

Priests of Holy Cross,  
Indiana Province  
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Notre Dame, IN 46556  
574/631-6731



THE "CROSS AND ANCHORS" - THE EMBLEM OF HOLY CROSS

EDUCATION - UNITED STATES

- ◆ UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
- ◆ UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND
- ◆ NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

PARISH MINISTRIES

- ◆ ARIZONA
- ◆ CALIFORNIA
- ◆ COLORADO
- ◆ INDIANA
- ◆ OREGON

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
- ◆ EAST AFRICA
- ◆ CHILE



My dear friends in Christ,

Each day since hurricane Katrina, we are bombarded with images of despair, destruction, anger and

ugliness. We see people in desperate need. To follow Christ means to reach out in love to those in need; to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless. Holy Cross churches and schools in the region were impacted by the hurricane, but our losses are small in comparison to many others. Our deepest prayers go to those of this region and to those who are working in the trenches to help rebuild lives.

In this issue of PILLARS, we give our attention to Formation, and as a starting point I offer the following quote from Saint Paul. *"It is not that I have reached it yet, or have already finished my course: but I am racing to grasp the prize if possible, since I have been grasped by Christ."* Philipians 3: 12.

All of us, religious and lay people alike, undergo lifelong "formation" as we are shaped by events and experiences in our lives, and as we recognize that we are "grasped by Christ". When a young man answers the call to a vocation in Holy Cross as a priest or brother, he faces a long journey. By the time he reaches ordination, a priest has had up to 8 years of structured formation

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preparing him for his commitment to religious life. Fr. Pat Neary, C.S.C., Superior/Rector of Moreau Seminary, describes that process in this issue of PILLARS. You'll also read about one of our young seminarians and how the formation program has affected his vocation.

Our formation efforts are not solely directed toward those pursuing a professed religious life, as you will see in the article about the Holy Cross Associates, our lay volunteer program. The Associates, in partnership with Holy Cross religious throughout the world, is producing the next generation of lay leadership.

I encourage you, too, to read the story of Ray and Carol Andrejasich, donors to our Formation program, and wonderful examples of lives continually in formation.

Paul goes on to say in his letter to the Philipians, *"...I do not think of myself as having reached the finish line. I give no thought to what lies behind, but push on to what is ahead. My entire attention is on the finish line as I run toward the prize to which God calls me – life on high in Christ Jesus."* (3:13-14)

At times we may lack the energy to endure the race, or perhaps we have lost our way. But let's keep our eye on the "prize" and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us. And all of us, through the gifts we have been given, can continue to support one another in our journey to "life on high with Christ."

God's blessings!

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

## HOLY CROSS FORMATION: GROWING IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

■ REV. PATRICK M. NEARY, C.S.C., SUPERIOR/RECTOR, MOREAU SEMINARY

Most Catholics have never visited a seminary or even attended an ordination or final vows ceremony. For most, seminaries are mysterious and unfamiliar places that suggest strict rules, silence, and a cutting off from normal life in the world. As someone who began his formation in Holy Cross as a freshman at Notre Dame in 1981 in the Old College undergraduate seminary, and now as the Moreau Seminary rector, I know that seminary life is anything but forbidding or otherworldly. Life in the seminary is normal and ordinary, and for the most part joyful, much as it is in any large family.



The reader might be curious about the young people who enter our seminary program in an age when fewer and fewer young men pursue this vocation. Most of our seminarians are Notre Dame graduates—though a sizeable minority come to us because of word of mouth or a browse on the Internet. Each seminarian has a fascinating tale to tell, though almost all begin with the faith given them by their family of origin.

Our men in formation tend to be in their early to late twenties and are American-born (most diocesan seminarians are significantly older and are increasingly foreign-born). Holy Cross, because of our emphasis on higher education, tends to attract bright and intellectually gifted young men. All feel an attraction to the variety of ministries in Holy Cross—whether parish work, secondary schools, university work, or service in the missions. They are down-to-earth and warm individuals who like to laugh, who tend to be sports fanatics, but who are serious about prayer and the things that matter.

