



Reactions: Mission Seminar 2008



John DeCaprio
Teacher
Notre Dame High School
West Haven, Conn.

I experienced a renewed sense of commitment to see the magnificent and the ordinary and to help my students face daily obstacles and adversities by being a more patient and understanding teacher. The seminar motivated me to see the divine presence in myself, in every person, thing, and situation I encounter.



Helen Trares
Teacher
Archbishop Hoban High School
Akron, Ohio

I was reminded how it is imperative that educators find ways to nurture themselves spiritually so they can show unconditional love towards their students. Since teaching is an all-consuming profession, we need to be clear about our own relationship with a loving God.



Dan Scavone
Principal
Holy Cross High School
Waterbury, Conn.

I never truly understood the mission of Holy Cross before this event. When we work with students, we have to be compassionate. I responded to hearing what Blessed Father Basil Moreau thought about preparing citizens for heaven as well as society, and how every time a student sets foot on a Holy Cross campus, they're on holy ground.



Tina Collura
Teacher
Notre Dame High School
West Haven, Conn.

"I found more enthusiasm for Father Moreau and the Holy Cross mission. I also enjoyed making connections between Holy Cross Schools and staff.



Scott Tabernacki
Teacher
Holy Trinity High School
Chicago, Ill.

This gave me a tremendous new understanding of the purpose of the Holy Cross mission and our place within that mission. It was nice to hear how Holy Cross experiences are similar around the country.



INFORMATION

Mission Accomplished

Mission Seminar 2008 focuses on Moreau's philosophy



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Making music (left to right): Tina Collura, Notre Dame High School; Meg Anderson, Gilmour Academy; David Hollier, St. Edward's University; Jeanne Vanover, Academy of Holy Cross; Scott Tabernacki, Holy Trinity High School; and Desia Joseph, Gilmour Academy

When the froot, fartfergnugen, gooseharp, cha cha chime bopper and Popsicle stick kachunger played together at the Holy Cross Institute Mission Seminar 2008 in Wilkes-Barre, Penn., they may not have made music in the traditional sense, but no one could deny their harmonious sound. That's because these hand-crafted instruments were created in the spirit of service: seminar attendees who chose the special Arts Youniverse session created and donated their instruments for the after-school programs run by the Wilkes-Barre nonprofit.

Held in early July, the three-day Mission Seminar focused on Blessed Father Basil Moreau's unique educational mission, offering participants a chance to learn more about the larger world of Holy Cross while deepening their own spirituality and understanding of what it means to be a Holy Cross educator.

In his keynote address, Father Thomas P. Looney, CSC, vice president of Mission Effectiveness at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., connected Father Moreau's spiritual vision for Holy Cross with his educational philosophy.

"Father Moreau's vision of education flows from his faith in the providential love and care of God for

all people," Looney told the audience. "When Holy Cross educators are aware of God's care and love in their own lives, they're able to embody that love and care in relationships with colleagues and students."

Seminar attendee and instrument maker David Hollier, assistant professor of Education at St. Edward's University, says the seminar — especially the service project — helped him to better understand Father Moreau's principles. "We've heard that Father Moreau believed we should educate students' minds, but not at the expense of their hearts," he says. "The service opportunity added a third dimension: hands of service."

Another group of Holy Cross educators spent the afternoon volunteering at the Veteran's Administration Hospital.

The Mission Seminar gave an opportunity for nearly 50 educators and administrators of Holy Cross schools from around the country to gather and meet, including first-time participating faculty and administrators from the Academy of Holy Cross in Kensington, Md.

For more reactions to the seminar, see page 4.



Dinner (from left to right): Meg Anderson, teacher at Gilmour Academy; XX, XX; Lisa McCauley, vice president for business at King's College, and Dick Hockman, CSC, campus minister at King's College.



Father Tom O'Hara, CSC, president of King's College (standing), welcomes Mission Seminar attendees. Nearly 50 educators and administrators of Holy Cross schools from around the country gathered for the event.

Students Focus on Shared Mission

A look at this summer's student leadership conferences on "Building Respect"

CONFERENCES FOR STUDENT LEADERS 2008

WHY: This year's conferences for student leaders included presentations focusing on the Holy Cross heritage and mission, along with opportunities for students to share their own stories of mission in action at their respective schools. Students also participated in a day of service and met some of the brothers living on or near the host campuses.

