

Priests of Holy Cross,
Indiana Province
P.O. Box 765
Notre Dame, IN 46556
574/631-6731
www.cscip.org



The "Cross and Anchors" - The Emblem of Holy Cross

Education - United States

- ◆ University of Notre Dame
- ◆ University of Portland

Parish Ministries

- ◆ Arizona
- ◆ California
- ◆ Colorado
- ◆ Indiana
- ◆ Oregon
- ◆ Texas

Specialized Ministries

- ◆ To the Poor Through Andre House and All Our Ministries
- ◆ In the Printed Word through Ave Maria Press
- ◆ Campus Ministries
- ◆ Institutional Chaplaincy: Healthcare, Military and Religious Houses
- ◆ Holy Cross Association
- ◆ Holy Cross Associates

International Ministries

- ◆ Bangladesh
- ◆ Chile
- ◆ East Africa
- ◆ Mexico



My dear friends in Christ,

Although a bit delayed, permit me, on behalf of my brothers in Holy Cross, to extend prayers and wishes

for a blessed year to you. I know for Holy Cross the work ahead of us this year will be significant, but we go forth with confidence in God's care for our efforts, and in knowing you are with us along our journey.

In this issue of **PILLARS** we feature the International community of Holy Cross. Many of our friends and benefactors associate Holy Cross with our educational ministries in the United States and a number are surprised to find Holy Cross has missions throughout the world. The Indiana Province has an active presence in East Africa (Uganda, Tanzania, and Kenya), in Santiago, Chile, and with the recent merger of the Southern Province, now in Mexico. The Province continues to serve in Bangladesh in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Province, which until 1998 was part of the Indiana Province.

Holy Cross has always been a missionary community, with our first mission assignment to Algeria in 1840, followed by a mission team to the United States in 1841 and to East Bengal (now Bangladesh) in 1853. Other missions followed and the seeds of Christianity were planted wherever we went. Many flourished, a few failed, but with each Holy Cross religious venturing away from home

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1 A Letter from Father David Tyson, C.S.C., Provincial Superior
- 2 Important Updates/News
- 3 Holy Cross in Mexico
- 4 The District of Chile
- 5 One Family's Witness
- 6 150 Years in East Bengal
- 9 Holy Cross in East Africa
- 12 Views!

and into new ministry, was carried, as with Holy Cross religious of today, a zeal for witnessing Christ's love.

Our constitutions state that *Our mission sends us across borders of every sort. Often we must make ourselves at home among more than one people or culture, reminding us again that the farther we go in giving the more we stand to receive.* In the following features you will read about borders we have crossed and how we continue to support the growing faith of communities around the world.

Of particular interest to me is how vital charitable support from the United States is to our foreign missions. Philanthropy in our country is embedded in our culture, whereas in Bangladesh, East Africa, and South America, philanthropy is only a modest, but budding, practice. It's partly a matter of economics in the countries and communities we serve as most of our ministries are directed to the poor and underserved. It's also a function of frequent political and social unrest that undermine many efforts toward cultural advancement. The two are intertwined and until such progress is made in these countries, our ability to serve overseas will still be driven by the generosity of our friends in the United States.

As you read about our International missions be mindful of the fact these ministries began with just a handful of faithful and loyal men whose initial investment and personal sacrifice has grown ten-fold. Remember, too, the role that visionary and dedicated benefactors played in shaping our overseas missions.

Let me also share my thanks for the wonderful gifts you've so graciously shared with Holy Cross. We are privileged to be the recipient of your kind and thoughtful investment.

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

Our Five Pillars: Appropriate Stewardship of the Gifts We Receive · Formation and Education of our Religious · Ministry to the Poor and Oppressed in the United States and Abroad · Care for Our Elder and Infirm Religious · Ongoing Building Requirements to Serve our Mission.

The Beatification of Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C.

The Congregation of Holy Cross is preparing for the beatification of its founder, the Venerable Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C. which will take place on September 15, 2007 in the Diocese of LeMans, France, the birthplace of the Congregation.