### *Old College*

I was grateful as a high school senior to discover the Old College Program at Notre Dame. Though some find it hard to believe, a fair number of young men hear God's summons—as I did—at a fairly young age. Old College affords such young men a place to explore a vocation while living on campus, enjoying many aspects of college life, while learning the basics about life in Holy Cross and the priesthood. The young men gather daily for Mass, as well as Morning and Evening Prayer. They have weekly formation meetings and do some form of service. They even take turns cooking once a week for each other under the capable and patient tutelage of Bro. Ed Luther, C.S.C., himself a former cook!

Typically an Old College junior who wishes to continue in seminary formation makes a formal petition to enter the Candidate Program at Moreau Seminary towards the middle of the spring semester. He then lives at Moreau his senior year, where he is joined by other candidates—most of them men who have recently graduated from college and who wish to enter a year-long discernment process together.

### *Candidate Program*

The Candidate Program is a “come-and-see” program, a chance to learn about the history and spirituality of Holy Cross, the vocation of a priest and brother in Holy Cross, and to gain their first real exposure to the meaning of the vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience (which candidates are invited to live in some fashion, much like an apprentice who imitates the master who teaches him his craft). Candidates, by virtue of their youth and innocence, tend to provide much energy and amusement in the seminary. Their biggest challenge is figuring out how to pray the book we use at Morning and Evening Prayer (the Divine Office), a book we commonly call “the Christian Prayer book” or simply “the office book.” Strange and amusing things happen when you must flip between 2-3 ribbons in the course of Morning Prayer, or worse, if you are in charge of leading prayer on such a day for the first time. But they are quick studies in the intricacies of seminary life!

## HOLY CROSS FORMATION: GROWING IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

With the aid of the candidate director and his chaplains, discernment retreats, as well as a spiritual director, candidates use the Candidate Year to listen more clearly to God's call, which may lead them to petition to enter the novitiate.

### *Novitiate*

The Novitiate Year is a year like no other in seminary formation. Our novitiate is nestled in the foothills of Pike's Peak in Cascade, Colorado. When asked to describe the novitiate, some jokingly refer to it as "spiritual boot camp." In reality, it is a privileged year apart from classes, exams, and the frenetic busyness of modern life. Access to e-mail and television is limited. Cell phones and credit cards are collected (to be returned at the end of the year). The whole purpose is to cultivate an atmosphere of solitude and silence in order to foster a deep spirit of prayer and reflection. God prefers to speak in silence, and it is in silence, too, that one's fears and anxieties, and areas that cry out for healing, rise to the surface. There is a holy wrestling that takes place at times, much like Jacob and the angel. But it, too, is a joyful place, a place where many learn to fall in love with God all over again, a place to discover the mystery of one's own being, and a place that grounds the novice in prayer for a lifetime. The novitiate schedule revolves around weekly formation conferences, long hours given to personal prayer and reading (most of it spiritual reading!), meditation on the Holy Cross Constitutions, indoor chores and outdoor manual labor, a day of pastoral work in Colorado Springs each week, and regular meetings with the novitiate staff. Should a novice decide to take a further step, he makes his first profession of vows for the period of one year at the conclusion of the Novitiate Year.

### *Professed Program*

The final stage of Initial Formation is called the Professed Program (or Post-Novitiate Formation). By comparison to the novitiate, newly professed seminarians just back from novitiate feel like college football players who are playing in their first game: they are surprised by the speed and frenetic pace of it all. The Professed Program accompanies seminarians from their first profession of vows to their final profession of vows and ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood (if they are candidates for the priesthood).

The Professed Program places a heavy emphasis on theological and pastoral training through the Master of Divinity Program (M. Div.) at Notre Dame. Seminarians take roughly 82 credit hours of theology, with two classes on preaching and one on presiding at the sacraments, especially the Eucharist (what some call "Mass class").



