth Summer Residential Enrichment Program for high school juniors and seniors. The three-week program began on June 23, 2014. The summer residential program is an extension of the weekly mentoring program that takes place during the academic year. While residing in Holy Cross House from Sunday night to Friday noon, the students attended classes that included English (literature and grammar), Math (logical reasoning) Science (environmental studies), Theater, and Leadership. Library and study skills workshops rounded out the curriculum.



Pictured above, first row from left: Reyna Logsdon, McGowan (Hispanic Outreach Coordinator), Catherine Perez (Coughlin), Sabrina Jara (Coughlin), Bereniss Sosa (Nanticoke), Isabella Dominguez (Colombia, SA).

Second row: Jennifer Suarez-Vergara (Meyers), Brother George Schmitz, C.S.C., former MHOP Coordinator, Lizbeth Jaramillo (Coughlin), Emily Palacios (Meyers), Tiffany Amigon (Coughlin), Jennifer Malvar (Meyers), David Torres (Meyers).

Third row: Jeffery Amigon (Meyers), Jose Gonzalez (Scranton), Edwin Paramo (Scranton), Erick Velez (GAR), Hugo Dominquez (Colombia, SA), Israel Gonzalez (Coughlin).

*(Continued on page 6).*

Fourteen of the 16 participants are students who are currently enrolled at the three Wilkes-Barre public high schools and at Scranton High School. Two recently arrived students from Colombia, South America, also participated as non-resident students.

At the close of the program, Brother George Schmitz, C.S.C., completed his ministry as Coordinator of the McGowan Hispanic Outreach Program at King's. He will be succeeded by Ms. Reyna Logsdon.

## Northeastern Pennsylvania postulants visit Notre Dame



Robert Lisowski and Rob Yanik, postulants from NEPA, with Ryan Boyle, a senior at King's, and Fr. Dan Issing, C.S.C., in front of Corby Hall at Notre Dame.

## National Vocation Awareness Week gathering at King's



Rev. Mr. Chase Pepper, C.S.C. sharing his vocation story at a gathering November 4, to celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week (Nov. 2-8, 2014) at King's College. Eleven students, four women, and seven men, joined our community to celebrate Evening Prayer, a social, dinner, and this conversation with Chase.

## Visit from Bishop Bambera

Our local Ordinary, Bishop Joseph Bambera, joined us on November 5 to pray Evening Prayer with our community, followed by a social and dinner. L to R: James Martin, C.S.C., Jack Ryan, C.S.C., Bishop Bambera, C.S.C., and Tom Looney, C.S.C.



## Stonehill



Rev. Mr. Timothy Mouton, C.S.C. and Timothy Weed, C.S.C., pictured here after renewing their temporary vows this past summer.

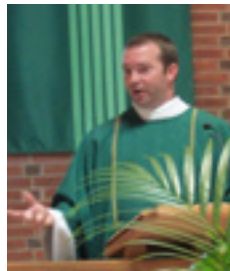
## Renewal of vows at Stonehill

Rev. Mr. Timothy Mouton, C.S.C., who recently professed his Final Vows, is shown above with Timothy Weed, C.S.C., renewing their temporary vows earlier this year at the Stonehill community chapel. They were joined by the founders of My Brother's Keeper, the service organization where both worked. The organization delivers furniture and food to local families in need, and its mission is to bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve - something that "Men with Hope to Bring" can definitely relate to and carry out. "One of the most remarkable things about the ministry of My Brother's Keeper isn't the massive amount of furniture or food that they deliver to people in need," said Timothy Weed, C.S.C. "...it is the faith-filled conviction that the organization uses to stick to its mission."



## Deacon Tim Mouton assists at Mass for the first time

Sunday, September 21, 2014, Rev. Mr. Timothy Mouton, C.S.C., served as deacon and preached at all of the Campus Ministry Sunday Masses for the first time. It was amazing to see how poised and confident he was. At the reception after the Masses, Tim was mobbed with students, faculty and staff, touched by his message and his presence.



