



News from the Generalate

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Congregation of Holy Cross

March 2009

Holy Cross Institute Convocation *Education Without Borders: The Holy Cross Mission in a Global Church*

The Annual **Holy Cross Institute Convocation** gathered more than 150 Holy Cross educators at St. Edward's University, Austin, March 29-31. The theme, inspired by our Constitution on Mission (C 2, 16-17), provided an opportunity for participants to become more acquainted with the international dimension of Holy Cross, as well as challenged them to ask:

- What do we have to learn from our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world?
- Is it possible for Holy Cross connections to shrink the globe for us?
- What are the benefits of existing “immersion” programs and opportunities for service between Holy Cross schools, and how can we build on these experiences?
- How is globalization having an impact on our educational institutions, our curricula and our programming?
- How do we teach that “no culture of this world can be our abiding home” (C2, 17)?

Dr. Richard Gaillardetz, who holds the Murray/Black Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies at the University of Toledo (Ohio), set the tone for the convocation with a keynote address entitled *How Catholic Are We? Reflections on the Global Mission of the Church*. In concurrent sessions, twelve individual workshops followed in which presenters elaborated on this theme. Affinity groupings (academic, assistant and associate principals, presidents, principals, Trustee Board members, campus ministers/religious studies/service learning personnel, public relations/development staff) reflected on a document prepared by the International Commission on Consecrated Life in Holy Cross entitled *The Charism, Spirituality, Mission and Common Values of Holy Cross*.

The international participants at the Convocation included the following Holy Cross religious: from Ghana **Sr. Esther Adwoa CSC, Brother Joseph Annan (MW) and Brother Michael Amakyi (MW)**; from Brazil **Brother Joseph Kinsman (SW) and Brother Geraldo Campos (SW)**; from Haiti **Father Vernet Luxana (H)**; from Chile **Father Michael DeLaney (IP)**; from East Africa **Brother Evarest Neema (EB) and Brother Joseph Nkalubo (EB)**; from Italy **Brother John Paige (GA)**; from Canada **Brother Gerard Dionne**

(C); from France **Father Pascal Garçon (F)**; from Bangladesh **Brother Binoy Gomes (SJ)** and **Brother Louis Prodig Rosario (SJ)**; from India **Brother John Britto (VI)**, **Father David Adaikalam (SI)** and **Father Emmanuel Kallarackal (NE)**.

Congregational Education Committee

After participating in the activities of Holy Cross Institute Convocation, the members of the Congregational Education Committee met in Austin March 31-April 1. The committee proposed details for implementing a plan to help coordinate future higher education studies for CSC religious in Asia, Africa and Latin America, considered how to continue assisting the Holy Cross University-Agartala Project, and developed agenda recommendations for consideration of the 2010 General Chapter.

The Committee was also hosted by St. Edward's University president **Dr. George Martin** at a reception and dinner at the Lane Dining Room on campus. Members participating included: **Brother John Paige (GA)**, **Father Timothy Scully (IP)**, **Father David Adaikalam (SI)**, **Brother Joseph Annan (MW)**, **Brother William Nick (SW)**, **Brother Louis Prodig Rosario (SJ)**, **Father Emmanuel Kallarackal (NE)**, and **Father Vernet Luxana (H)**. **Father Mark Cregan (EP)** joined the meetings via conference call.

New Vocations Website: The Brother of Holy Cross (USA)

Brother Thomas Dziekan, Eastern Brothers Province provincial writes:

The Brothers of Holy Cross are happy to announce the roll-out of our new vocations website at the following URL: www.holycrossbrothers.org

The newly designed website, a joint project of the three US Brothers provinces, features the use of new technologies, including links to current news items, brothers' blogs, video interviews and Facebook pages. We are very thankful to those who shared their time and talent in the development of this important new part of our vocation outreach efforts. Please take a minute and visit the site. Feedback and comments can be sent to us via the "Contact Us" page.

The **Holy Cross Vocations (USA)** website, revised and updated as a joint effort of the Indiana and Eastern Provinces, may be viewed at <http://vocation.nd.edu>. Please take a minute to visit this site also...and to pray for vocations!