They also dedicate many hours to Field Education—which is essentially field training in the trenches—where seminarians try their hand at serving as hospital chaplains, pregnancy counselors, members of parish R.C.I.A. and Confirmation program teams, youth ministers, as well as catechists and teaching assistants. At Notre Dame our seminarians are blessed to study and work side-by-side with dedicated lay students who are also enrolled in the M. Div. program, preparing as well for ministry in the Church.

At Moreau Seminary the temporarily professed attend weekly formation meetings on religious life in Holy Cross and on the priesthood. There is an annual peer evaluation day and a weekend-long sexuality workshop. They also continue the important work of discernment of their vocation and personal growth through regular meetings with their formation chaplains and their spiritual director.

## HOLY CROSS FORMATION: GROWING IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST



On Thursday and Sunday evening, seminarians preside and preach at Vespers before the entire seminary community and any guests who are present—perhaps a nerve-wracking experience at first but one that provides valuable training as public leaders of prayer.

What I have described for you is a most basic structure of the formation process in Holy Cross. Formation happens in many formal and informal ways for each seminarian. While I would love to imagine that the wisdom of the rector and the formation staff is single-handedly responsible for the success of the formation process, I know better. The most important factor in a good formation program concerns the quality of the seminarians as individuals, especially their attitude, integrity, openness, and work ethic, and their own cooperation with the invisible workings of the Holy Spirit. Still, it is a personal joy to witness the transformation of young men during the length of their stay with us, just to see them grow into zealous, competent, and confident preachers of the gospel.

For you readers who support our sacred endeavor, I am most grateful to you. It is financially costly to put even one seminarian through the process of initial formation. Our room and board costs are \$6,000 per year, books costs roughly \$750 per year, and then there is the cost of special programs, such as attending summer language school in Mexico. It is like having one large family to care for under one long roof!

Know of our thanks and our prayers for you. We pray for our benefactors often in the Moreau chapel. Our doors are always open to you (if you know the combination!). We would like you to get to know us and see the future of Holy Cross. There is nothing mysterious about our life here in the seminary. We are just normal ordinary people trying to answer an extraordinary call from God in Holy Cross.



**Seminarian Summer Camp 2005**

**Front row, left to right:** Rev. Martin Lam Nguyen, C.S.C., Brian Moscona, Jake Greiner and Brad Leeman (Candidates). **Second row:** Mr. Greg Haake, C.S.C., Chris Wilkinson (Old College), Rev. Kevin Rousseau, C.S.C., Mr. Jim Gallagher, C.S.C. **Third Row:** Brother Tom Dziekan, C.S.C., Mr. Nate Farley, C.S.C., Cory Mehlos (Old College), Mr. Charlie McCoy, C.S.C., Rev. Joseph Sidera, C.S.C. **Fourth Row:** Mr. Vince Kuna, C.S.C., Mr. David Halm, C.S.C., Rev. Jerome Knoll, C.S.C., Bro. Ed Luther, C.S.C., Chris Ochoa (Old College), Sean Hoffman (Eastern Province – Old College), Mr. Drew Gawrych, C.S.C., Mr. Stephen Koeth, C.S.C. **Fifth Row:** Rev. Peter Rocca, C.S.C., Rev. Charles Gordon, C.S.C., Mr. Aaron Michka, C.S.C., Mr. Stephen LaCroix, C.S.C., Rev. Peter Walsh, C.S.C., Charlie Quigg (Candidate), Pablo Sweeney (Old College), Rev. Anthony Szakaly, C.S.C., Mike Paul Schott (Eastern Province – Old College), Brian Ching (Old College), Rev. Pat Neary, C.S.C., Mr. Pete McCormick, C.S.C., and Chris Labadie (Old College).

## CAROL AND RAY ANDREJASICH - AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

On November 27, 2004, Pope John Paul II spoke of the crisis in religious vocations in the United States.

“No one can deny that the decline in priestly vocations represents a stark challenge for the Church in the United States, and one that cannot be ignored or put off,” said John Paul II. The call from the pope was for persistent prayer accompanied by a program of vocational promotion encouraged through every facet of church life.