His energy and zeal has reportedly added considerable energy to the campus, as he is able to relate well to the students in many ways, from serving as a part-time coach for the varsity baseball team, to forming a men's spirituality group, to hosting the weekly Tuesday night Mass in his residence dorm.

Deacon Tim will be ordained a priest in April 2015.

## Second annual faculty/staff wine & cheese party

On September 3, 2014, more than 125 faculty and staff gathered for the second annual wine and cheese party in the Stonehill College courtyard. This annual event is hosted by the Mission Division and the Holy Cross Community of Easton, Mass.

The event proved to be a fun and engaging way for faculty and staff to “wine down” at the beginning of a new semester.



## Our Holy Cross own accepts the ALS “Ice Bucket Challenge”

On August 25, 2014, Deacon Tim Mouton accepted the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge and further challenged Timothy Weed, C.S.C., to donate or receive his own ice cold bucket of water for the cause. Moreau Student Ministers had the honor of dousing Deacon Tim.

## Fr. Potthast inducted into the Knights of Columbus Hall of Fame

Fr. Richard Potthast, C.S.C., was inducted into the Knights of Columbus, Springfield (Illinois) Diocesan Chapter Hall of Fame for his contribution to Council, Community, and Church.

Fr. Potthast started his missionary work in Uganda in 1968. He has served at Butiti Parish, Nsenyi-Kisanga Parishes, and St. Jude Tadeo Kyarusozzi Parish.

Fr. Potthast keeps in touch with the Knights by mail when in Africa, and he visits them whenever he returns to the United States.



# Africa

## Small Christian communities: “Places of faith sharing and peer formation”

In Uganda, the post-novitiate formation house is divided into Small Christian Communities, each comprised of six members, who are temporary professed religious.

Once a week, these members of the Small Christian Communities gather for prayer and to share Sunday scriptures. At least once a semester, each Small Christian Community also gathers for a day of recollection.

Sometimes, the Small Christian Communities are given, by the formators, themes on religious life or ministry, which are often guided by discussion questions and sometimes are sometimes presented to the whole community.

This year, there are five Small Christian Communities in the house which are named based on an outstanding figure in the Church, in the Congregation or in the local Church. The current Small Christian Communities are: Fr. Dujarie, Blessed Basil Moreau, St. John Mary Vianney, St. John Paul II and Servant of God Julius Nyerere.

**About Mr. Robert Ssali, C.S.C.:** Mr. Robert Ssali, C.S.C., is a fourth year professed seminarian from Uganda. A teacher by profession, Ssali's Pastoral Experience (2013-2014) took place at St. Mary's Minor Seminary Fort Portal, Uganda. He went in expecting to be a classroom teacher - but after a short time there, he was appointed as Dean of Studies.

This is how Robert speaks of his time at St. Mary's Seminary: “As an educator in the faith, my experience at the seminary helped me to fully utilize my teaching skills; gain administrative skills when I accepted the challenge to serve as the Dean of Studies and gain skills in campus ministry.”

As the minor Seminary celebrates its Golden Jubilee in March next year, Robert joins a list of Holy Cross members who have served the seminary in various capacities as teachers, administrators and chaplains in the last fifty years.



Members of Small Christian Community, Fr. Dujarie



Picture of Mr. Robert Ssali, C.S.C., in the office of Dean of Studies



## Our Lady of Sorrows celebration

On September 15, 2014, the Post-Novitiate community at McCauley Formation House celebrated the Congregational feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows. Celebration began with Mass presided over by house director, Rev. Frank Murphy, C.S.C.

Concelebrants included Holy Cross members from the region and from other religious communities. Invited guests were mainly formators and students of Tangaza College with the aim of making them know the Holy Cross life.

Mass was followed by a social and dinner.