Fr. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C., Superior General has declared a year of “prayerful rejoicing and spiritual renewal”. This year of celebration began on the September 14, 2006 (the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross) and will end on the date of Fr. Moreau’s beatification, the Feast of our Lady of Sorrows.

Other Holy Cross leaders join Fr. Cleary in this declaration. The Marianites of Holy Cross, the Sisters of Holy Cross and the Sisters of the Holy Cross are three separate orders founded by Fr. Moreau who also carry out Fr. Moreau’s vision in their work around the world.

This is an extraordinarily exciting time for all Holy Cross religious, but also for those who have been touched in some way by the gifts of Holy Cross. Fr. Moreau’s vision and zeal for spreading Christ’s message of love and hope live on today in the men and women of Holy Cross.

Please join the Holy Cross family in thankful prayer and thoughtful action which exemplifies and reminds us of the vision of Fr. Moreau.

The Southern Province Rejoins the Indiana Province

In 1963 the Priests of Holy Cross, Indiana Province realized the largest number of members in its history, 611, with over 100 additional men in temporary vows or as novices. It was in this year the District of Texas was established, an act reflecting the growth of Holy Cross in Texas and its surrounding states. Within five years, the District became the Southern Province with 67 professed members and 14 seminarians and novices. The Southern Province encompassed eleven southern states and Mexico.

True to the vision and work of Venerable Basil Moreau, C.S.C., the Southern Province supported local dioceses by accepting assignments the dioceses would be unable to fulfill without assistance. Often this meant establishing parishes in rural and economically depressed areas, serving poor and lower middle-class populations. With a zeal characteristic of Basil Moreau, the religious of the Southern Province were successful in their work, solidifying their presence in the southern states while expanding their mission into Mexico.

In the past few years, the Southern Province began evaluating its future and its ability to continue to meet the necessary obligations to remain a province, from new vocations to finances to the number of religious available to fulfill existing province commitments. In 2006 this process of discernment resulted in the Southern Province requesting suppression and assimilation into the Indiana Province, which was approved by the Indiana Province and then by the Council of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Rome.

The Indiana Province welcomes its brothers serving in the south and looks forward to continuing the important ministries of Holy Cross in Texas, Louisiana, and Mexico.

Holy Cross in Mexico



On January 6, 2007, Fr. Len Collins, C.S.C. received the vows for one year of Alfredo Olivera Ledesma, Luis Antonio Perez Olivos, Carlos Augusto Jacobo de los Santos, Elvart Pinaicobo Atriare, Juan Ramon Alcudia Garcia, and German Hernandez Nepamuceno.

The Spanish-speaking mission, one of the earliest missions of the Congregation of Holy Cross in the United States, is a hallmark of Holy Cross' intrepid response to the call of Christ that continues to blossom over 100 years later.

In 1870, at the invitation of Bishop Dubuis of Galveston, Texas, Holy Cross extended its reaches to serve the Mexican population in Central Texas. Ever dedicated to educating hearts and minds, Holy Cross priests, brothers, and sisters soon founded St. Mary's Church and St. Edward's College in Austin, TX, the first permanent ministries of the Congregation in the state.

For 100 years Holy Cross continued to serve the Mexican population in Texas by establishing schools and hosting numerous ministries throughout the vast territory. The presence of Holy Cross grew in

Texas among both the Mexican and American populations. Thanks to major growth in this District of the South, as it was named then, Holy Cross priests formed the Southern Province in 1968.

In the mid-1970s the Southern Province of priests assumed a leadership role in the Spanish-speaking ministry and advanced it, venturing into Mexico. Fr. Fredrick Schmidt, C.S.C., who was serving in Austin at the time, often made pilgrimages to Mexico, especially to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, where he came to love the Mexican people. His years of service to this population led him at last to Ahuacatlan, Mexico, where he opened Holy Cross' first Mexican church, el Padre Jesus, in a rain forest on the eastern slope of the Sierra Madre Oriental.

From 1977 to 1987, individual Holy Cross religious entered Mexico, assuming administration of Santo Tomas Moro parish in Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon. Along with the opportunity to serve the Church in Mexico, continuing the missionary tradition of Holy Cross, the community approached the assignment in Mexico with the intent of understanding Mexican immigration to the U.S. and nurturing potential vocations to Holy Cross.

