

AUTUMN/WINTER 2001



Partners...in. Mission



Christian Brothers of the Midwest

Partners...in Mission

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of the Midwest.

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Publisher:
Brother Francis Carr,
FSC, Provincial

Editor:
Leo F. Hirsch,
Director of Development

Christian Brothers
of the Midwest
Development Office

7650 S. County Line Rd.
Burr Ridge, Illinois
60527-4718
630/323-3725
Fax: 630/323-3779

www.cbmidwest.org

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Cover Photo:

Our Flag—In Memoriam, September 11, 2001

The cover photo was taken by Kathy Farina, Director of Public Relations at Montini Catholic High School in Lombard, IL. This display was assembled by the Campus Minister, Mr. John Perovich, for the prayer service following the tragic events of September 11, 2001. It is now located outside the main office for all who pass to pause and reflect. The two tall candles represent the World Trade Towers; the middle candle, the Pentagon; and the four base candles, the planes that crashed.



Christian Brothers of the Midwest

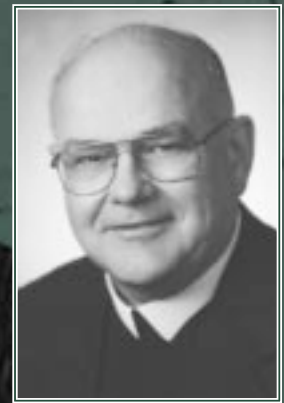
Greetings from Brother Francis Carr, FSC Provincial

It is a great pleasure for me to greet all of you—friends, colleagues, alumni and benefactors—our Partners in Mission. This magazine of the Midwest Province provides a forum to tell the story of our heritage and our educational mission, as well as the story of the people who are energized by the life and spirituality of St. John Baptist de La Salle. We continue to touch the lives of young people. Our call to return to the poor has improved opportunities for some and raised the consciousness of others.

And there's more to do! We are not folding our tents. There is still energy to reach out. We want you to know about the great things that are happening in our ministries. We hope that you will continue to support these efforts. With your help, we can make even greater things happen for young people.

I also ask for your prayers, both for continued success in ministry and in living lives that will attract new men to the life and lifestyle of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. We gratefully acknowledge the monumental contributions of our colleagues in ministry. But there is also work to be done by Brothers. Pray that God will lead generous men to live out their baptismal commitment as consecrated Religious Brothers.

Enjoy our beautiful Midwest and Mid-South autumns - the colors, the last fruits and vegetables of this year's harvest, schools back in session, the reminder that falling leaves will bring the beauty of winter and a promise of another spring. God bless!



Dear Friends,

On September 11, 2001, more than 5,000 lives were taken by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, on the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and in the downed United jetliner outside Pittsburgh, PA.

We dedicate this Autumn/Winter 2001 issue of *Partners in Mission* in loving memory of those people who lost their lives, their families and friends, those who were injured, the heroic efforts of dedicated firefighters and police officers, medical personnel and countless volunteers and to each one of you, because truly we have all been touched and our lives forever changed.

We pray that the combined efforts of a world wearied by the realities of terrorism will find strength of purpose and faith in God. May God bless each one of you and God bless America.

Brother Francis Carr, FSC
Provincial
Christian Brothers of the Midwest



Thank You, Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC

Christian Brothers and Lasallian colleagues gathered joyfully at Lewis University, Romeoville, IL, on the evening of August 3, 2001, to honor and to thank Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC, for his 11 years of dedicated service as Provincial. It was a wonderful and truly memorable evening of fellowship.

Looking back, the year was 1990, when Brother Thomas Johnson answered the call of God and the call of the Brothers by accepting his election and appointment by the Brother Superior General of the Christian Brothers to be Provincial of the Chicago Province.

The office of Provincial is similar to that of Bishop, in so far as it is primarily a pastoral role that also involves extensive administrative duties.

In the 1960's, the Christian Brothers in the central part of the United States agreed to form three Provinces: St. Louis, St. Paul/Minneapolis and Chicago. It made implementation of their Mission more responsive and efficient.