## New African candidates complete orientation

André House of Formation in Bugembe, Uganda, welcomed sixteen first-year candidates in early July.

Hailing from Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda, the new postulants completed a five-week orientation program consisting of prayer, classes, and presentations from members of the Holy Cross family in East Africa.

English and Liturgy classes, computer training, and local language lessons were taught, and the new arrivals learned how to clean and maintain André House, the venerable pre-novitiate formation house that first opened in 1989.

Upon completion of orientation, the returning second and third-year candidates joined their new housemates for a festive “Welcome and Reception of New Candidates Mass.” The Director of André House, Fr. Ronnie Kawooya, C.S.C., presided and preached. Fr. Michael Mathews, C.S.C. distributed a bible, catechism, and breviary to the new postulants while Brother Neema Everest, C.S.C., anointed all in attendance with sacred oil from St. Joseph’s Oratory in Montreal, commending the seminarians to St. André Bessette and the protection of St. Joseph.

A total of thirty-three postulants reside at André House while they pursue their undergraduate degrees in philosophy before entering the novitiate.

*If you are interested in learning more about the Holy Cross Mission Center and the ministries we serve, please feel free to contact us at:*

*P.O. Box 543*

*Notre Dame, IN 46556*

*574.631.5477*

*[www.holycrossusa.org/holy-cross-mission-center/](http://www.holycrossusa.org/holy-cross-mission-center/)*

## REV. PAUL G. WENDEL, C.S.C. Sept. 28, 1921 - Nov. 4, 2014



Rev. Paul G. Wendel, C.S.C., 93, died Tuesday (November 4, 2014) at Holy Cross House.

Fr. Wendel was born in Buffalo, NY on September 28, 1921, to Joseph and Louise Schwartz Wendel. He attended St. Mary grade school and high school in Lancaster, New York, graduating 12th grade

in 1939.

World War II saw Fr. Paul in the Army serving in Africa, Sicily and Italy. Upon his discharge in 1945, he attended the University of Notre Dame on the G.I. Bill and earned degrees in philosophy and commerce.

During his student years, he felt the call to religious life and priesthood and entered the Holy Cross Novitiate on August 15, 1949. He professed first vows the following year. The next two years, he furthered his studies at Moreau Seminary before entering Holy Cross College, Washington, DC, in 1952.

Due to the serious illness of his mother, Fr. Paul was ordained to the priesthood in St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Lancaster on November 11, 1955 by Bishop Burke of Buffalo.

Fr. Wendel's first assignment was to teach at Notre Dame High School. The next year, he moved to the University of Notre Dame to teach and prefect. In 1962, he was made Assistant Vice-President for Business Affairs and remained in that position for eight years.

In 1970, Fr. Wendel moved to Moreau Seminary as assistant superior for the next four years, before moving to St. Joseph Parish in 1974 as pastor. In 1980, he took a year of study at the Holy Cross Center in Berkeley, CA where he was formation director.

The next year found Fr. Paul assisting at Holy Cross in South Bend. He left there in 1985 for further study before moving to Fatima Retreat House in 1986. He was a popular retreat and spiritual director there for nine years. In 1995, he was named assistant superior and steward at the Mission House.

Since 2004, Fr. Wendel resided at Holy Cross House serving as a member of the House Council and assisting wherever needed.

Fr. Wendel was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Louise Wendel, his brother Arthur, and his sister Wilma. A wake service was held at Moreau Seminary at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, November 6, 2014 and the Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart Friday, November 7, 2014 at 9:30 A.M. Burial followed at the Holy Cross Community Cemetery.

### Funeral Homily for Fr. Paul G. Wendel, C.S.C. By Rev. Charles Kohlerman, C.S.C.

We welcome and extend our sincerest sympathies to the friends, lay colleagues and the community of Sisters, Brothers, and Priests of Fr. Paul Wendel who have come to celebrate his life with us today. For today is a day of great celebration, joy, and gratitude to God for giving us this holy man to walk with us on our journey to God.

