



PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

A PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

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Iona Grammar School New Rochelle, New York



**Br. Sean
Moffett**

Artists Ms. Laura James and Brother Kenneth Chapman, CFC, visited Iona Grammar School, New Rochelle, NY, recently to guide a painting workshop of third and fourth grade students. Celebrated for her religious works in an Ethiopian Christian Art Tradition, Ms. James finds younger children engaged by the colors and wide eyes of her paintings and encouraged to share their own unique perspectives.

Brother Chapman, internationally known for his vibrant paintings and his contributions to the Vatican's inter-religious work with the Islamic community, delighted in the opportunity to work with the young students and to share stories of his art classes with Native American children. The students produced representations of their favorite biblical imagery particularly those related to the Nativity. Students and the Artists both delight in the prospect of another session in the new year.



**Standing Br. Ken Chapman and
Ms. Laura James**

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<http://www.ionagrammar.com/>

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“Love is an affection of the soul, not a contract: it cannot rise from a mere agreement, nor is it so to be gained. It is spontaneous in its origin and impulse; and true love is its own satisfaction.”

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Coach Fracassa Says One More Year Will Step Down after 2013 Season



Brother Rice High School's Al Fracassa, the all-time winningest coach in Michigan high school football history, announced that he will coach one more season in 2013 and then retire. After talking it over with his wife of 56 years, Phyllis, Coach Fracassa broke the news to his players at the team's postseason banquet in December, at which they celebrated a State Championship for the second year in a row -- the program's ninth under Coach Fracassa and the 416th win of his 45-year coaching career.

"My wife and I are together on this," Fracassa told the *Detroit News*. "We'll see what happens. I thought about retiring (after this past season). After winning a title, it could be a good way to go out. I just love the game. Call me stupid. I'm not a vacationer. I don't fix cars. I don't play golf. Now I know when I'm going out. It'll be after next year. Coaching is something I love. My wife knows me. She knows that. "Fracassa is ranked ninth all-time among high school coaches nationally and seventh among active coaches (416-117-7, a .770 winning percentage). His teams have played in 25 Division Championships and 14 Catholic League Championships. Under Fracassa's leadership, Brother Rice has also made 14 consecutive playoff appearances and 12 State Finals appearances.

Fracassa has been a head coach for 53 seasons, including nine years at Shrine Catholic High School in Royal Oak, Mich., prior to Brother Rice. More than 300 Brother Rice alumni who played for Coach Fracassa have gone on to play college football.

Fracassa is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, including being named to the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in 1999 and the National High School Football Hall of Fame in 2000. He has twice been named the Michigan High School Football Coach of the Year (1974, 1977) and has earned Regional Coach of the Year honors 14 times. He received the National High School Football Coach of the Year Award in 2004 and in 2008 he was named a Michiganiaan of the Year by *Hour Magazine*.

"Coach Fracassa's stature as a legend in Michigan high school football is secure," said John Birney, Brother Rice High School's President. "But it is his integrity, honor, and sportsmanship that have truly made him an inspiration to several generations of players, students, and fellow coaches."

While a student at Detroit Northeastern High School, Fracassa was named the Outstanding Athlete of the Decade. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University, where he was also a member of the 1952 National Championship team and a 1954 Rose Bowl participant.

Visit us online at <http://www.brrice.edu/>



Al Fracassa and wife Phyllis



ERCBNA

Justice Peace Integrity of Creation



IONA COLLEGE
New Rochelle, New York



The Thomas Merton Contemplative Initiative at Iona invites you to join us for an hour of contemplative silence and meditation practice each week during the academic Semester, as we gather to support each other in living more deeply and mindfully in the midst of our busy lives

Faculty, Staff, Administrators and Students of Iona College are especially welcome as are all the Friends of the Iona Spirituality Institute community.

All kinds of meditators from all spiritual traditions are welcome. Bring your benches or cushions if you wish; the chapel chairs are available for us also.

Each Thursday evening during the Spring Semester (except March 14th and Holy Thursday March 28th) beginning on January 24th; Ending on May 2nd.

