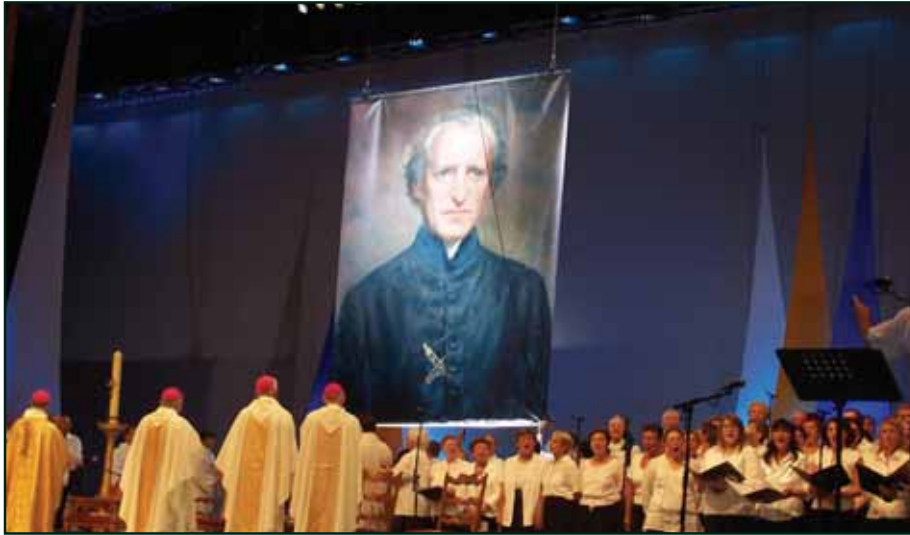




Pillars

A PUBLICATION OF THE PRIESTS OF HOLY CROSS, INDIANA PROVINCE



The unveiling of the banner depicting Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C. during the Mass of Beatification, LeMans, France

“We declare that from this day forward...

... the Venerable Basile-Antoine-Marie Moreau, priest, and Founder of the Family of Holy Cross, who served the pastoral and educational needs of the Church, may be called Blessed, and that on January 20, the day of his birth into eternal life, his feast may be celebrated each year in accordance with the regulations and in the places determined by canon law.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Given at Saint Peter’s in Rome, the year of Our Lord, 2007, the third of our pontificate.

His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI

On September 15, 2007, in a celebration unlike any other in the history of LeMans, France, the international community of Holy Cross rejoiced in the beatification of its founder, Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C.

The Holy Cross family was represented by brothers, priests, and sisters from every country in which Holy Cross serves, and from each Holy Cross apostolate. Joining them were lay administrators, students, faculty, staff, and friends, each sharing a commitment to Holy Cross and to the vision of its founder, Fr. Moreau.

More of the beatification on the following pages.



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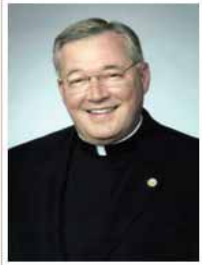
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Our Philanthropic Mission:
Uniting those who are called to be witnesses of Christ’s love, and stewards of His gifts, with our mission to proclaim the Kingdom of God to all.

Blessed Basil Moreau - From A to Z

Rev. David T. Tyson, C.S.C., Provincial Superior



My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As this issue of Pillars looks at the recent beatification of Basil Moreau, I share with you a few personal reflections on our founder, and later in this issue, a few reactions to the ceremonies in LeMans, France.

in LeMans, France.

The phrase “From A to Z” is often used to describe the entirety of something, such as a reference to an expert, “He knows his material from A to Z”, or from a television commercial I saw just recently for a vitamin, from A to Zinc, an effort to convey this one vitamin brand has complete nutritional value.

How does A to Z fit Basil Moreau? I think these two nouns provide the bookends, Ascetic and Zeal.

Fr. Moreau was an ascetic, a man who sought perfection in Christ by living an austere simple life in prayer, devotion, and in service. He owned virtually nothing outside of that which the Holy Cross community needed for practical survival; he ate only one meal a day, drank only water, and fasted three days a week. He slept upright in a chair instead of a bed, and his room was nearly bare. He prayed with devotion the Divine Office and the Way of the Cross, and read countless books on saints and Christian spirituality, in addition to his study of the Bible. These personal choices, these disciplines, helped Basil Moreau walk intimately with God.

Zeal, for Fr. Moreau, was “that flame of burning desire to make God known, loved, and served, and thus save souls.” Fr. Moreau used the word “zeal” countless times in his Circular Letters to the community, in his writings on Christian education, and in his own book of meditations. Basil Moreau lived his priestly life with zeal, and as his beatification proves, that

“flame of burning desire” will not be extinguished.