I think today's gospel reading best describes Fr. Paul Wendel when Jesus says:

*"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike." Matthew 11:25*

I think in reflecting on Fr. Paul's life we begin to understand what Jesus meant by the "childlike."

When I asked some of Paul's friends to describe Paul and his impact on their lives I heard: *gentleness, prayerful, compassionate, soft-spoken, spiritual guide, thoughtful, honest, good friend, community man, great supporter, precious smile, quiet and a perfect gentleman.* In some ways, one might characterize Paul as the ideal pastor and spiritual mentor. After reflecting on this list of attributes, one might also conclude "saint."

But maybe that's getting a little ahead of the game, for Paul was truly a humble religious and priest who sought to do God's will each moment of every day of his life.

Some 27 years ago, I was assigned to live and work

at Fatima Retreat Center, (now Fatima House a house of independent living for Priests and Brothers) and began a journey with Fr. Paul that spanned these 27 years and many different experiences of ministry in both our lives.

I got to know and appreciate Paul as a religious and priest who truly loved his calling to serve God through service and love of God's children. He was a Holy Cross religious who responded to God's calling as shown to him through his superiors fulfilling his desire to know, love, and serve God with all his heart mind and soul and to love his neighbor as himself.

Paul was a late vocation entering Holy Cross at the age of 28 after serving in the Army in Africa, Sicily, and Italy in World War II. At times when some of us older religious reminisced about our lives during World War II, Paul would show his wonderful grin and remind us that while we were limited in our consumption of meat and other food products by rationing during the war here in the states, the troops in Sicily and Italy were enjoying a steak or two.

After his stint in the Army, he studied here at Notre Dame earning degrees in philosophy and commerce. During this time, he felt called to join the band of men and women of Holy Cross and entered our novitiate in 1949 and was ordained a priest in 1955.

Fr. Wendel's assignments were like stepping stones along the journey of his religious and priestly life. He didn't seek his assignments, but humbly accepted them even though some seemed to be "tasks beyond talents" as outlined in our Constitutions and were crosses in his life. He was asked to teach, to be an administrator, formator and assistant superior, and both a pastor and associate pastor, It was not until he was assigned to Fatima Retreat Center in 1986 that he began to find his true area of comfort in working with the people of God - walking with them in a unique way as they traveled the path of their spiritual journey.

Referring back to today's gospel reading:

*"...All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Matthew 11:27*

Paul became an agent and instrument of God in the lives of so many helping them to discover God's word

and its impact on their lives. Paul was one whom the Son has chosen to use to reveal the Father.

But the next verses of the gospel truly speak of God's work shown through the ministry of Fr. Paul:

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am meek and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." Matthew 11:29-30*

In his work at Fatima Retreat Center, Paul was a spiritual guide, teacher and mentor. His very personality and deep relationship with God and his Son Jesus were evident to all who sought his counsel and direction. People loved to be in his presence because he seemed to radiate a sense of peace and calm, a sense of gentleness and tenderness, a sense of understanding and compassion. And it was these spiritual qualities that spoke to people about Christ's words:

*"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike." Matthew 11:25*

For Paul, love was the truest of all truths; hence his deep sense of personal responsibility towards others. The love of Christ and Him Crucified permeated the whole life and character of Paul, and he placed the chief hope of redemption and redress for a suffering humanity in the literal imitation of his Divine Master.

In 2004, the Holy Cross Community needed to convert Fatima Retreat Center into a "religious house for independent living for priests and brothers," as our community was growing older and more space was needed to allow our members to age, while still fulfilling to the degree possible the ministries of the local church and the community.

At that time, we needed a spiritual guide, confessor, and pastoral advocate at Holy Cross House, our medical religious facility here at Notre Dame. Paul was invited to come and live at Holy Cross House and walk with the brothers and priests living there. With his usual generosity and humility, he accepted this as another step in his spiritual journey, knowing full well that this most likely would be the final step before he was called home by God.