In addition to fervent prayer, the pope urged American bishops to pay “particular attention to seminary training, which needs to instill in students for the priesthood not only an integrated theological vision, but also a commitment to holiness and spiritual wisdom, as well as formation in prudent leadership and selfless dedication to the flock.”

Pope John Paul’s words have significant meaning for Carol and Ray Andrejasich, active and ardent members of the Church.

Carol and Ray have both been touched by Holy Cross. Ray, a 1957 Notre Dame graduate, recalls many fond memories of instruction and interaction with Holy Cross priests, while Carol experienced the spirit of Holy Cross by spending considerable time with Ray on campus.

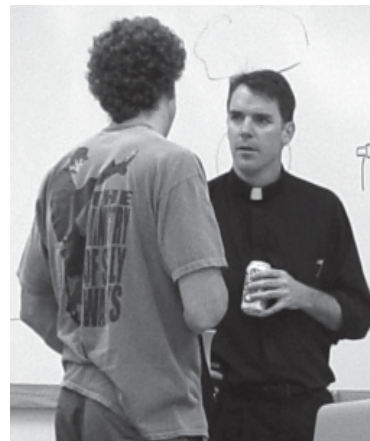
Their appreciation and admiration for Holy Cross has continued long past graduation.

Since 1964, a year after the Holy Cross Association was established by Fr. William McAuliffe, C.S.C., Carol and Ray have been regular donors, and as the years progressed, so to did their relationship with Holy Cross.

In 2001, as a demonstration of their affinity with Holy Cross and their belief that the priesthood is essential to the vitality of the Catholic Church, Carol and Ray established a Charitable Gift Annuity, the assets from which will support the education of Holy Cross seminarians and young priests.

According to Fr. J. Steele, CSC, vocations director, Holy Cross “continues to remain strong in recruiting young men and providing training consistent with the pope’s message. Part of our success comes from recognizing and investing in the natural talent of each religious in formation so that he can make his best and most personally satisfying contribution to our common mission. That investment often takes the form of specialized formal education even after ordination which Carol and Ray’s gift will help make possible in the future.”

Carol and Ray Andrejasich know the investment they’ve made in Holy Cross will be a source of lasting enrichment for the life of the Church, a Church they have so diligently worked to create throughout their lives of prayer, ministry and generosity.



## HOLY CROSS ASSOCIATES: LAY LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

In 1978, the Indiana Province began the Holy Cross Associates lay volunteer program. That year, five young graduates of Notre Dame and St. Mary's College trekked to Portland, OR, and one made his way to Nairobi, Kenya, constituting the first of what would become a continuous group of volunteers who serve Holy Cross ministries and communities in the United States and overseas. These volunteers give a year or two of their lives, committed to community, prayer, service and the preferential option for the poor.

It was hoped, that in the formation and experience that comes from such an effort, these volunteers' lives would be changed, and that their service would become a lifelong effort. Over 800 men and women have been Associates, and now live from coast to coast and around the world. Many have continued to serve Holy Cross ministries and come back to be with Holy Cross institutions following their service. Examples have included:

- Working in residence life positions at Holy Cross sponsored schools, including Notre Dame, University of Portland, and Stonehill College;
- Serving in parish positions as Pastoral Associates in a number of Holy Cross parishes, throughout the country;
- Editing manuscripts for Ave Maria Press;
- Living and serving in the 'core community' at André House in Phoenix, AZ (and, before, in Oakland, CA);
- Joining Holy Cross mission outreach in South America and East Africa;
- Staffing Holy Cross social ministries, like the McDonald Center in Portland;
- Teaching at Holy Cross schools, including high schools affiliated with the Indiana Province and other Holy Cross congregations, as well as at the college level, at University of Portland, St. Mary's College, and Notre Dame;
- And, even, being ordained, as was the case with Fr. Kevin Sandberg, CSC, now serving on the pastoral team at Our Lady of Soledad Parish in Coachella, CA. In fact, four priests of the Indiana Province are also former Holy Cross Associates, and other former Associates have been ordained as Diocesan priests.