Realizing success at Santo Tomas Moro parish, and being embraced by the warm and welcoming spirit of the people there, Holy Cross soon established a house of formation and expanded its service to the people in Guadalupe.

Now that the congregation is fully rooted in Mexico, the Holy Cross community is working to increase vocations there and, as time and resources allow, strengthen Holy Cross' presence and service to the people and the Church.



Fr. Carlos Ochoa of the Rio Verde Parish in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, welcomes Fr. Dan Panchot, C.S.C., Sr. Charlotte "Carlota" LeBoeuf, M.S.C., Marianites of Holy Cross, and Fr. John Korcsmar, C.S.C., Provincial of the Southern Province, during a recent visit to explore ways the Southern Province can build bridges between the immigrant population in Austin which is closely connected to the people of Rio Verde.

The District of Chile of the Congregation of Holy Cross

■ Rev. Fermin Donoso, C.S.C.



Holy Cross came to Chile in 1943. The occasion was the desire of the Archdiocese of Santiago to have an American congregation take over the administration of a school (grade and high-school) founded by the Archdiocese in 1936, called Saint George's College, which had been conceived as a Catholic school where English would be emphasized. Cardinal O'Hara, Archbishop of Philadelphia and former President of Notre Dame, who visited Santiago around this time, made the contacts with Holy Cross and three Holy Cross priests, Frs. William Havey, C.S.C., Joseph Doherty, C.S.C., and Alfred Send, C.S.C. arrived in Santiago on March 1, 1943.

While Saint George's developed and increased the number of its students, Father Doherty initiated an apostolate in the chapel of San Roque, a semirural and very poor community on the outskirts of Santiago. Eventually, San Roque became a parish in

1949. A very special apostolate developed from San Roque: Fr. Doherty began gathering abandoned children and providing them with a home, Hogar San Jose. This institution developed and eventually moved to the neighbouring city of Talagante where it once harboured over 100 children. The district, with renewed methodology, continues to work with abandoned children both in Talagante and Santiago through *Fundacion Moreau* or *Fundamor*.

As the number of religious increased, more parish commitments were assumed. Presently, the district is responsible for two parishes in Santiago and one in a rural town in the diocese of San Felipe.

The community was erected as a district in 1961, an important step in consolidating the inculturation of Holy Cross in the country.

Fr. Jorge Canepa, CSC, a Chilean, had joined the Congregation in 1947, although a more structured formation program was started in the early fifties. Seminarians from the United States had the option of studying theology in Chile and several Chileans joined Holy Cross. Today, more than half of the 21 perpetually professed religious in Chile are Chileans. Besides, there are seven in initial formation.

The district suffered persecution and hostility from the military regime which ruled the country between 1973 and 1989. Saint George's was occupied by the government and the religious withdrew from the institution for several years.

The school is again administered by the Congregation and has regained its prestige. Despite the difficult years during the dictatorship, the Congregation still was able to accept the invitation of the Archbishop of Santiago to take over another school, Nuestra Senora de Andacollo, which has undergone a very noticeable improvement academically and structurally through the efforts of the Congregation.

As in many other parts of the world, the district is facing the challenge of aging and scarcity of vocations. We have a vocation program in place and a variety of initiatives involving the membership in his apostolate.

Another area the district wants to stress is the development of closer collaboration with the laity in our apostolates. Already, several retreats and workshops have taken place aiming to further incorporate the laity and share with them our mission and charism.

The district is also very interested in the efforts toward the development of a Latin American Region, as encouraged by the general administration. Collaboration in the area of formation has been going on for several years and we hope this collaboration can be enhanced and extended to other regions.



Holy Cross Religious currently serving at St. George's

One Family's Witness - Lay Collaboration

Collaboration with lay partners is a founding charism of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The Venerable Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C. referred to the necessity of collaboration frequently in his writings to Holy Cross religious while he was Superior General.

Throughout the history of the Congregation examples of the fruits of this philosophy are abundant. A very contemporary and lasting example is that of Jeff and Mary McWhirter and their family.

