



News from the Generalate

6th Year, No 4

Congregation of Holy Cross

April 2009

General Council

The General Council met April 3-7 in Rome; all members were present. Among items considered were the following:

- Review and approval of the January 2009 General Council minutes;
- Review and approval of the general visitation report for the Province Notre Dame du Perpétuel Secours d'Haïti;
- Reviewed the one-year progress report on the general visitation recommendations for the Province of North East India;
- Review of nominations for election of provincial or vicariate superior by the chapters of the Indiana Province, Eastern Province, Province Notre Dame du Perpétuel Secours, Province of North East India, and the Vicariate of India;
- Review of matters pertaining to personnel: petitions for admission to perpetual profession;
- Review of various matters presented by the provinces, vicariates, districts requiring general-level approvals including: review of financial matters and requested indulgences submitted by various entities;
- Review of reports from: **General Steward** (including reports on endowment investments and income and expenditures to date for the generalate, a scheduled financial visit to Vicariate of France, and on a proposal for school construction in Haiti); **Education Committee** (including participation in the Holy Cross Institute Convocation and the Congregational Education Committee meeting); **Causes for Beatification and Canonization**; **Religious Life Commission** (including updates on the various Causes, distribution of the Holy Cross Charism document for responses from various sectors by the end of 2009, and a report of progress on a proposed Community Prayer Directory); **Regional Planning** (including IP/EP and EB/SW pre-chapter discussions in the USA, scheduled April meeting of the Latin American & Caribbean region superiors, and planning meetings in Brazil to study the proposed union of the two districts); **Solidarity Fund** (including an investment report and funding requests pending for 2009).
- Discussion of possible themes for the 2010 General Chapter and preliminary preparations for a report to the general chapter on fulfillment of the legislation enacted by the 2004 and 2006 general chapters.

Provincial & Vicariate Chapters

The 2009 cycle of provincial and vicariate chapters begins in May. In addition to the provincial and regional issues on the chapter agendas and elections, the assemblies will consider questions posed by the Superior General on three areas of concern identified by the Council of the Congregation: the International Mission of Holy Cross, Questions Concerning General Governance, and matters related to Our Identity as Holy Cross Religious.

Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit on the chapters of the **Vicariate of India** (May 6-10 in Bangalore), the **Province of North East India** (May 14-20 in Agartala), **St. Joseph Province** (May 22-25 in Dhaka), and the **Eastern Province** (May 31-June 5 in Wilkes-Barre).

Holy Cross Family Ministries

Brother Patrick Baah (MW-Ghana) is the new Director of Holy Cross Family Ministries in Ghana and **Father Steve Gibson (IP)** is the new Spiritual Director of The Father Patrick Peyton, CSC, Memorial Centre in Ireland, announced **Father James H. Phalan (EP)** Director of Family Rosary International.

Father Phalan writes: “We say ‘thanks’ rather than ‘welcome’ to Brother Patrick and Father Steve, both of whom have long been members of our Holy Cross Family Ministries’ family. Brother Pat has been working along with **Brother Paul Mensah** in Ghana for several years and Father Steve has been working in media and retreat service from the University of Notre Dame.”

Perpetual Profession

Congratulations to **Brother James Sagayaraj (VI)** who made his perpetual profession of vows on April 15th in his home parish at Sandanapalya, India. Congratulations and *ad Multos Annos* to our newest professed member in Holy Cross.

Justice and Peace

On April 6th, **Brother David Andrews (EB)**, Congregational Coordinator for Justice and Peace, facilitated an *Interactive Thematic Dialogue of the United Nations General Assembly on the Global Food Crisis and the Right to Food*. Organized by Brother David in his capacity as Senior Advisor to the President of the UN General Assembly on Food and Water Issues, the full-day session included panel discussions on “Policy choices and the right to food in the context of the global food crisis,” and “Answering to the poor: right to food and sustainable models of agriculture.” Brother David recruited participants from around the world, including India, Peru, Chile, and Kenya where Holy Cross is present. He also moderated the first panel, which included participants from Barnard College of Columbia University, the University of Tennessee, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Director of the UN World Food Programme. A video of the program may be viewed at www.un.org under the listing of the General Assembly President and then under the thematic dialogues (food crisis/right to food).