In 1995, these same three Provinces came together to form one Province again, the Christian Brothers of the Midwest Province. It was a purposeful consolidation that recognized ease of travel and modern communication, enabled the Brothers to better utilize resources and personnel in carrying out their Mission by joining forces again as one Province. It was a merger made in heaven.

Brother Thomas Johnson again answered the call to leadership and became the first Provincial of the newly formed Midwest Province for a term of six years which ended on June 30, 2001.

In this short space it is impossible to capture the real depth and scope of the accomplishments of Brother Thomas and his two talented assistants, Brother



Mission Highlights

1995-2001

- Consolidated three separate districts, St. Louis, St. Paul/Minneapolis and Chicago into the Midwest Province.
- Inaugurated new schools for poor, at-risk children in Chicago, IL, Minneapolis, MN, St. Louis, MO, Memphis, TN, and Browning, MT and initiated Lasallian tutoring program in Kansas City, MO.
- Provided formation opportunities for Brothers, lay colleagues, and youth in the Lasallian charism and tradition.
- Renewed commitment to our foreign missions, especially Africa.
- Enhanced mission awareness in Province ministries.
- Planned and broke ground for three new Brothers' residences ...one in Chicago, two in Westmont, IL.
- Conceptualized and implemented Province magazine, *Partners in Mission*.
- Relocated Provincial Offices to permanent site, Burr Ridge, IL.
- Commissioned Brother William Woeger, FSC, to create an Icon of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

Francis Carr, FSC, and Brother Michael Fehrenbach, FSC, over the past six years.

After dinner on August 3, 2001, at Lewis University, Brother Paul Grass, FSC, Chairman of the Province Council, announced the establishment of the Brother Thomas Johnson Scholarship Fund. This Fund, with an initial gift of \$50,000, will serve the needs of children attending the five new educational centers established during his years in office for at-risk children. Brother Thomas expressed his gratitude to the members of his team, all the Brothers and associates of the province for their prayers and support during his tenure.

On Sunday, November 18, 2001, Brother Thomas will receive the prestigious Lewis University Alumni Award for 2001. This award is given annually to an outstanding Lewis graduate who has achieved extraordinary accomplishments both professionally and personally.

Brother James Gaffney, FSC, President of Lewis, said, "Brother Thomas will be recognized as a tremendous example of the finest values and ideals in the legacy of St. John Baptist de La Salle and the heritage of the Christian Brothers."

In February, 2002, Brother Thomas will become Regional Director of the Christian Brothers Conference located in Landover, MD.

Brothers' Housing **UNDER** CONSTRUCTION

An exhaustive two-year study was begun in January, 1999, to develop new housing options to serve the needs of all the Brothers. The goal was to develop housing that would be flexible, sensitive in design to respond to the needs of both younger and senior Brothers. In addition, the Brothers concluded, it must be adaptable in the future.

The most urgent need was in Chicago. The South Indiana Avenue town homes are located near De La Salle Institute, Chicago, IL, and were begun the end of February, 2001.



**Brothers' Residence
Chicago, IL**



CHICAGO

WESTMONT

Brothers' Residence Westmont, IL



Construction on the South Cass Avenue town homes in Westmont, IL, is also underway.

Both the Chicago and the Westmont sites have proximity to public transportation, shopping, medical facilities and churches.

The planning process was comprehensive, positive and productive. The results represent the hard work and perseverance of the Brothers and the Housing Steering Committee: Brothers Maurice Anglim, Francis Carr, Fred Dillenburg, Kenneth Gillund and Joseph Saurbier. Mrs. Donna Drinan has served as a lay consultant. Both projects will be completed by January, 2002.

This year, the Christian Brothers Annual Appeal invites our donors, alumni, friends and extended family to remember their favorite Brothers with a generous contribution to the Brothers' Residence Fund.

Reflections

on Lewis University's De La Salle Hall

by Kurt Schackmuth

Last spring, De La Salle Hall, a wing of the former Chicago Provincialate on the campus of Lewis University, was purchased by Lewis, ending what had been a 30-year existence as the only residence hall on campus to be directed by the Christian Brothers.