He was a gift to all living there, as he assumed the pastoral roles of spiritual confidant, confessor, and true community friend to all.

Fr. Paul Wendel has been called home by God to receive his eternal joy in the presence of the God he loved so faithfully.

The prayer of St Francis was and is Fr. Paul's continuing prayer for all of us as he lives and reigns with the God he serves so faithfully and well a prayer that he continues to offer on our behalf.

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,*

*Where there is hatred, let me sow love;*

*...where there is injury, pardon;*

*...where there is doubt, faith;*

*...where there is despair, hope;*

*...where there is darkness, light;*

*...where there is sadness, joy;*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek*

*...to be consoled as to console;*

*...to be understood as to understand;*

*...to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;*

*...it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;*

*...and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

## **REV. JOHN V. VANDENBOSSCHE, C.S.C. May 18, 1924 - Nov. 9, 2014**



Rev. John Victor VandenBossche, C.S.C., 90, died Sunday (November 9, 2014) at Holy Cross House.

He was born on May 18, 1924, in Mishawaka, Ind., to Maurice and Palmyra (Remery) VandenBossche.

He attended St. Matthew Grade School in South Bend and the old Central Catholic

High School, graduating in 1942. Fr. VandenBossche was received into the Congregation of Holy Cross

on Aug. 15, 1943 and made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 16, 1944.

He graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a bachelor's degree in science in 1947. Fr. VandenBossche made his Final Profession on Aug. 16, 1947, and then attended Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C., to study theology.

Fr. VandenBossche was Ordained on June 6, 1951. He earned a master's degree in Physics in 1953 from the University of Notre Dame.

From 1953 to 1967, he taught and assisted at Notre Dame College in Dhaka, Bangladesh, which was then East Pakistan. He was made Principal of the school in 1967.

In 1970, Fr. VandenBossche returned to Indiana and served as Chaplain at the Holy Cross Brothers Center in Notre Dame, while earning his second master's from Notre Dame, this time in guidance and counseling.

Beginning in 1971, he served as Newman Chaplain for San Bernardino Valley College and the University of the Redlands in the San Diego, Calif., area.

From 1973-1976, Fr. VandenBossche assisted at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Granger before moving to the University of Portland in 1976, where he helped with the "Families for Prayer" Program in Portland and Los Angeles. He moved back to the Midwest to be the Assistant Pastor at St. Casimir Parish, South Bend, Ind. from 1984 to 1985.

Fr. VandenBossche lived at Holy Cross House from 1985 to 1986 and then became administrator at St. Stanislaus Parish, Dorr, Mich. (1986-1988) and at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Bridgman, Mich. (1988-1991).

He moved to Phoenix in 1991 and lived at Casa Santa Cruz while assisting at St. Paul's Parish.

Before he left Arizona in 1995, Fr. VandenBossche served as local Superior for one year. He served as Assistant Superior at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame, from 1996 to 1998. He then was assigned to St. Francis High School in Mountain View, Calif., where he served as Chaplain to the Holy Cross Brothers. Fr. VandenBossche moved to Fatima House at Notre Dame in 2008 and then to Holy Cross House in 2010.

Fr. VandenBossche is survived by his brother, Michael VandenBossche. He was preceded in death by his parents Maurice and Palmyra (Remery) VandenBossche and two brothers, Paul and William VandenBossche.

A wake service was held at Moreau Seminary at 7:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 and the Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart Tuesday, November 12, 2014 at 3:30 P.M. Burial followed at the Holy Cross Community Cemetery.

## Wake Eulogy for Fr. John V. VandenBossche, C.S.C. By Rev. Christopher A. Kuhn, C.S.C.

In 2007, John VandenBossche moved into Fatima House. Not long after, John asked me if he could volunteer to work with me at the Archives. I was delighted to have his help. John began work in 2007 and continued until 2012, when his health began to fail.