Opportunities for additional placements in the United States, along with the hopes for new ventures in East Africa, mark the future for Holy Cross Associates. Regardless of where Associates serve, each is changed in a deeply spiritual way, fostering lifelong service and leadership in the Church.

## MR. DAVID HALM, C.S.C. - ANCHORED IN HOLY CROSS



Mr. David Halm, C.S.C., a first year professed seminarian, has a passion for answering God's call in Holy Cross.

As an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in Fremont, Ohio, David wrote to the University of Notre Dame as part of a class project on choosing a college. His letter, which mentioned his intention to become a priest, was rerouted to Holy Cross. David's relationship with Holy Cross was born, and after being accepted to the University of Notre Dame at age 18, David entered Old College.

David calls Holy Cross formation a "dynamic discernment program that gives us the tools to properly discern God's call." He cherishes the prayerfulness of the Holy Cross community and the community's focus on theology and understanding the Eucharist.

David recently returned from a year at the Holy Cross Novitiate in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he continually deepened his prayer life and relationship with God. He describes his year there as an intense year of prayer. Away from the distractions of modern life, he came to know, "who I am, who God is, and how God is calling me, in a very real way." And God continues to call him toward wonderful, challenging ministries, possibly pastoral work and the life of a parish priest.

What does he most look forward to as he moves ahead in his formation? "To being a part of Jesus' mission with this community, as part of the personality and spirit of Holy Cross."

He says, "I get to grow old with my brothers."



*Associate Sarah Stricklett with youth from St. Gregory Parish and School in Phoenix, Arizona*

## GIVING THANKS - THE FIRST ANNUAL MOREAU SOCIETY WEEKEND

On September 16 and 17 the Congregation of Holy Cross, Indiana Province, paid special tribute to donor members of the *Moreau Society*. The Moreau Society, named for the Most Reverend Basil Anthony Moreau, C.S.C., founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, is comprised of donors to the Province making an annual gift of \$500.00 or more.

On Friday, September 16, Moreau Society members attended a Eucharistic Celebration in the Moreau Chapel, followed by lunch with a host of Holy Cross priests, brothers and seminarians in Moreau's Dining Room. During lunch, members received a special plaque commemorating their membership after learning how their financial support positively impacted the work of the Province.

Later that day, Moreau Society members joined Holy Cross religious at Holy Cross House, our center for elder and retired religious, for a reception and dinner.

Festivities continued on Saturday as Moreau Society members were treated to tickets to the Notre Dame versus Michigan State football game, followed by a wonderful dinner at Moreau Seminary.

This first annual event represents one way the Congregation of Holy Cross acknowledges the important partnership with its donors in proclaiming the Kingdom of God. In 2006 the Congregation anticipates building on the success of this weekend by adding a retreat for Moreau Society members in addition to the recognition lunch and football game.



*Fr. Bill Seetch, C.S.C., Superior of Corby Hall, William Arzbaecher, Sr., Moreau Society member, and Kevin Baker, Administrator of Holy Cross House, enjoy their conversation during lunch.*

# VIEWS! WE WELCOME YOUR THOUGHTS.

### *Dreams*

*Almighty God,  
 We share a dream that  
 one day all the peoples  
 of the world will live in  
 harmony and peace.  
 When I am willing to  
 tolerate my neighbor,  
 accepting him or her  
 despite our differences, I  
 contribute to this dream.*

*O God,  
 When I am impatient with  
 others, give me patience;  
 when I am intolerant or  
 insensitive, remind me  
 that I'm different, too.  
 Guide and bless each one  
 of us in thought, word,  
 and deed, that in our  
 homes and in the world,  
 we might make a dream  
 come true as we live at  
 peace with one another.  
 Amen.*

*Fr. Bill Dorwart, C.S.C.*

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