



TRANSFORMING EDUCATORS

The Holy Cross Institute Retreat 2014

“Come into solitude to re-enkindle your faith...imagine you hear our Divine Lord inviting you as His apostles of old: ‘Come apart with me to rest for a while.’ It is a rest which your soul needs, a period of quiet during which it can become more attentive to the inspirations of grace.”

-Blessed Basile Moreau, C.S.C

TRANSFORMING STUDENTS

The Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders

Letter from the Executive Director



This issue of our newsletter is a quick look and review of this year's summer programs sponsored by the Holy Cross Institute at St. Edward's University. To be successful, these programs require the dedicated and self-less service of many individuals.

I would note the efforts of **Mr. Rob Thomas** of Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, California, and the work of **student activity supervisors and campus ministers** for the successful Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders (HCC4SL) held in early June, 2014, at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Participants were the schools in the southern and western United States.

I would note as well the efforts of **Brother Robert Livernois, CSC**, of Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, and the work of another group of **activity supervisors and campus ministers** for the successful Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders held in late June, 2014, at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, Indiana. Participants in this conference were the schools in the eastern and Midwestern United States.

Thanks to **Brother Joel Giallanza**, **Father Thomas Looney** (Retreat Director), and **Mr. Peter Shelley** of Moreau Catholic High School in Hayward, California, the summer retreat of the Holy Cross Institute at St. Edward's University was held at Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House in Faulkner, Maryland. The theme of the retreat was "Holy Cross Alive! Living the Spirit of Moreau Today." Participants represented Holy Cross from both North America and South America.

This "work of resurrection" which is Holy Cross education requires the efforts of so many of us either on the stage or behind the scenes. I would like to acknowledge the efforts behind the scenes of **Mrs. Laura Sanders**, our senior secretary, whose talents in a number of areas allow us to have successful programs like those featured in this issue. Her editorial talents also make this issue of the newsletter possible.

Brother Donald Blauvelt, CSC
Executive Director



PERSONAL HOLY CROSS SPIRITUALITY

A Dangerous Time: The HCI Retreat

■ Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC, Associate Director, Holy Cross Institute

“This can be a dangerous time,” explained **Father Thomas Looney, C.S.C.**, director of this year’s Holy Cross Institute Retreat. “A retreat brings us to an encounter with God, and that encounter beckons us to see our lives in a new way. It can give us new perspectives on our experiences. It can challenge us to make changes in life. We may even be a different person when the retreat ends. A retreat can be a dangerous time – for the routine of our lives, for our self-understanding, and for our approach to ministry.”

Such was the Holy Cross Institute Retreat in Faulkner, Maryland, this past July. Twelve educators from nine schools gathered for five days at Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House. With the wise guidance and insightful direction of Father Tom, we reflected on and discussed various aspects of Holy Cross spirituality, especially as they applied to the personal lives of those in

the ministry of education. The setting of the retreat house, with its 230+ acres of woodland and a panoramic view of the historic river, provided a rich environment in which to encounter God and to explore the enduring heritage of Holy Cross.

Father Tom’s reflections focused on practical and personal ways for educators to deepen our understanding and living of Holy Cross spirituality. We had lively discussions about fostering Holy Cross values and viewpoints within our own lives and among our colleagues. We realized that, ultimately, the students would benefit from our example. We realized, too, that our example as educators must be among the primary pedagogical tools we employ.

Father Tom guided us in examining the basic elements of our spirituality as the Family of Holy Cross: prayer, conformity to Christ, zeal for the mission,

the cross as our only hope, trust in providence, union and collaboration. His use of biblical images and stories as well as questions for reflection invited our participation and facilitated our conversation.

Participants agreed that the retreat was informative and inspirational, relaxing and reflective, timely and transformative. In the end, the retreat was somewhat dangerous. It reminded us of the engaging character of Holy Cross education and of the enduring influence it is meant to bring into our world through us. The retreat challenged us to be Christ before our students, to trust that God is ever present and active in our lives, and to continue our efforts because we truly are doing, as Father Moreau tells us, “God’s work.” The retreat affirmed for us once again, this work is our responsibility and this work is our privilege as Holy Cross educators.



HCC4SL'14 INDIANA

■ Megan Dwyer, Director, Student Activities, Holy Cross High School, Waterbury, CT.