Mary McWhirter's brother is Fr. Robert Plasker, C.S.C., ordained in 1957. The majority of Fr. Robert's ministerial life has been spent working with Spanish-speaking Catholics in Central and South America, where he is currently the pastor of San Roque Parish in Santiago, Chile.

For as long as Fr. Robert has been a priest, Mary, her husband, Jeff, and their family have given their time, their prayers, and their financial resources to walk with Fr. Robert in his journey with the poor in Latin America.

Consider their most recent venture at San Roque Parish in Santiago. San Roque is a parish comprised of five different chapels, each serving 150 to 500 families, with Fr. Robert as the spiritual leader. Along with the important Eucharistic services and sacramental preparation at each chapel, the parish sponsors the *Brother Andre Kitchen* which provides food for the sick and homebound; the *Youth Center* offering computer literacy training, retreats, scripture study, and social events for young people; *Center for the Family* for the education of family faith, parenting and communications skills, pre-marital counseling, and counseling for life crises; and

ministries to the elderly, the sick and aging, and an ongoing formation program for lay parishioners.



A portion of the inspired McWhirter Family. Standing from left to right is Ellen McWhirter, her daughters, Anna and Marielena, Mary McWhirter, Mark and Katie McWhirter, their son, Benedict, and Jeff McWhirter. In the foreground is Benedict and Thomas McWhirter.

The work of the McWhirter family has been far reaching at San Roque. Their financial contributions have insured the continuity of parish programs, and are currently being used to renovate the chapel at San Roque, with the family having spent weeks each year in Santiago to lend a hand in the design and rebuilding.

Benedict and Ellen McWhirter, Mary and Jeff's son and daughter-in-law, work directly each year with the *Center for the Family* in creating catechetical programs and training parishioners on their use.

Along with their personal gifts of time and financial resources, the McWhirter's eagerly share the good works of San Roque with friends and fellow parishioners where they live. Mary and Jeff have successfully appealed to their parish in Arizona for support, and Benedict and Ellen have created a "twinning" relationship between their parish in Oregon and San Roque for the construction of a new sub-chapel called San Daniel which is scheduled to be built this year.



Fr. Robert Plasker, C.S.C. at San Roque Parish

The efforts of the McWhirter family don't stop with Mary, Jeff, Benedict and Ellen. Mark, Robert, Paula, and Anna McWhirter and their families have played an active role as well. Although separated by hundreds of miles, the McWhirter family is unified in thought, in prayer, and in practice when it comes to living their faith and supporting Fr. Robert and his efforts in building God's Kingdom.

The Venerable Basil Moreau wrote *"It is not one person alone who builds a palace; nor is it one stone or one single beam of wood that builds a great work of charity."* The McWhirter family embodies the essence of Fr. Moreau's message as together, and in many ways, they labor with Fr. Robert and with Holy Cross as witnesses of Christ's presence in this world.

150 Years of Holy Cross Mission in East Bengal

■ Rev. David E. Schlaver, C.S.C.

“The mission that no one wanted” – a vivid description of what faced the first Holy Cross missionaries who set out from France in 1853 for the east side of India and the distant delta region that emptied into the Bay of Bengal. Their bold superior, Father Basil Moreau, accepted the mission at the request of Rome to fulfill his ideal of a missionary community of priests, brothers, and sisters who would serve the greatest needs of the church wherever they existed. He also hoped that it would put his young foundation in a better position for official acceptance by Rome in an era when religious communities were springing up everywhere.

It was not the first mission venture Moreau had attempted. In 1840 he had sent religious to Algeria, though they returned after only a few years. And in 1841 the first band set out for the “New World” – eventually to found the University of Notre Dame and within a few years to establish foundations in Montreal, Canada. But the mission in Bengal was an ever-greater leap into the unknown, and the tragedies and difficulties of the years ahead could not have been envisioned from his quiet desk in LeMans.