New Leadership

Congratulations and *Ad Multos Annos* to **Brother Chester Freel (MW)** who was elected provincial superior of the Midwest province. He will assume office at the conclusion of the MW provincial chapter in June. Our prayers and gratitude are extended to **Brother Robert Fillmore (MW)** for his eight years of service as provincial superior.

Justice and Peace

In March, **Brother David Andrews (EB)**, Congregational Coordinator for Justice and Peace, attended the World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey. He spoke of the impact of climate change on world water resources, including references to Chile, Peru, Africa and Bangladesh where serious water issues have been identified. This 5th World Water Forum included thousands of representatives from around the world concerned about water. Excellent resource and educational materials on the climate crisis are available on the Holy Cross International Justice Office website at www.holycrossjustice.org

At the end of March, Brother David spoke at the **University of Portland** on Catholic Social Teaching on Food and Water. This talk was part of a conference hosted by the university on Faith in Service to the City. He also taught four classes and toured the student-initiated garden on campus. David has also been invited to contribute an article on biotechnology for the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and has accepted a request to serve on the Steering Committee for the Borough of Manhattan Food Policy Planning group.

Brazil Restructuring

The **District of Brazil (SW)** and the **District du Brésil (C)** are making progress on their desire to work for the union of the two districts in that country.

--On March 27, 2009, the two district councils met and followed up on a recommendation from their chapters to form a mixed commission with parity in order to establish favorable conditions for the union of the two districts. The members of the commission are **Brother Ronaldo de Almeida (SW)**, **Brother Geraldo Lisboa Campos (SW)**, **Father Jose Prado (C)** and **Father Severino Gomes (C)**. The first meeting of this commission is scheduled for April 24th in Sao Paulo.

-- In the area of vocation recruitment and formation the priests and brothers are planning to join their resources and to work together in collaboration. A fruitful meeting of the Formation and Vocation Recruitment teams with a resource person allowed for constructive exchanges on common topics and joint formation collaboration.

--The young men in formation from the two districts will take part in a retreat and immediately afterwards they will participate in a mission in the city of Mamomas in Minas Gerais.

--It was agreed that the de Valinhos vacation house will be maintained and occupied by the two districts.

--The Leadership Council of the Latin American Superiors, consisting of the district superiors of Chile, Brazil, Peru and the provincial superior in Haiti, will convene on April 21st in Campinas.

Visitations

A parish mission preached by **Father Hugh Cleary** at **St. Kevin's Parish (EC)**, Welland, Ontario, was well received and appreciated by the parishioners. After each evening session, there was time for refreshments and discussion. Hugh also conducted a special session for teachers and visited the three elementary schools associated with St. Kevin's parish, and also at **Notre Dame College School**. While in the area, Father Hugh was featured in a full-page article in *The Welland Tribune*. In the article he highlighted themes of the mission at St. Kevin's as well as described his ministry throughout the Congregation.

Brother John Paige participated as a member of an evaluation visitation team to **Collège and Lycée Notre-Dame d'Orveau (F)** during March. In addition to Brother John, the five-member team included **Brother Francis Lebeltel (F)** and three lay colleagues, all members of the Conseil de Tutelle of the Sainte Croix and Notre Dame des Missions schools in France. Brother John also participated in meetings of the **Holy Cross Institute and Congregational Education Committee** in Austin, Texas. **Father Mario Lachapelle** participated in the annual novena-retreat at **L'Oratoire Saint-Joseph du Mont-Royal** and **Father Carl Ebey (IP)** and **M. Robert Bélanger** visited Haiti to render counsel on behalf of the Congregational Finance Commission.

Generalate Visitors

Visitors to the generalate this month included **Brother Joseph Esparza (SW)**, **Dr. Robert Esparza**, and **Renee Esparza**. **Father John Jenkins (IP)**, president of the University of Notre Dame, sponsored a luncheon in Rome for Vatican and other dignitaries. Holy Cross guests included the generalate community and **Father James McDonald (IP)**, **Father Michael Wurtz (IP)**, **Sister Laura Therrien CSC**, **Father Lucien Coutu (C)**, and **Father Alexander Susai (SI)**.