For those of us who had the privilege to live (and later work) at De La Salle Hall, we are reminded of the special atmosphere that was fostered by the students and the Brothers who lived there. Tuesday nights were community nights with sub sandwiches, cookies and soft drinks. There were bowling tournaments, movie nights, pool tournaments, racquetball games, and pick-up basketball games. It was a place of study groups, faith sharing, liturgies, Christmas decorating contests, and harmless college pranks. The Hall was a place of *Star Wars* and *Godfather* marathon movie weekends; of great home-cooked meals, of snowball fights and pumpkin carving contests and it had the best lounge on campus. It was a residence hall that truly lived up to the man after whom it was named, Saint De La Salle.

The atmosphere of De La Salle Hall was one that you would not otherwise find in just any college residence hall. The one main difference was in the leadership of the Hall. De La Salle's last director was Brother Robert Veselsky, FSC, who was pre-

ceded by numerous other Brothers in the 30-year history of the Hall. It was the leadership of Brother Rob, and those who led the Hall before him, that really set the tone for the residents and created the community spirit for which the Hall was famous.

Last summer, Lewis University remodeled the Hall, updating the services, amenities and furniture. The residents now have living space and accoutrements that are comparable to the other residence halls. Although for those of us who lived in De La Salle Hall, we remember how it served as a great home away from home. It was a place of mutual respect and community, a place that made us better students—and also better people. De La Salle Hall was a place where the Lewis Mission values of Association, Fidelity, Wisdom, Justice and Knowledge were evident through the everyday activities of the men who lived there.

During the last few years, we had a bulletin board near the lounge that was covered with photographs of all the great community nights and bowling tournaments. We all walked by it every day on the way to the dining room for meals. Right in the middle of the bulletin board, amidst the colorful photos of students bowling, eating or playing pool, was a piece of paper that a resident had posted. It simply said, "I love this place."

Vocations Flourish in Africa

by Brother Thomas Sullivan, FSC

In June, 11 second-year

Novices professed first

vows and have now

returned to their respective

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minister in schools...

Our goal is to help these

young men discern their

vocation to become

Christian Brothers and

to train and educate

them so they in turn can

become teachers of their

native people.



Scholasticate chapel building in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa

When I joined the Christian Brothers 35 years ago, I never dreamed of becoming a missionary. At that time our missions were in Central America and the Philippines and I don't "do" heat and humidity! If I were to become a missionary, I would choose Alaska, Greenland, Siberia, or Antarctica! But God works in strange and mysterious ways. In the fall of 2000, our Superior General in Rome, Brother Alvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, invited me to go to Nairobi, Kenya, Africa, to become Director of Novices for our recently established English-speaking District of Lwanga. What a shock!

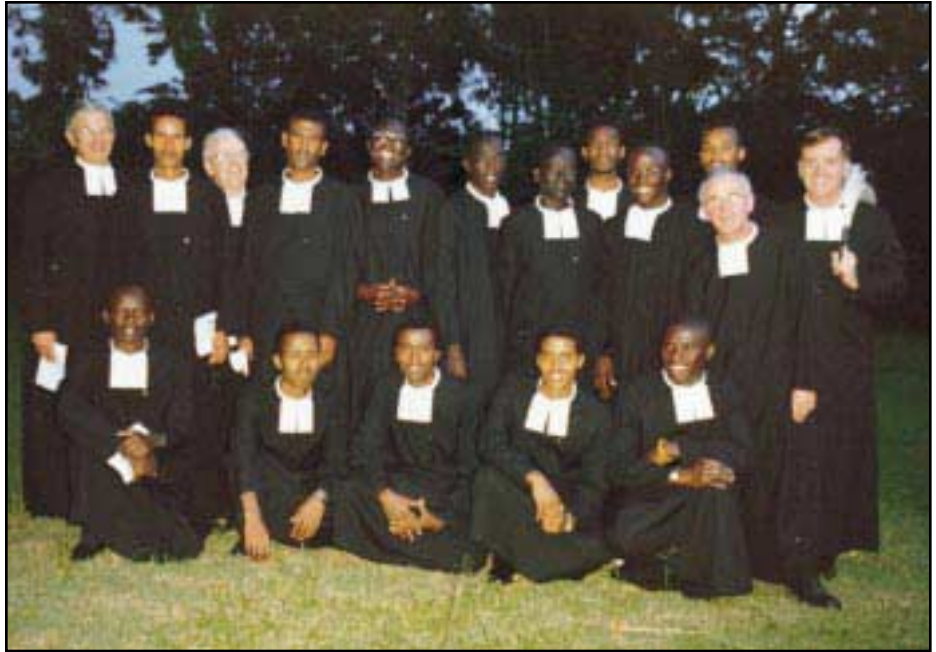
After much thought, prayer, talking to friends, family and Brothers, and listening to my own head and heart, I said, "Yes." This past spring, I spent four weeks in Africa on a "come-and-see" visit. I worked with the staff and the 25 Novices who are between the ages of 21 and 31 in the initial stages of becoming Christian Brothers. They want to learn more about God, prayer, the Brothers, community life, our mission of serving others, and becoming excellent classroom teachers.