Holy Cross student leaders once again traveled to Holy Cross College in South Bend, Indiana to participate in the annual **Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders (HCC4SL)**.

This year, 66 students from ten different high schools: Academy of the Holy Cross, Archbishop Hoban, Bishop McNamara, Cathedral, Gilmour Academy, Holy Cross Waterbury, Holy Cross Flushing, Holy Trinity, Notre Dame West Haven, and St. Edward, came together to understand how to live as a Holy Cross Leader.

From June 25-29, students engaged in spiritual, social, and service activities that allowed them to learn about and reflect on what it means to be part of the rich tradition of Holy Cross. On Wednesday, they focused on the theme of “A Shared Family” and students were surprised by how much they had in common with students from other Holy Cross schools. They realized that they had many similar experiences as students in the other schools.

The following day, students and faculty chaperones focused on learning about “A Shared Heritage” and how Holy Cross schools came into existence.

The group visited Notre Dame University and was greeted by twelve Brothers who served as guides for the first part of the pilgrimage which took place on the Notre Dame and Holy Cross campuses. Students were overwhelmed with the stories and history that each Brother shared. After the pilgrimage, students enjoyed lunch with the Brothers who each told personal stories about their journeys. Many students had conversations with Brothers who once helped establish our Holy Cross high schools or worked within our schools.

The group also had the opportunity to go to St. Mary’s College to learn about the experiences of the Sisters who also warmly welcomed students and faculty onto their campus. The Sisters guided students around and shared their own history and traditions. Throughout the rest of the weekend, students talked about the stories that they heard from both the Brothers and Sisters and they had a noticeably deeper understanding of their Holy Cross heritage.

In the final days of the conference, students learned about their responsibility to

contribute to the “Shared Mission” and “Shared Service” as Holy Cross student leaders. As a way to understand their shared mission, students presented their “best practices” with regards to programs, ideas and activities from their own schools. They then engaged in conversations with others to learn how to improve their existing programs or bring new ideas back to their schools. On Saturday, students ventured into South Bend and volunteered at six different sites. Students assisted with delivering food boxes, working in unity grades, serving breakfast, and helping with home rehab projects. They were moved by the service they provided and motivated to carry out more service in their own schools.

The conference concluded with a beautiful Mass on Saturday and a prayer service on Sunday morning that allowed students to reflect and pray about the experiences they had during the conference and the goals they have for the future. While the students came as leaders from Holy Cross schools, they left as Holy Cross Student Leaders ready to contribute to their own schools and communities in a more meaningful way. ✦

HCC4SL'14 INDIANA

“HCC4SL opened my eyes to different Holy Cross schools and traditions around the nation. I learned about my school heritage while making long lasting friendships. I enjoyed all the events and meetings we had and I wish I could go back to that week everyday.”

Maggie Matejik '15,
Academy of the
Holy Cross



“The Holy Cross Leadership Conference changed my life in many different ways. I made relationships with people that I believe will last a lifetime. It also taught me so much more about my religion and I believe it brought me closer to God.”

Maggie McNulty '17,
Cathedral High School



“HCC4SL has changed my life for the better because I loved learning how the Holy Cross heritage affects communities at a national and global level. It was especially rewarding to meet people who share the same values and morals as I do because we try to live the Holy Cross mission. I have fostered new friendships to last a lifetime.”

Kate Branson '15,
Academy of the
Holy Cross

HCC4SL'14 AUSTIN

■ Rob Thomas, Vice-Principal, Student Life, Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, CA

This summer 40 students from five Holy Cross Schools journeyed to the campus of St. Edward's University to attend the **Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders** in Austin, Texas. Students from Holy Cross School in New Orleans, Holy Cross of San Antonio, Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, CA, Moreau Catholic in Hayward, CA and Saint Francis High School in Mountain View, CA joined together for a week of activities centered on what it means to be a Holy Cross Leader. During the conference the students learned about the mission, traditions and history of Holy Cross and participated in service experiences at various sites around Austin. They joined members of the Congregation of Holy Cross at a dinner where each student shared stories about their experiences in Holy Cross schools and later shared their Austin-area service experiences with members of the Congregation. At the end of the conference the students worked on planning school activities around the

theme of "Being Family." The impact of the conference on the students was tremendous as the students learned about what it means to be a part of Holy Cross. Notre Dame Senior **Jasmine Torres-Coss** stated

"The conference was an amazing experience, it made me realize that Holy Cross was not just a brand, instead it is a family. My roommate Julia, who attends Moreau Catholic in Hayward, CA, and I have become best of friends. Since the conference ended we have both visited each other at our schools, attended student council meetings and shared ideas with each other's student council. This experience made me realize, people at other Holy Cross high schools share the same values that I do, and even though we live in a different state or hours away from each other, we are still one family."