WHEN: Five days in June



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WHERE: St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

WHO: More than 50 students and teachers from six Holy Cross schools: Notre Dame High School (Sherman Oaks, Calif.), Moreau Catholic High School (Hayward, Calif.), St. Francis High School (Mountain View, Calif.), Holy Cross School (New Orleans, La.), Holy Cross High School (San Antonio, Tx) and Bishop McNamara High School (Forestville, Md.)

REACTION: "The camaraderie of the students and their shared Holy Cross identity was a strong bond that allowed them to have fun as a team. They learned from one another and enjoyed each other's company. And it was great for me too because I was able to share what it's like to be a young Holy Cross Brother."

— Brother Nich Perez, CSC
Holy Cross in San Antonio



PHOTO COURTESY OF

WHERE: Holy Cross College, South Bend, Ind.

WHO: More than 30 students and teachers from Archbishop Hoban High School (Akron, Ohio), St. Edward High School (Lakewood, Ohio), Holy Trinity High School (Chicago, Ill.), Notre Dame (West Haven, Conn.) and Holy Cross High School (Flushing, N.Y.)

REACTION: "The conference was great, definitely one of the highlights of the summer. We learned a lot about what it's like to be part of the Holy Cross family. You hear a lot about that, but you don't realize it until you see so many members of the family from all over. We heard a lot about what other schools do to raise spirit and continue the Holy Cross mission, and that gave us a lot of ideas of what we can do at our school."

— Jessica Contrera, junior, Archbishop
Hoban High School, Akron, Ohio



Convocation Concentrates on Social Justice

By Gail Tyson

A mind, as the slogan goes, is a terrible thing to waste. Even more important to Blessed Father Basil Moreau, CSC was forming each student's conscience. To celebrate his vision — and the ways Holy Cross schools carry it out — the Holy Cross Institute focused its third convocation on “Holy Cross Education: the Social Justice Dimension” in late March and early April in Austin.

A wide range of sessions drew 138 Holy Cross faculty, board members, and administrators from across the country and Chile to this annual event.

Sister Amata Miller, IHM, professor of economics and director of the Myser Initiative on Catholic Identity at The College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn., delivered the keynote address, “Basil Moreau: Educator for Justice.” Outlining his social justice themes, such as “embody your faith in your social context” and “family spirit critically models community,” she pointed out that Father Moreau's thinking anticipated 20th-century tenets of Catholic social teaching.

Following her presentation, educators shared ways to think globally and act locally about social justice. Sister Amata suggested two online resources: www.kiva.org, a hub for microfinancing entrepreneurs that could be a source of learning and practice for students, and www.nowyouknowmedia.com, which sells CDs on Catholic social teaching and other topics.

“Like Moreau we are all called to be people of both **realism** and **hope** ... using our lives to **enhance** the movement toward that kingdom which scholars have called ‘**God's dream.**’



REBECCA MARINO, '10

Presentations covered nine social justice programs at Holy Cross high schools, and three St. Edward's University students testified about their own service. Mara Broda, a graduate of Archbishop Hoban High School, recalled how she “walked through some of the history of Holy Cross” on a pilgrimage to Montreal, Canada, and spent her spring break working among the homeless and reading to middle schoolers in Chicago, Ill. The experience brought alive for her Father Moreau's words, “Society has a greater need for people of value than for scholars.”

Besides learning about the varieties of Christian service and retreat programs nationwide, attendees explored common issues in affinity groups. Participants also saw images of the new Holy Cross School campus in New Orleans, La., which opened in Fall 2008 with a projected 625 students. The closing session offered reflections on the beatification ceremony for Father Moreau in Le Mans, France last September as well as recaps of the 2007 Mission Seminar and Student Leader Conferences and a look ahead at upcoming gatherings.

news

HCI Convocation 2009

Monday, March 29–Wednesday, March 31
St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

Theme: The Holy Cross Mission: Education Without Borders

Keynote Speaker: Richard R. Gaillardetz, Margaret and Thomas Murray and James J. Bacik Endowed Chair in Catholic Studies at the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio.

2009 Mission Seminar

Tuesday, July 7–Friday, July 10

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

New Online Resources

Check out the new resources available online at www.holycrossinstitute.org.



You'll find:

- Full text of “Blessed Father Basil Moreau: Educator for Justice,” the keynote address of Sister Amata Miller, IHM, at HCI Convocation 2008
- Writings and reflections on educational legacy and mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross
- Archived copies of the Holy Cross Institute newsletter InFormation

Updated Printing: *Rekindling the Fire: 9 Days with the Living Legacy of Basil Moreau*



A nine-day reflection guide on Blessed Father Basil Moreau's teachings from Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC.

To purchase copies, contact the Holy Cross Institute at 512-637-1962.