(continued on page 8)

Vocations Flourish in Africa

(continued from page 7)

Novices receive the habit of the Christian Brothers on Robing Day.



My biggest surprise was the climate! It was not hot and humid like I had envisioned. Daytime temperatures were in the high 70's and low 80's with the night time mercury dipping into the mid-50's year-round. Almost ideal! Nairobi is located only 100 miles south of the Equator, but its altitude is 5,500 feet, thus the cooler climate. God does provide for those who trust in His ways!

The Novitiate is located in a rural area near the small village of Karen, a suburb of Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. The original homestead house has a kitchen, large dining room and living room. Since the Brothers acquired the property they have added a dormitory for the Novices and staff members as well as a guest house. A building, formerly used to house the original owner's farm machinery, has been converted into two classrooms and a library. Because we are located in a rural area, we are able to economize and provide for many of our needs. We have two cows, two calves, 150 chickens, and a huge vegetable garden.

The Brothers on the Novitiate staff include: Brothers Leo Smith (Baltimore), Dennis Berry

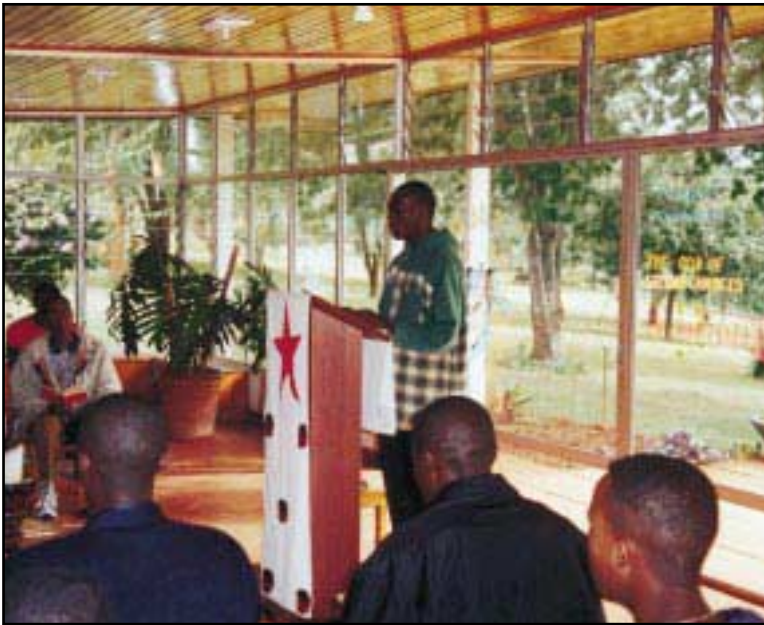
(Toronto), and Finian Loran (Ireland) and myself. There are presently 12 first-year Novices with as many as 20 ready to enter in January, 2002. Novices come from five countries: Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. It is quite an international group!

Vocations are flourishing in Africa. In June, 11 second-year Novices professed first vows and have now returned to their respective countries to teach or minister in schools. Next year, they will return to Nairobi where they will begin their studies at Christ the Teacher Institute for Education, a branch campus of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. Our goal is to help these young men discern their vocation to become Christian Brothers and to train and educate them so they in turn can become teachers of their native people. The young Brothers are eager to learn and are truly searching out their vocational call to become Brothers and followers of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. John Baptist de La Salle. It takes money to feed, clothe, and educate these young Brothers. We appreciate the generosity of friends and benefactors beyond the borders of Africa.