Notre Dame Senior **Sarah Tobo**, talking about her service experience, stated

“I was lucky enough to be chosen for the Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders in Austin, Texas. While participating in the conference, I was introduced to new opportunities to help make a difference in the community. It was such an eye-opening experience that it inspired me to bring back the service to my home in California by volunteering my time at Midnight Mission in downtown Los Angeles, helping the poor and homeless. These were lifetime experiences that

I was blessed to take part in that will forever have a lasting impression on me.”

The conference gives students from various schools the opportunity to get together, learn about each other’s schools, share in the legacy of the members of the Congregation of Holy Cross, the mission of schools they founded and define expectations of the student leaders as they return to their school communities. Truly, the Holy Cross Conference for Student Leaders inspires our students to take up the mission of Holy Cross as part of the family for a lifetime. ✿

*Our thanks to the
Austin
Service Day hosts:*

*Green Doors
River City Youth Foundation
Mary Lee Foundation
Marbridge*



Thank you SO much for including Green Doors in the Holy Cross service day event again this year! The students and chaperones were fantastic, and words can’t describe how pleased we are with everything they accomplished. I hope they felt like they made a positive impact. Green Doors staff and residents are thrilled!

Thanks again, and I hope we can do this again next year!!!!
Best regards,
Allison Scharf / Data Manager /
Green Doors (greendoors.org)
Austin, TX

MOREAU SCHOLAR

Gabriel Calderaro

■ Lauren Liebwoitz, Marketing, St. Edward's University



For over half his life, Gabriel Calderaro '17 has been involved with Holy Cross. He enrolled in middle and high school at Colégio Dom Amando, a Holy Cross school in his hometown of Santarém, Brazil, at the heart of the Amazon. "The Congregation of Holy Cross came to this place where there was nothing, and they built a community," he says. "Now you find alumni from my school all over the country and the world."

He first traveled to Texas as part of an exchange program between his school in Brazil and Holy Cross School in San Antonio. With his classmates and teachers, he also visited St. Edward's

University, where he found out about the Moreau Scholarship. "I want to work in Global Studies, to be a diplomat, so having knowledge of the rest of the world is great," he says. His family supported his dream, so he applied — and was accepted. The Moreau Scholarship makes it possible for him to attend school in the United States, which he hopes will help him better understand other cultures.

Now that he's here, he appreciates the same sense of community that has always been part of his Holy Cross experience. "St. Edward's has a lot of international students, so we understand each other. It's not simply me from the outside and everyone else

from the U.S. Even the American students are very welcoming and helpful."

Calderaro has always been inspired by the Holy Cross tenet to educate the heart as well as the mind. Although he is devoted to his studies, he endeavors to live a balanced life with time for friends, family and faith. He's part of service and international organizations on campus — Rotaract, the Model United Nations — and even plays flute in the university orchestra.

He also enjoys seeing other students from Holy Cross high schools across campus. "We're the same congregation, so despite the different languages and cultures, we share the same Holy Cross values everywhere," he says. "We are really like a family."

After he graduates, he hopes to accomplish what he admits may be a crazy goal — helping the world become a more peaceful place, inspired by the values passed down from Father Moreau. "We have so much war and conflict around the world. I feel that with diplomacy, you can change the world without war," he says. ✿

HIGHER EDUCATION

Holy Cross Colleges and Universities Introduced to Bay Area Counselors



■ Dinah Sbelgio Kinard, Director, Admissions Partnerships, St. Edward's University

Holy Cross colleges and universities came together on May 7th for a joint high school guidance counselor breakfast reception in the San Francisco Bay Area. The breakfast was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City, CA.

Holy Cross College, King's College, St. Edward's University, Saint Mary's College, Stonehill College, and the University of Notre Dame participated by sending an admission representative to the event.