John's timing was providential. The Archives of the Foreign Mission Society & the Foreign Mission Seminary was transferred from the Mission Center at Moreau Seminary to the Archives. John's knowledge and experience proved to be invaluable in processing this collection of over eighty boxes.

I had known of John before he moved into Fatima and worked with me at the Archives, but our paths rarely crossed. Fortunately, John shared his wealth of experience and wisdom during those five years. I encouraged him to write his autobiography. He worked on it diligently and completed it in 2013. He found it a very rewarding and healing experience.

John was a native of South Bend. He was born on May 18, 1924, the third of four sons (Bill, Paul, John and Mike) born to Maurice (Ray) & Palmyra (Polly) VandenBossche. His parents built a two-bedroom bungalow on Miami Street a block from the newly-built, wooden St. Matthew's Church. John wrote in his autobiography, "St. Matthew's was the center of my life."

At St. Matthew's, John was baptized, made his First Communion and was confirmed. There, he attended St. Matthew's Parish School taught by the St. Joseph Sisters from Tipton, Ind. He moved upstairs for high school taught by the Holy Cross Brothers. His Boy Scout troop made it their headquarters. Later, he returned there for his First Mass. He had the funerals of his parents there.

John writes, "My memories of home included a

lot of play, prayers and work." His parents believed in doing things as a family. He recalled many happy memories of visits to his grandparents' farm, picnics at Lake Michigan, and visits to the farms of his cousins. John, his brothers and his Dad joined the Boy Scouts. He learned many skills he would later use in the missions. He learned to swim and earned his Eagle Scout rank before the Novitiate.

Prayer was an integral part of his family's life. They prayed grace before meals, daily rosary and night prayers as a family. They went to daily Mass. On Sundays, John and his brothers served Mass, his mother sang in the choir. When John lived at Fatima House, he was very faithful to community prayer, his private prayers and his daily rosary. When the weather permitted, he would often take a walk with his "beads."

***"My memories of home included  
a lot of play, prayers and work."***

***- Fr. John V. VandenBossche, C.S.C.***

Work, no matter how routine or difficult, was a sacred vocation for John. He was very talented and hard-working. I observed this first hand at the Archives. As a boy, John learned skills from his Dad, such as carpentry, plumbing, electronics and house painting. As a teen, John worked for the library, the hardware store, White Rose Gas Station and Studebaker's purchasing department.

He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1942, and that fall, entered the Seminary and the University of Notre Dame. John pursued a program in science with an emphasis on physics. In 1943, John went to the Novitiate in Rolling Prairie. There, he learned about prayer and the Holy Cross community. He also worked in the tool shed with Brother Marinus.

He took First Vows in 1944. He returned to Notre Dame for the rest of his college studies in mathematics, physics & chemistry. He writes, "College was a joy for me." He continued to work in maintenance. He attended summer school in 1947 to finish his degree. It was on this July 4th weekend that his Dad died. He was out camping with the Boy Scouts and John's brothers when he suffered a heart attack. In August, John graduated with a Master of Science degree at Notre Dame.

As a newly ordained priest in 1953, he went to the mission in East Pakistan. At Notre Dame in Dacca, he taught physics and mathematics. Shortly after his arrival, the Archbishop appointed him master of ceremonies. Later, he was appointed as a member of the liturgy Commission and helped in liturgical renewal. He also became involved with the Board of Examiners for physics. He was invited to lecture at the University of Dacca.

John returned home in 1959. His mother's health was rapidly declining. She died in 1960. Returning to Dacca in 1960, John continued to teach physics. He was also the Dean of Discipline, the Librarian, Assistant Principal and finally principal from 1966 to 1969. Many of the students at Notre Dame College were becoming involved in the independence movement. Classes were often disrupted by strike. John's health began to deteriorate with diabetes and phlebitis.