Christians had been present on the other side of India since the first century, through the missionary journeys of Thomas the Apostle and much later St. Francis Xavier. But the more isolated area of northeastern India had proved a more troublesome spot for the church. Portuguese sailors had landed in the mid-17th century. Some had intermarried with low-caste Hindus and the missionaries that accompanied them established parishes around the Bay of Bengal, extending back into the barely inaccessible low lands and hill country now comprising Tripura (India), East Bengal (Bangladesh), and Burma (Myanmar). Some of those old churches are still standing, and the “old” Christians all bear the surnames of their Portuguese ancestors.

Holy Cross missionaries came along where others either feared to tread or had long before given up. They took up their crosses and plunged into the unknown language, culture, and climate, and brought a few of these missions in the eastern regions to life again. But not without untold suffering, sickness, death, and often despair. Holy Cross pulled out of the mission in 1876 for lack of personnel, but eventually returned in 1888 to continue the work, extending it into the distant areas where the original tribal settlers expressed interest in Catholicism. These “new” Christians — converts neither from Islam or Hinduism but from their ancestral practices — now make up the majority of Catholics in Bangladesh, and Holy Cross ministry to them is an essential part of their mission.



A Marian procession in Toomilia

Almost from the beginning, education and health care loomed as the largest needs for the whole populace. Building on Father Moreau’s vision of his religious as “educators in the faith,” schools and dispensaries were established at each mission outpost, and people flocked to them, anxious for a better life and greater opportunity. Most of those schools have survived and all have achieved recognition and respect from the population, now 88% Muslim, 10% Hindu, with only a smattering of others, including a minuscule 2/10ths of one percent Christian! But the desire and need for health care and learning know no religious borders, and all have been welcomed down through the decades. Primitive facilities have gradually been improved, standards have risen, teachers better trained, and students challenged. Many young women have been encouraged to become nurses, midwives, and medical assistants, especially crucial in a culture that only recently has

reluctantly accepted females as participants in the workforce.

150 Years of Holy Cross Mission in East Bengal , continued.



Mandi tribal youths celebrating Christmas in Pargacha

Most remarkable, however, has been the establishment and growth of the “local church.” Bengali young men slowly began to enter the clergy and young women professed to live as religious. Holy Cross men and women fostered this, founding local communities of religious women, building minor seminaries to begin the long process of training diocesan clergy, and encouraging Catholic laymen and laywomen to take on the professions of teaching and nursing. Apart from a very few insistent men and women who begged entrance into Holy Cross over the years, only after the local church was firmly planted did Holy Cross begin (in the early 1960s) to accept them wholeheartedly into their religious family. And now they make up the vast majority of members in the two men’s provinces — Sacred Heart of Jesus (priests) and Saint Joseph (brothers) — each with over 70 professed members. And the Sisters of the Holy Cross, too, have over 70 members.

Among those 200+ religious are less than 20 Americans or Canadians — a remarkable shift which has taken place only in the last two decades.

Originally the entire East Bengal area was put under Holy Cross auspices, but as political borders were redrawn in 1947, Holy Cross had to adjust too. East Pakistan (formerly the state of East Bengal) was artificially “joined” to West Pakistan and both separated from the homeland of India. It was a disaster waiting to happen and endless communal violence and strife marked the next 25 years, especially between the East and West wings of the new country and the motherland. Pakistan was “united” only in name – a Muslim state sharing Islam, but nothing else — totally different languages, cultures, traditions, terrain, and customs and separated by 1200 miles of India. The rich cultural and intellectual traditions, as well as fertile – if limited – farmland in the East was ripe for the West to plunder, and they did that repeatedly until finally the East Bengalis, with India’s assistance, had had enough. Bangladesh – the nation of Bengal – declared its independence on December 16, 1971.

Rome had begun restructuring the small and far-flung dioceses long before that. In 1886 the Diocese of Dhaka was established and Holy Cross returned to Bengal shortly thereafter. Americans and Canadians joined the mission and suffered additional hardships of fire, earthquakes, and seeming indifference from their brothers back in the United States and Canada. But the seeds planted long before were cultivated, schools founded, and the faith spread into distant missions, especially among the tribal peoples. In 1926 Dhaka and Chittagong became separate ecclesial units, and the Americans and Canadians divided their mission efforts to foster these local churches.