Between the A and Z are countless nouns and adjectives which help describe the practical Fr. Moreau and the spiritual. But like asecetic and zeal, taken alone they do not embody the fullness of his life and his life’s work.

That fullness is realized in the understanding of Basil Moreau as a selfless man driven to holiness, impassioned to serve, determined to save souls. Fr. Moreau was focused entirely on the Cross, making him, from A to Z, complete.

Our celebration of the beatification of Basil Moreau is by no means ours alone. It is a celebration in which you are part by virtue of your relationship with Holy Cross.

Our celebration of the beatification of Basil Moreau is by no means ours alone. It is a celebration in which you are part by virtue of your relationship with Holy Cross. So let us join together in recognizing this special occasion, and more, the example of Basil Moreau for us all.

I join with my brothers in Holy Cross in wishing you a blessed Christmas, and a faith-filled New Year. ✠

P.S. If you’re interested in learning more about Basil Moreau, I suggest the book by Gary MacEoin entitled *Basil Moreau*. Use the contact options on Page 8 to find out how to get a copy.

Basil Moreau's Road to Beatification

- 1799 Born February 11, 1799 in Laigné-en-Belin, a little village near Le Mans, France, the 9th of 14 children; his father was a wine merchant.
- 1814 Entered the diocesan seminary.
- 1821 Ordained a priest at age 22.
- 1835 Taught and served as assistant superior in Le Mans; named leader of the Brothers of St. Joseph founded by Fr. Jacques Dujarié. Founded the society of Auxiliary Priests.
- 1837 United the brothers and priests into the Association of Holy Cross.
- 1840 Professed vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.
- 1844 Received the vows of Leocadie Gascoin and three Marianites.
- 1857 Received papal approval of the constitutions for the Association, which became the Congregation of Holy Cross.
- 1866 Resigned as superior general, but continued an active preaching and retreat ministry.



The gardens where Basil Moreau would often walk.

- 1872 Celebrated his Golden Jubilee.
- 1873 Died on January 20 at age 73.
- 1946 The Bishop of LeMans was asked to introduce the cause for beatification of Basil Moreau.
- 1948 In Canada, a miraculous cure was attributed to Basil Moreau's intercession.
- 1955 The cause for his beatification was introduced in Rome.
- 1974 The cause for beatification resumes after Congregational changes following Vatican II, and the collection of historical documents is completed.
- 1994 The study of Basil Moreau's practice of virtue was presented to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.
- 2003 Pope John Paul II declares Basil Moreau "Venerable".
- 2006 Pope Benedict XVI promulgates the miracle needed for beatification.
- 2007 Beatified in Le Mans.

Plane Speaking

Your questions answered by Rev. Herbert C. Yost, C.S.C.



Priest and furniture-maker, Fr. Herb Yost, C.S.C.

“In a nutshell, my conversation with Pat was like this.

Me: “Pat, why don’t you go to Mass anymore?” Pat: “I don’t believe in prayers of petition.” Me: “Why not?”

Pat: “Because God knows everything. He knows how things are going to turn out.

So, why pray?” Father, if I can remember my religion classes at Notre Dame, Pat is into the heresy of predestination, i.e. everything is predetermined by God, so why pray. I am not bothered by this worry, but I have no answer to supply to Pat.”

John from Indiana

First of all, John, let’s get our definitions straight. Predestination is often confused with omniscience. Advocates of predestination say that God has already determined the future; God’s mind is made up, it cannot be changed. This, of course, means that free will basically counts for nothing. So you’re right. If everything is predetermined by God, why pray?

However, if you speak of God’s omniscience, then we’re saying that God *knows* all that will happen, now and in the future. That’s a big difference from predestination. It’s very much like a parent telling a child: “If you continue this pattern of behavior, then these may be the likely consequences.” The difference is that the parent is guessing based on their life experience; but even then they can only say “may be.” God knows, period. Omniscience leaves intact the principle of human free will; we can still choose our behavior, with whatever consequences flow from that. God’s omniscience makes prayer of petition an excellent form of prayer.

Admittedly those are simply definitions. Both ideas have been debated endlessly over the centuries, and I’d love to have a dollar for every book or article written on one or the other topic. It would get me the new Minimax table saw I’m kinda coveting! Or a trip to someplace warm and exotic for my annual retreat in February... Tahiti maybe?!

OK, Herb, stop fantasizing. Back to reality.

Is prayer of petition valid? Absolutely. Does it work? Always... but not necessarily the way we want or intend.

Modern science has provided me with an interesting and helpful way to look at petitionary prayer. I don’t know how familiar you are with quantum physics or chaos theory. Perhaps you’ve heard an oft-used example: if a butterfly flaps its wings in Mexico, it can lead to a typhoon in Japan. The theory suggests that every part of the universe (including human beings) is intricately connected at the atomic or molecular level. There is no such thing as an inconsequential word, action, or thought.