Holy Cross Associates

Planning continues for the June 19-21 **Holy Cross Associates (HCA) Triennial Conference** at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame. Participants from outside Indiana may choose to “home stay” with local associates or utilize accommodations at St. Mary’s College. Topics to be considered by the participants include the Internationality of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Missions, attendance at the MW Province Jubilee Celebrations, and HCA business meetings.

Dr. Joseph Connell, Director, and **Brother Carl Sternberg (MW)** recently hosted a presentation about lay-religious association in Holy Cross at the annual convocation of the **Holy Cross Institute** in Austin. Over twenty-five educators, administrators, trustees and others attended the presentation, including new associates from **Gilmour Academy** and **Archbishop Hoban High School**. Attendees at the presentation represented over a dozen Holy Cross schools and colleges interested in Holy Cross Associates.

Holy Cross University-Agartala

The **Province of North East India** has received an official response from the government Secretary for Higher Education to their request for permission to initiate a private Holy Cross University in Agartala, Tripura. The government counsels the initial establishment of a College program which will serve as a basis for the university as the government continues to examine the university proposal submitted.

Accordingly, the core committee is planning to begin classes from July 1, 2009 using the existing infra-structure of **Holy Cross School, Agartala** and offering a few undergraduate courses which are in great demand. In the meantime, the process of building up infrastructure for the new University campus continues to be a priority.

Causes of the Saints

Father Mario Lachapelle, Vice-Postulator for a number of the Causes initiated by the Congregation of Holy Cross, provides the following updates on activities related to the Causes since August 2004:

Basile Moreau: A miracle is attributed to his intercession (Dec 2006); celebration of the rite of beatification (Sept 2007); opening of the diocesan inquiry (Shillong) for canonization (Feb 2009);

André Bessette: Opening of the diocesan inquiry (Montréal) for canonization (Feb 2005); positive judgment of the medical commission (Feb 2009);

Patrick Peyton: Healing under investigation in Kampala, Uganda (Dec 2005); diocesan inquiry for study of his life and virtues is transferred to the Archdiocese of Baltimore (Nov 2008);

Theotoni **Ganguly**: Opening of the diocesan inquiry (Dhaka) for studying his life and virtues (Sept 2006);

Vincent **McCauley**: Opening of the diocesan inquiry (Fort Portal) for studying his life and virtues (July 2007);

Flavian **LaPlante**: opening of the diocesan inquiry (Chittagong) for studying his life and virtues (Feb 2009);

William **Evans**: Diocese of Peoria is studying the possibility of opening this cause;

Jacques **Dujarié**: Sisters of Providence of Ruillé accept to co-sponsor this cause with Holy Cross (Sept 2008); Diocese of Le Mans is studying the possibility of opening this cause.

Visitations

Father Hugh Cleary participated in celebrations commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Servant of God Patrick Peyton at the **Father Patrick Peyton CSC Memorial Centre, Attymass, County Mayo, Ireland**. Over 700 people participated in the event at Attymass parish, led by **Cardinal Sean Brady**, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland.

Brother Joseph Tsiquaye conducted the formation visit to **Moreau Scholasticate (EC)** at St. Ann's Parish, Toronto. Six seminarians from the Indian provinces are pursuing their post-novitiate formation there while engaged in studies at the Jesuits' Regis College. **Father Carl Ebey** and **M. Robert Bélanger** visited the Vicariate of France on behalf of the Congregational Finance Commission.

Generalate Visitors

Visitors to the generalate this month included part-time members of the General Council **Brother Bijoy Rodrigues, Father Eric Jasmin, and Father Richard Warner**; also **Mr. Jules Mensah** and **Mr. John David Paige**.