The political situation began to change rapidly during World War II and by 1947, though the missions of Holy Cross had stood nearly side by side (in Comilla and Agartala for example), religious could no longer cross the borders. By 1959 the Canadians, whose territory on the India side was vast, but without many Catholics, began to move south, seeking native vocations who would return to take up the missions of the northeast. The Province of India had been established by 1984 and by 2003 they were able to divide into two provinces – North East (with 60 members) and South (70). The District of Brothers (1966), with nearly 50 members, has also developed missions – mostly schools – in both the northeast and south. Only four Canadians remain – all now Indian citizens.



The ordination of Vincent Rozario, C.S.C. in Golla

150 Years of Holy Cross Mission in East Bengal , Continued



A Celebration of the 150th Jubilee of Holy Cross in East Bengal

Two Indian Holy Cross bishops head dioceses in the northeast. The Sisters of the Holy Cross have also opened several houses in the northeast India and began to accept candidates. Most Indian Holy Cross religious come from the various states in the south, but there is a growing number from the tribal states where they now serve.

Bangladesh has certainly not had an easy time of it. Too many people on too little land is the basic problem. It is the size of Wisconsin and latest census figures (how do you count slum dwellers!) come to 144,000,000 people, thus almost half the US population! At the time of partition there were less than 50 million. All of India has grown at a fast pace, but prior to 1947 natural migrations and movements could take place. Now riflemen guard the borders and threats are made to build fences! This has especially affected the tribal peoples all along the northern and eastern borders of Bangladesh. They had nomadic

roots, and went where their crops and animals could flourish. Now they are landless and often persecuted for not being “true” Bengalis. A similar story for tribal peoples throughout the world from the beginning of time!

The leading educational institutions in Bangladesh are Notre Dame College (founded in 1949 by the priests), Holy Cross College (in 1950 by the Sisters) and St. Gregory’s High School (1924), St. Joseph High School and College (1954 by the Brothers). The Brothers also administer several excellent high schools and technical schools in rural areas, and in Chittagong – including St. Placid’s which dates from their arrival in 1853! Many religious are also involved in formation of future religious in seminaries and convents. Seven native Holy Cross bishops have served the church over the last 40 years. The direct pastoral work of Holy Cross now takes place mostly in tribal parishes, with many missions spreading out from the central parish compound, some 50 to 60 miles distant.

All of these ministries are not unlike that of our forebears in Holy Cross 150 years ago. Improvements in transportation and communications are not very evident, but somehow the people are served and their customs, languages, and self-esteem are preserved. The future of Holy Cross ministries in Bangladesh and in North East India – and indeed around the world — is very similar. It is a difficult and challenging world. Young missionaries are needed to leave their “homelands” and learn new languages, crossing borders of custom and culture to bring the Good News to those who seldom hear good news at all. And they will always have to look to their families and friends and brothers and sisters in Holy Cross for material and spiritual support. But we can always count on their prayers as well!



Mary, Seat of Wisdom - mosaic at the entrance to Notre Dame College in Dhaka

Determination, Endurance, and Vision: Holy Cross in East Africa

■ Rev. James Burasa, C.S.C.

In 1958 Father Vincent McCauley, C.S.C., made the 15 hour journey from Rome, Italy to Entebbe, Uganda to respond to the invitation of Holy Cross Congregation to serve in this country. Being moved by the need he saw here, Fr. McCauley felt that it would be providential if Holy Cross accepted the mission.

What started with modest band of Holy Cross priests in 1958, and later joined by Holy Cross Brothers, has grown into dynamic, spirited and flourishing religious communities in East Africa. Since 1958 Holy Cross has been engaged in rural evangelisation and development, secondary and seminary education, health care, parochial ministry, and formation of East African seminarians and brothers for religious life and priesthood.

The District is currently committed to staffing four parishes; Bugembe parish in Uganda, Dandora parish in Kenya, Kitete parish in Tanzania and Kyarusenzi parish in Uganda. The evangelisation approach to these parishes is holistic; addressing the spiritual and material needs of the people.

Holy Cross Parish, Dandora:

This Parish is found in Nairobi, Kenya, and is a community of over 400,000. The majority of members of the parish are poor, but characteristically, warm-hearted, loving and God-fearing people.