Following the advice of his doctor and the local C.S.C. community, John returned to the States in 1969. The War of Independence in 1970 prevented his return to Bangladesh.

In 1970, John earned a Master's degree in counseling and guidance from Notre Dame. He took a job in campus ministry in 1972 at San Bernardino Junior College and Redlands College. John returned to the Midwest to serve as Associate Pastor at St. Pius X parish in Granger from 1973 to 1976. He went to the University of Portland to be the rector at Shipstad Hall from 1976 to 1979. But, the late hours were too difficult for John to handle.

In 1979, John began working in the "Families at Prayer" program which Family Rosary had created to renew parishes at the family level. His address was still at the University of Portland, but he was "on the road" much of the time - traveling in Oregon & later California. He enjoyed the work, but the driving became exhausting. He worked out of the Holy Cross Brothers' High School in Sherman Oaks, Calif. In 1983, he suffered a minor heart attack and returned to Holy Cross House.

From 1985 to 1991, he began parish work as assistant pastor in St. Casimir's, South Bend, and Pastor at Our Lady, Queen of Peace in Bridgman, Mich. and St. Stanislaus Parish in Dorr, Mich.

He moved into Casa Santa Cruz in 1991 while assisting at St. Paul's Parish, Phoenix. He was local superior at the Casa in 1995, his last year in Phoenix.

He served as Assistant Superior at Holy Cross House from 1996 to 1998. He was assigned as Chaplain to the Holy Cross Brothers at St. Francis High School in Mountain View, Calif. from 1998 to 2006. He moved back to live at Fatima House in 2007. He moved to Holy Cross House in 2010.

John worked at many different assignments in his 63 years of priesthood. He also had artistic ability. He took drawing classes, did wood carving and studied watercolor painting.

He also wrote several personal papers including his autobiography, biographies of his parents and three brothers, his grandparents, plus aunts and neighbors.

He also wrote memoirs of his missionary experiences, "Memories of Bengal." He gave two papers at the Holy Cross History Conferences: "The History of the Texas Missions" and "The Poetry of Fr. Christopher O'Toole," the late Superior General and first Provincial of the Southern Province.

John, we thank God for you and the great service you gave to Him, the People of God and our community during your 63 years of priesthood. May you enjoy eternity with your family and the many people you helped during your years of ministry.

## **Funeral Homily for Fr. John V. VandenBossche, C.S.C. By Rev. James E. McDonald, C.S.C.**

Michael and Sandra, and Chris, we in Holy Cross join you in your grief for your brother's and uncle's passing; especially our brothers at Holy Cross House where John lived for these past four years; and the nursing staff who cared for him so gently in his last days - and every day. One of them gave him his last embrace.

Sixty-seven years ago, right there where his remains are today - John made his perpetual profession to God and joined a band of men whose motto is, "Hail the Cross our Only Hope." The Provincial held that crucifix on his coffin before his eyes and said: "Receive the image of the Crucified. Follow in His footsteps and you will come to share in the glory of His resurrection." John was 23 years old. (Six years later, at 29, ordained two years, he was sent to East Pakistan, one of the most difficult and challenging assignments, and he stayed for close to

20 years working to develop what has become a national educational treasure, Notre Dame College. He was headmaster for three years before he returned to the U.S.)

Some of the people who work with us, and love us, scratch their heads at our motto, "The Cross our only Hope." (We scratch our heads.) How can this be? It just doesn't make sense. Is it poetry? Or the way priests speak? Or some high theology statement that a few understand? Or, is it just a fancy way to say "everything eventually works out."?

Certainly that motto would have been lost on the disciples walking to Emmaus. For they were walking *away* from the Cross. More likely fast-walking. Quite literally away from the Cross, out of town.