Maybe you’ve already experienced some of that connectivity. Have you ever had the experience of thinking of someone you haven’t heard from in awhile, and then right out of the blue getting a call or note from that person? Accident? Coincidence? Or a prime example of the intricate connection mentioned above? Or maybe you’re driving along with someone, and you’re thinking of your income tax. At that very moment, your companion says something about income tax. It’s really spooky, but it’s very real. It’s not just our physical actions that have consequences; even our thoughts can make something happen.

see *Plane Speaking*, pg.7

A Reflection on the Beatification

Rev. David T. Tyson, C.S.C., Provincial Superior

The beatification of Father Moreau was incredible. The presence of Holy Cross religious from Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Americas poignantly illustrated the internationality of our mission. Having had the privilege of the office of Provincial Superior for a few years, I was further struck by how familiar some of those faces have become to me as we share in the broader mission of Holy Cross.

The venue for the beatification, though a sports arena, was transformed into a modern worship space that worked very well for the liturgy. The reading of the Apostolic Letter was followed by a spectacular musical fanfare of *Laudamus Dominum* and the unfurling of a large banner of Father Moreau's portrait.

There were five thousand people present for the ceremony and celebration of the Eucharist presided over by the Bishop of LeMans.

The next day about 2000 gathered for a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Cathedral of St. Julien in LeMans. The cathedral is impressive, the nave dating back to the 11th Century. Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, Archbishop emeritus of Washington D.C., presided and preached at the Mass. The large banner of Moreau was raised in the apse of the Cathedral as the procession entered. Cardinal McCarrick "hit a home run" with his wonderful homily. I was definitely attentive to a man who clearly has a personal devotion to our Founder.

The Cardinal closed the Mass with strong words of encouragement to all members of Holy Cross to spread the vision of the Founder throughout the world. On the trip back, as I waited to change planes in London, I couldn't help but reflect on all that I saw and heard in that long weekend in LeMans. It is so very apparent that the founding vision of Father Moreau is still very much a contemporary one. It should energize us for mission wherever and however we serve.



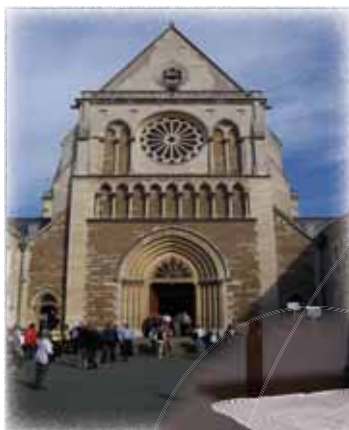
Blessed Basil Moreau's tomb

Many of our houses celebrated this historic occasion for the Congregation and the Province. I was in Portland for the meeting of the Board of Regents. I was invited to preside at their celebration and Fr. Bill Beauchamp, President of the University of Portland, gave a wonderful homily on Father Moreau's

vision and its importance to the mission of the University. The University of Notre Dame also sponsored a celebration of the beatification which was intended to serve as a "teaching moment" for faculty, staff, and students about the life and charism of Father Moreau. As part of the liturgy presided over by Fr. John Jenkins, a sculpture of Father Moreau, done by artist Robert Graham, was unveiled in Sacred Heart Basilica.

While many ceremonies and celebrations have already taken place, there is much more to be done, none more important than Holy Cross continuing the vision of its founder, Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau. ✠

Images of Holy Cross from the Beatification



Our Lady of Holy Cross Church (Notre-Dame de Sainte-Croix), LeMans, France, built by Fr. Moreau and consecrated in 1857.



The church of Yvre L'Eveque where Fr. Moreau preached his last sermon, exterior and interior.



Fr. Moreau's chalice

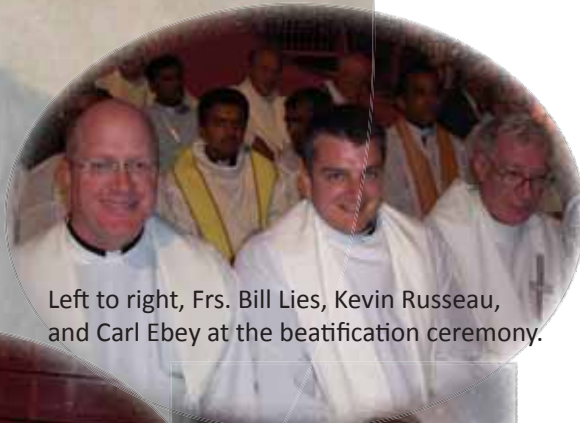


The chair in which Fr. Moreau slept much of his adult life.