As Holy Cross Parish is adjacent to a slum of nearly 1 million people, and itself serves 400,000 members, the needs of the community are extensive, with healthcare being foremost for so many. Little clean water, lack of proper sewage system, and limited access to proper nutrition, garbage dumps combined with people living on top of each other, results in pervasive health and health-related issues.

The Andre Dispensary, a clinic started by Holy Cross men, treats between 60 and 100 patients each day, addressing a diverse array of illness including malaria, tuberculosis, diseases of the skin, and more. The Dispensary employs a staff of 15 professionals and para-professionals, from physicians to pharmacists to technicians. In addition to diagnosis and treatment, the Dispensary also distributes a limited number of medications to assist in recovery. In addition to the Andre Dispensary is the establishment of HIV/AIDS Clinic that was started through the help of St Monica Parish of Los Angeles, USA. This clinic provides counselling services and offers some aid to the HIV/AIDS patients.



*Servant of God,
Bishop Vincent McCauley, C.S.C.
First bishop of Fort Portal*



Students at St. James School engage in play

St. James Primary School

It started in 2000 out of the nursery school that had been in operation in the Parish for twenty years. Although the school is surrounded by City Council and private primary schools, the Holy Cross Religious and lay group in Dandora saw a need for a church-run school that would promote Christian living and moral behaviour. Its objectives for the future are to continue to grow to meet the need of the community while still providing quality education, addressing the intellectual, spiritual and moral needs of the children. To this day, this school is the most popular school in the area.

St. Brendan's Parish, Kitete Tanzania:

It was founded in 1964. Under its parochial umbrella, there are 12 sub-parishes serving 19,650 Catholics. In September 2000 the Congregation of Holy Cross, District of East Africa, assumed pastoral responsibilities for the parish.

Determination, Endurance, and Vision: Holy Cross in East Africa, Continued

The priorities of the parish, as determined by input from the sub-parish members, include spiritual development, education, healthcare and human and social development. Toward that end, the parish created many small church communities to foster spiritual development, established the Audrey Veldman Agro-Technical Education Center to address educational needs of youth, and established the Lostete Clinic to serve the 19,000 plus members of the parish.

Holy Cross Parish, Bugembe, Uganda:

This Holy Cross Parish was created in 1990 and is one of 19 parishes in the diocese of Jinja. Amidst a community of very active Anglicans and Moslems, Holy Cross has fostered a very strong, large and growing faith filled Catholic community. Parish staff, including catechists, social workers, and three headmasters, work beside Holy Cross members to improve education, social work, pastoral activities and sacramental ministry. The goal of the parish is to invite people to translate the Gospel message into their own lives.

Bugembe parish has been involved in education ministry and has several primary schools it oversees and Holy Cross Lakeview Senior Secondary School is found here too. The Congregation of Holy Cross, District of East Africa, founded Lake View Secondary School in 1993; to fill a pressing need for Catholic secondary education in the immediate parish and surrounding geographic area. The school began with one full-time and 6 part-time teachers of "O-level" education (the first four years of secondary education) and grew steadily to include "A-level" education (advanced level) with a current enrolment of 930 students served by 41 teachers.



These children of Bugembe Parish represent the future of Uganda

Corresponding to the growth in numbers and staff, the reputation of the school grew. In its first year it was heralded as one of the 50 best schools in Uganda, and has subsequently improved that status since.

Students of the school come from Jinja and surrounding rural areas, as well as from Kenya and Tanzania, reflecting the reputation of the school throughout East Africa.

St Jude Thaddeus Parish, Kyarusoji Uganda:

The parish was founded in 1994 and apart from sacramental ministry it has established a couple of schools:



St. Joseph's Hill students work with a volunteer on a new water project tank.

St. Joseph's Hill Secondary School:

The school was established in 1996 by the Kyarusoji Holy Cross Parish. The school welcomes all students and aims at educating the whole person - intellectually, spiritually, and socially. The students who come to this school are those who would not have the opportunity to go elsewhere for secondary education. The school's enrolment is currently 372, with 143 girls and 229 boys. All the students are day scholars, some of whom on average have to walk as many as 10 km just one way.