Fear, fear of having made a failure of their lives, drove them away from the scene of violence and death and suspicion. Jerusalem, instead of being the summit of their pilgrimage with Jesus, had become truly their valley of death, and an interior valley of death as they fled the holy city.

So many echoes of what we believe as disciples ourselves, what we practice, come from Luke's account of the walk to Emmaus. And there he passes on at least two assurances that still sustain us, and sustained John:

**First**, that in gathering to break bread and in retelling the events that lead them to Jerusalem, Jesus appeared to them as he promised! Appeared in his Risen body, to give them something more valuable than sight - insight! - and Jesus appears to them in their despair.

**Secondly**, finding themselves not alone (finding oneself not alone) is truly good news, but the better good news is that, in their despair, Jesus walked with them. In the depths of their failure, he was at their side. He would never abandon them.

"Hail the Cross, our only Hope" because in many ways we carry our crosses - the ones given to us by life, or those we stumble on or walk into under our own steam - it is there, on our cross, that we must abandon the pretense that we can make it on our own. There, at the bottom of experience, Jesus extends his hand to walk with us - next to us. Were it not for the Cross, we would be tempted to believe and act as if we don't need God.

Of course, the greatest good news of this event in Luke's gospel, is that Jesus reveals precisely how God acts towards us. God is merciful. Endlessly merciful. And we discover that only in the severe tests we go through; our crosses.

What could a young man of 23 have understood about all of this? What can any of us understand of this until we set off following Jesus ... and follow him even to the Cross?

Public ministry lived within religious life as Fr. John did, offered him the grace to preach this Gospel to people spread all over the world, and especially to the poor. He nourished others with the power of this Gospel to *transform* lives. Not hope *in spite of* the Cross - but hope through the experience of following Jesus, in his footsteps, and there finding hope because of the cross - where God reaches us and transforms us into who he made us.

In the depths God reaches us and wraps us in unending mercy.

Fr. John, too, had to learn this as a disciple himself. Because everyone receives God's mercy, though it may mean great hardship or severe suffering.

In meditating on these readings, it occurred to me that the powerful reading from Lamentations, words of despair and hope, could easily have been on the lips of the disciples walking to Emmaus; transparent words of one who counts on God's mercy because he has known the depths:

*"My soul is deprived of peace  
I have forgotten what happiness is...  
So I say, "Gone is my glory, and all that  
I had hoped for from the Lord..."*

*But I will call this to mind as my reason for hope:  
the favors of the Lord are not exhausted  
his mercies are not spent  
they are renewed each morning so great is his faithfulness.*

*Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him."*

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## Please pray for those who have died

(As of December 1, 2014)

Bro. Albin Kuzminski, C.S.C. (MW)

Sr. M. Cecilia Ann (Kelly), C.S.C.

Bro. Ralph Joseph Edmiston, C.S.C. (M)

Sr. Agnes Solari, C.S.C.

Bro. Joseph Esparza, C.S.C. (M)

Bro. Clement Burger, C.S.C. (MW)

Sr. Mary Bernardine Hill, M.S.C.

Bro. Ernest Joseph Turk, C.S.C. (M)

Bro. Alexander Thomas Stroz, C.S.C. (M)

Bro. Albert Kern, C.S.C. (MW)

Rev. Joseph Decary, C.S.C. (C)

Rev. A. J. Bates, C.S.C. (EC)

Rev. Paul G. Wendel, C.S.C.

Bro. Timothy O'Connell, C.S.C. (MW)

Rev. John VandenBossche, C.S.C.

Mr. Raymond Chamberland, the father of

Rev. Gary Chamberland., C.S.C.

Filomina Valdivia, the mother of Julio Arias,

a seminarian from the District of Peru studying  
in Santiago, Chile.

Mr. William Cregan, the father of Rev. Mark Cregan, C.S.C.

Kate Devaney, the sister of Rev. William Melody, C.S.C.

Robert Seidel, the brother of Rev. Thomas Seidel, C.S.C.