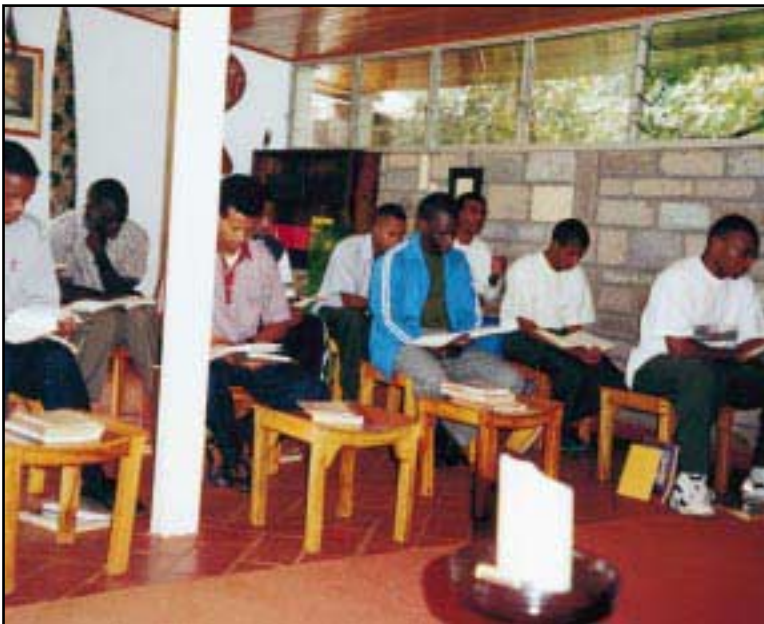
Vocations Flourish in Africa

(continued from page 8)

I was struck by the contrasts in Africa. On the one hand, there is the thriving capital city of Nairobi with a population of over a million and a half, while on its outskirts there is a “shanty town slum” of thousands of desperately poor people. Can you imagine providing for a spouse and family in this country on \$1,600.00 per year? Poverty is very real.



View from chapel looking out over Novitiate grounds.



Novices at morning prayer.

Am I going to Africa with no reservations? Definitely not. I will be leaving my mother who is 82, lives alone, and who is on oxygen because of respiratory problems. Although she finds it very difficult to see me go and tells me she will miss me, she knows that this is all part of being a Brother and serving others. For someone who has never touched an electric typewriter, much less a computer, she is now learning “E-mail” using a small mail station so she can communicate with me in Africa. Bless her heart!

I will also miss the Brothers, my family and friends here in the States. I will have to adapt to many new ways: new culture, new people, new customs, new food, a whole new way of living and learning. In many respects, the people of Africa will become “my teachers,” as much as I will become theirs.

But I trust in God. For the past 57 years, I have put my trust in Him and I have been led to places, which, on my own, I may not have chosen. But since I said, “YES,” I have been very happy, experienced new life and energy and have never been disappointed. Why should I doubt Him now?

I ask you to remember me, the Novices and the Novitiate staff in your prayers. Be assured of my prayers for all of you.

Live, Jesus, in our hearts. Forever!

Brother Thomas Sullivan begins his term as
Director of Novices, January, 2002.

“The Dow and NASDAQ
dropped again today!”

The volatility of today’s financial markets
is certainly not conducive to...

Peace of Mind

by Leo F. Hirsch

As companies downsize and profits disappear, many see their portfolios and their savings shrink, resulting in sleepless nights and little “**peace of mind.**”

One remedy for this dilemma is to set up a **Charitable Gift Annuity** which guarantees your return will never decrease.

How does the Gift Annuity work? Let’s take the example of a woman who funds a \$10,000 gift annuity. Based on her age at 74, she will receive 8% or \$800 each and every year for the rest of her life ... **guaranteed.** About \$420 of each payment is tax-free income over her life expectancy. She also receives a charitable tax deduction of approximately \$4,400.

But more important, what a **Legacy** she leaves and what **Peace of Mind** she enjoys! The Mission of the Christian Brothers is “to give a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor.”