Determination, Endurance, and Vision: Holy Cross in East Africa, Continued

Vocation Training School:

The Vocation School began in 1995 in response to inadequate secondary education facilities in the parish. Its aims are to provide students who left primary the opportunity to pursue further studies and equip these youth with technical skills, thus elevating their socio-economic standard. It grew from a simple carpentry workshop that was established by Kyarusozi Socio-Economic Development Club, increasing enrollment every year, and now providing classes in sewing, handcrafts, knitting, nutrition/home management, tailoring, dressmaking, carpentry, concrete practice, and brick laying. A number of students are employed by the time they graduate, and even those who are not yet employed can assist others in the community to see the importance of education as a tool for socio-economic emancipation and advancement.

Holy Cross Family Ministries:

This is an extension of the Holy Cross Family Ministries International founded by Servant of God Fr. Patrick Peyton, C.S.C.

Holy Cross Family Ministry in East Africa draws its inspiration from seeking to reach out to families besieged with a multitude of challenges. This ministry brings God's love and presence more within reach for families as they grapple with day-to-day challenges.

Holy Cross Family Ministry serves Jesus Christ and His church throughout East Africa by promoting and supporting the spiritual well-being of the family. Among its focus is to help Christians be faithful to Mary, Mother of God, encouraging family prayer, especially the Rosary, and also counselling and reconciling family members. It directs its efforts to the evangelisation of culture using mass media to entertain, inspire, and educate families. It strives to bring to reality its mottos: "The Family that Prays together Stays together" and "A World at Prayer is a World at Peace."



Holy Cross Family Ministries sponsors a contest to create a prayer theme to follow throughout the year

Future Plans:

The District is now moving towards a Province status and the Province of Indiana is working tirelessly with the District to see to it that this dream is realized. If all goes well, this may take place on November 4th 2008 when the District will be celebrating the 50 years since the arrival of the first Holy Cross missionaries from United States.

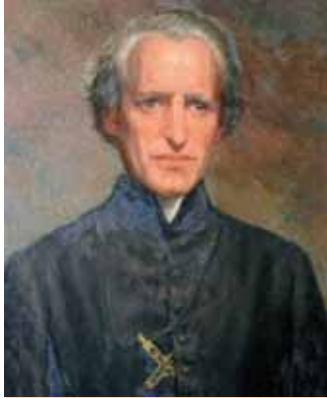
Construction of a Conference Centre. This centre will help to host programs for both Holy Cross members and the laity to deepen their faith and grow more in holiness and wholeness. Though such matters of the spirit are difficult to assess, we believe that the centre will offer effective challenges and promote the right attitude and spirit, enabling much hope for the future of our congregational work with Small Christian Communities, with youth, and in AIDS Ministry, having been guided by more experienced ministers of the Gospel.

After the completion of the girls' dormitory which accommodates 200 at Holy Cross Lake View Secondary School, we are now challenged with putting up a similar one for boys.

We are grateful to all of you who have joined us in our ministries to bring good tidings to the less fortunate of our society. Our future vision is to make these ministries self-sustaining and we appeal for your continued partnership to make it happen.

May the almighty God bless you abundantly.

Views! We Welcome Your Thoughts.



Zeal

"By zeal is understood that flame of burning desire which one feels to make God known, loved, and served and thus save souls."

Venerable Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C. 1799-1873

- I would like more information about the Priests of Holy Cross, Indiana Province (please specify: _____).
- I would like to Make a Gift (please make checks payable to the Priests of Holy Cross, Indiana Province)
- Please contact me about creating a Legacy gift to the Priests of Holy Cross through my Estate Plan/Will.
- Please correct my contact information as listed below.
- Please remove me from your mailing list.

Comments: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please mail this form to: Priests of Holy Cross, Indiana Province, Office of Development,

P.O. Box 765, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0765.
Phone: 574/631-6731
indcscdv@nd.edu
Thank You.

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Notre Dame, IN
Permit No. 11

54515 State Road 933 North
P.O. Box 765, Notre Dame, IN 46556