Prior to the event, each higher education institution contributed to the planning process, and developed a joint list of area high school guidance counselors to invite. Fourteen guidance counselors from both public and private schools attended the breakfast, including counselors from Moreau Catholic and Saint Francis high schools.

Don Bishop, associate vice president of undergraduate enrollment at the University

of Notre Dame, delivered the opening keynote entitled "What it Means to be a CSC School". Each CSC college and university gave a brief overview of their school, highlighting unique institutional features and demonstrating the way CSC character is expressed.



Left to right: **Adam DeBeck**, Holy Cross College; **Stephanie Brown**, St. Mary's College; **Bob Mundy**, University of Notre Dame; **Emma Brown**, Stonehill College; **Dinah Sbelgio Kinard**, St. Edward's University; **Corry Unis**, King's College

The final portion of the breakfast included a panel discussion entitled "Expert Advice on Admission Essays", and the admission representatives weighed in on how universities utilize and view the admission essay in application review. Guidance counselors enjoyed having the opportunity to ask panelists questions about this important topic.

Every college contributed a university-themed, non-shirt item for a raffle, and at the conclusion of the individual university presentations, items were raffled off to an enthusiastic audience.

The breakfast concluded in time for counselors to begin their school day. The high school counselors expressed overwhelming appreciation for the opportunity to learn more about the Holy Cross approach to education and said that they felt it was a valuable use of their time.

All of the participating CSC colleges felt that this inaugural collaboration was a huge success and are interested in doing more joint programs – for counselors and prospective students – in additional cities in the future. Planning is already underway for a similar event in Chicago this fall or next spring. ✿

Come join the
Holy Cross educators
family gathering!

10th Anniversary Convocation
March 28–29, 2015

We've saved a place at
the table for you!



CALENDAR

Mark your calendars for the following HCI events:

SUBVERSIVE SPIRITUALITY MINI-RETREAT

For SEU Faculty and Staff

November 12, 2014 Fleck Hall 315

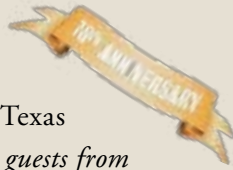
Annual Theme: Sustainability & Ecosystems

CONVOCATION 2015

March 28–29, 2015

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas

Come join us as we celebrate with guests from around the world!



HOLY CROSS CONFERENCE FOR STUDENT LEADERS

June 2015

One Event, Two Locations

St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas:

June 17-21, 2015

Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, Indiana

June 24-28, 2015

Both locations are open to all schools.

MISSION SEMINAR 2015

July 2015 (dates to be announced)

For the latest on any event, go to holycrossinstitute.org/events.

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Thank you for sharing your creative skills!



THE BROTHERS OF HOLY CROSS

EXTRAORDINARY LIVES, BRINGING HOPE TO OTHERS

holycrossbrothers.org

The Brothers of Holy Cross are a community of religious brothers who live extraordinary lives in service of others. From the founding of the University of Notre Dame to ministering in East Africa and Latin America, the Congregation has encouraged hundreds of men to develop their gifts and talents – all with the singular mission of bringing hope to others.



The mission of the Holy Cross Institute is to build a community of educators by providing:

- information about Holy Cross vision and values;
- formation in those values; and
- application of those values for board members, administrators, faculty and staff to promote the transformation of students.

Learn more at holycrossinstitute.org

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NEW PUBLICATION: CELEBRATING ST. ANDRE AS EDUCATOR

Holy Cross Education: *A Spiritual Legacy*

Father Bernard LaFreniere, CSC
Brother Donald Blauvelt, CSC
Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC

Holy Cross Education:
A Spiritual Legacy



Father Bernard LaFreniere, CSC
Brother Donald Blauvelt, CSC
Brother Joel Giallanza, CSC

The personal example that educators give - inside and outside the school - is a significant part of the students' education in the Holy Cross tradition. As a member of the Family of Holy Cross, **Saint Andre Bessette, CSC**, also shared in that legacy and so became a witness to others and an inspiration for all people. This booklet offers some reflections on Holy Cross education as a spiritual legacy that finds its most noble expression in the personal witness of the educators, including those who have contact with students outside the classroom.

For more information contact the Holy Cross
Institute at hci@stedwards.edu