Your gift annuity helps to carry on this Mission. You have the opportunity to change lives, to prepare tomorrow’s leaders of our Church and Country. You can make a real difference while guaranteeing income for yourself in your senior years.

If you would like more information on the rates and benefits of a “One-Life” or “Two-Life” Gift Annuity tailored to your needs, call the De La Salle Christian Brothers Development Office at 630-323-3725 today for a no-obligation quote. Your inquiry will be held in strict confidence.

It may well be the best investment of your life and it will surely give you **Peace of Mind** as a **Partner in Mission** with the Christian Brothers.

Tim Gossen,

a 2001 graduate of Saint Mary's University in Winona, MN, made promises as a Brother candidate at the 10:30AM celebration of the Eucharist, on campus at St. Thomas More Chapel, Sunday, September 9, 2001.

Tim will live in the new Brother James Miller Candidate Community as he prepares for the next step in the formation process. Tim serves as Coordinator of Freshman Service Programs for Saint Mary's University, Winona campus.



Brother Francis Carr, FSC, Provincial, with Brother Alan Parham, FSC.

Brother Alan Parham, FSC,

who joined the Christian Brothers in 1992 and made his Novitiate in 1995-1996, pronounced perpetual vows as a Brother of the Christian Schools during the celebration of the Eucharist on Saturday, September 15, 2001, at Our Lady of Peace Church in Kansas City, MO.

Brother Alan is one of the founding members of the Lasallian Tutors whose ministry is to teach youth how to read.

Congratulations and God's blessings on both of you, Brother Alan and Tim!

Christian Brothers Benefit Raffle

Drawing for the 2001 raffle took place November 3, 2001 at De La Salle Institute, Chicago, Illinois. Congratulations to our lucky ticket holders:

\$10,000	Carol Morimoto	\$500	Dennia Bohannon
\$2,500	John Walker	\$500	J. Wildoner
\$1,000	Phil Feiten	\$500	Patricia Buford
\$1,000	Jean Roehl	\$500	Susan Lamporter
\$1,000	Willard Pepion	\$500	DLS Blackfeet

The Christian Brothers are deeply grateful to everyone who supported our raffle. Nearly \$220,000 was raised for the ministries of the Christian Brothers.

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Buttimer Institute and Lasallian Leadership Programs Attract Educators

This past summer, the Buttimer Institute, located on the campus of St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA, and the Lasallian Leadership Program, held on the campus of Lewis University, Romeoville, IL, were attended by 65 participants. These two annual programs focus on the life, spirituality and the educational theories of St. John Baptist de La Salle. Practical administrative elements common to every Lasallian ministry are also studied.

The Buttimer Institute, named after Brother Charles Henry Buttimer, FSC, Superior General of the Brothers from 1966 to 1976, is divided into three parts with its students committing to three weeks each summer for three years. The Lasallian Leadership Program is scheduled for one week each summer for three years.

Participants represented Christian Brothers' ministries throughout the Midwest Province. Included were administrators, teachers, and staff members.

Memphis Men Honored

The Midwest Province unanimously approved resolutions recommending Affiliation to the Institute for two men who have long been associated with Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN.

Richard F. Kriz, a 1951 graduate of CBU, served in the finance office for 27 years and retired as Treasurer of CBU in 1992.

Robert F. Stephenson has long been associated with CBU and the Christian Brothers. In 1969, he became the men's varsity basketball coach and later Athletic Director at CBU.

Brother Alvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, Superior General, and the General Council approved the Affiliation for these two men. The Affiliation ceremony will take place on Sunday, November 11, 2001, at CBU Chapel.

Lewis Hosts Mission Effectiveness Symposium for Midwest Institutions

This past May, the Lewis University Office of Mission and Planning hosted the second annual Midwest Mission Effectiveness Symposium. The three-day symposium was attended by over 27 faculty, administrators and staff members representing 15 colleges and universities from around the Midwest.

With the theme, "Together for Mission 2001," the symposium addressed the challenges and opportunities associated with emphasizing mission within campus communities and beyond. It served as an occasion for those charged with advancing mission at their respective institutions to share best practices and ideas, discuss sponsorship issues, and meet other individuals with similar experiences and job responsibilities.