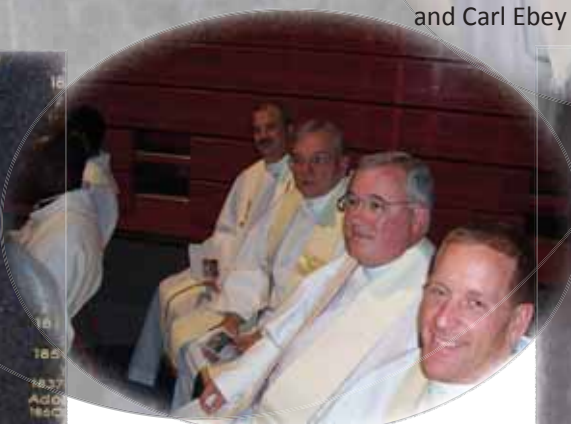


A section of a monument, including Fr. Edward Sorin's name, commemorating Holy Cross religious who died overseas.

Alexandre MONTIGNY	1826-1855	Bengale	18
Isidore GUESDON	1826-1855	Bengale	
Louis COUE	1809-1858	Bengale	
Louis VERITE	1815-1859	Bengale	
Bernard LARBIQU	1832-1867	Bengale	
Nicolas BARDEAU	1808-1869	Italie	
Emile DUSSAULT	1820-1872	Bengale	
Louis-Marie LUCIA	1841-1872	Bengale	
Narcisse HUPIER	1810-1873	Canada	185
Auguste LEMONNIER	1839-1874	Etats-Unis	1837
Joseph LE FLOCH	1833-1888	Canada	1840
Pierre VENIARD	1824-1893	Etats-Unis	1885
Augustin LOUAGNE	1824-1894	Bengale	1840
Alexis GRANGER	1817-1893	Etats-Unis	1843
Edouard SORIN (Assisi)	1814-1893	Etats-Unis	1840
Augustin LOUAGNE	1824-1894	Bengale	1840
Charles JOLLY	1843-1898	Canada	1873
Jean-Baptiste SAZOGA	1810-1898	Canada	1840



Left to right, Frs. Bill Lies, Kevin Russeau, and Carl Eby at the beatification ceremony.



Foreground to back, Frs. Ed Obermiller, David Tyson, Bill Beauchamp, and Peter Jarret.



Stained glass window of Fr. Jacques Dujarie, Bishop Bouvier, and Blessed Basil Moreau, located in Our Lady of Holy Cross Church.

Plane Speaking *continued from page 4*

I'm simplifying greatly, but I believe this theory points directly to the value of prayer of petition. Somehow, someday, our petitions bring change. They have an effect on the trajectory of individual human lives, and human history as well. For example, I remember reading a quote in the Old Testament (which I have just not been able to find again). A person was making a petition to God, and God's response was that the petition will be granted, but first God has to do something else in another part of the world which had a direct relationship to the person's petition. Once that "something else" was accomplished, its effects would bring the answer to the petition.

Chaos theory also says that there are an infinitely possible number of futures or outcomes. This too under girds our prayer of petition. Anything can happen, even death and resurrection. Our prayer makes a space for God to do something or set into motion something that he could not do before (because he was not invited into the situation). We don't know what it might be. All we know for sure, in faith, is that whatever happens will be the highest possible good. It will definitely be good for the person or situation which is the focus of my prayer. It might even be good for me, though I might not discover that till later.

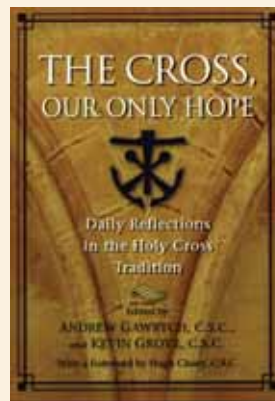
It takes a lot of faith to accept that. It's impossible for us to comprehend all the visible and invisible tentacles that make up any life situation. Yes, we can speak our hopes and desires, and we need to. That's essential. But once those are spoken, then we can only say as Jesus did in the Garden: "Thy will be done." Only God knows how to bring about the highest good; we don't.

I would like to make one final suggestion. Petitionary prayer involves a lot of speaking to God. It might be well to also make some time to listen to God. In those moments of silence, God might perhaps choose to grace us with an insight into his ways. Precisely because God is all-knowing, it behooves us to do some listening. ✠

PS: You might want to remind Pat that the Eucharist does indeed have prayers of petition, but it is also a great act of thanksgiving to God!

Any questions about spirituality? Send them to

Plane Speaking
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Notre Dame, IN 46556-0765
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contains a series of meditations written by over 200 members of the Congregation on Holy Cross themes. For more information, visit the Ave Maria Press website at www.avemariapress.com



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- ◆ Formation and Education of our Brothers
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- ◆ Care for Our Elder and Infirm Brothers
- ◆ Ongoing Facility Requirements to Serve our Mission.



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