Planning for the symposium was led by Dr. Stephany Schlachter, Provost and Senior Vice-President for Mission, and Kurt Schackmuth, Director of Operations for the Office of the Provost, along with representatives from the other two Catholic institutions of higher education in the Diocese of Joliet: Sister Rosemary Small, OSF, from the University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, and Father David Turner, OSB, from Benedictine University, Lisle, IL.

Bikeathon-Spoke-N-Word Raises \$100,000.00

The 4,000-mile bike ride began in Portland, OR, on June 12 and crossed the finish line in Providence, RI, on August 10. Many Christian Brothers and Lasallian colleagues rode for a portion of this event as it made its way across our country. The purpose of this event was to raise funds to support family literacy programs in the Christian Brothers' San Miguel Network of Schools and Lasallian Urban Learning Centers. They raised \$100,000.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who rode in or supported this event in any way.



Welcome and Congratulations, Brother Michael!

The new auxiliary provincial for the Christian Brothers of the Midwest is Brother Michael Flaherty, FSC.

Brother Michael brings more than 30 years of administrative experience to his new role.

Most recently, 2000-2001, he was interim principal of De La Salle Institute in Chicago where he also was a member of the Religious Education Department (1996-2001).

Prior to that, he was Principal/President of Driscoll Catholic High School in Addison, IL, and St. Joseph High School in Westchester, IL.

His tenure of office began on July 1, 2001. He will assist Brother Francis Carr, FSC, Provincial.



Brother K. Bernardine
Kuzminski, FSC



Brother Joseph
Brusnahan, FSC



Brother Camillus
Dufresne, FSC



Brother Richard
Kelly, FSC

WE REMEMBER - WE CELEBRATE - WE BELIEVE

Brother K. Bernardine Kuzminski, FSC, was born on November 6, 1918.
He served as a Christian Brother for 65 years. He was born into eternal life on March 11, 2001.

Brother Joseph Brusnahan, FSC, was born on February 20, 1919. He served as a Christian Brother for 63 years.
He was born into eternal life on September 20, 2001.

Brother Camillus Dufresne, FSC, was born on June 23, 1917. He served as a Christian Brother for 66 years.
He was born into eternal life on August 3, 2001.

Brother Richard Kelly, FSC, was born on June 1, 1946. He served as a Christian Brother for 29 years.
He was born into eternal life on September 7, 2001.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord



Christian Brothers of the Midwest Province

Provincial
Brother Francis Carr, FSC

Assistant Provincial
Brother Michael Flaherty, FSC

Lasallian Ministries

CALIFORNIA

Stockton
Fe y Vida

ILLINOIS

Addison
Driscoll Catholic
High School

Burr Ridge
Provincial Office
Christian Brothers
Development Office

Chicago
De La Salle Institute
San Miguel Middle School
St. Patrick High School
Tolton Adult
Education Center

Lombard
Montini Catholic
High School

Plano
La Salle Manor
Retreat Center

Romeoville
Lewis University

Westchester
St. Joseph High School

MINNESOTA

Fridley
Totino-Grace High School

Marine-on-St. Croix
Christian Brothers
Retreat Center

St. Paul
Christian Brothers
Development Office
Christian Brothers
Medical Office
Christian Brothers
Youth Home
Cretin-Derham Hall
(High School)

Minneapolis
De La Salle High School
Saint Mary's
University of MN
Minneapolis Center
San Miguel
Middle School

Winona
Saint Mary's University
of MN
Saint Mary's Press

MISSOURI
Jefferson City
Helias High School

Kansas City
Archbishop O'Hara
High School
Lasallian Tutors Programs

St. Louis
Christian Brothers
College High School
De La Salle at
St. Matthew

Wildwood (Glencoe)
La Salle Institute
La Salle Retreat Center

MONTANA
Browning
San Miguel Blackfeet
Middle School

OKLAHOMA
Tulsa
Bishop Kelley High School

TENNESSEE
Memphis
Christian Brothers
High School
Christian Brothers
University
De La Salle/
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WISCONSIN
Manitowoc
Roncalli High School



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Please Help Us Keep Our Mailing List Current

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- Please add my name
- Please remove my name
- Receiving more than one copy
(Send all labels indicating which is correct)