5:45 PM – 6:45 PM at the Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice Chapel (formerly “St. Mary Chapel)

For Directions and Parking Information visit www.iona.edu

The Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona presents
REEL EARTH Cinema Series: Climate Change & Intergenerational Evil

Wednesday February 7, 2013 at 7 PM - 9 PM Romita Auditorium of Ryan Library at Iona College; Iona Students Free, Guests \$5

Produced and narrated by Connie Barlow and Michael Dowd, this short film is one of the best concise overviews of the problem (and solutions) to climate change / global-warming. In 2012 the speed and magnitude of human-caused climate disturbance became undeniable, making this the fundamental moral issue of our time. This 49-minute program includes video excerpts from talks by the world's most respected climate scientist, NASA's Dr. James Hansen, and by two powerful advocates for systemic change: Bill McKibben and David Roberts.

Experts teach the basic science and explain key climate dynamics of lag time and tipping points in ways that all age groups can grasp. Richly illustrated with images of this year's unprecedented retreat of Arctic sea ice and the near-total surface layer melt of the Greenland ice cap, this video also includes footage of the Colorado Springs wildfire, the Midwestern drought, the mile-high Arizona dust-storm, Hurricane Sandy, and other climate turning points that became frighteningly evident in 2012.

The terrifying prospect of climate catastrophe is happening faster than scientists had projected only a few years ago. By way of fresh and extemporaneous storytelling Barlow and Dowd share how 2012 climate-change news and statistics rocked them out of complacency and invite viewers to likewise make a shift in outlook and priorities.

Visit us online at <http://www.iona.edu/>

More information on the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers at these links:

Global Edmund Rice Network	www.edmundrice.net
Edmund Rice Christian Brothers NA	www.ercbna.org
Edmund Rice International	www.edmundriceinternational.org
Christian Brothers Vocations	www.cfcvocations.org
Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation	www.edmundriceinternational.org/jpic

GUADALUPE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Brownsville, Texas



Mr. Michael Motyl, President

Every year we are blessed with being witness to the amazing growth of our students. On average, many students come to GRMS testing below grade level, but by the end of their three years, most are testing at or above. However, at GRMS we care about more than grades, more than testing. Our two goals are college and Heaven, and the Heaven is no small matter.

Though GRMS is open to children of all religions and backgrounds, Christ is at the center of our flourishing community. We hold daily prayer, weekly Mass, a daily religion class, and faith-based retreats.

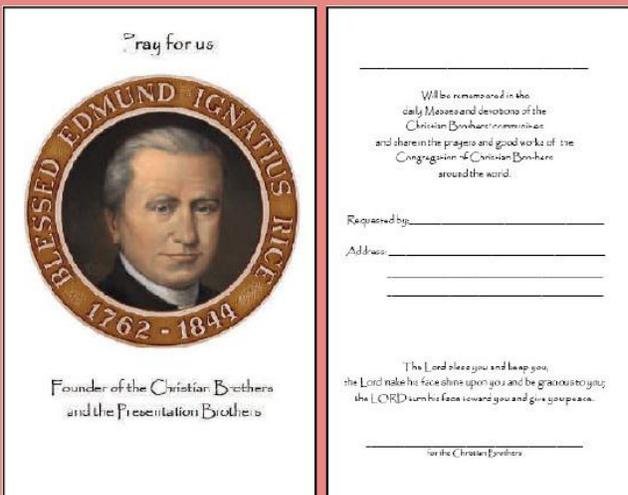
A few months ago, Mrs. Patricia Flota, our Religion teacher, was approached by one of our students who confided in her that she wanted to become Catholic. Upon speaking to this student's mother, we received the most good-natured response imaginable - "Whatever brings her closer to God."

We are delighted to report that her family has enrolled her in CCE, and honored to perhaps have had a small part in this child's inspiring choice and journey.

May the light of Christ lead her and you always.

Visit us online at <http://guadalupe.schoolfusion.us/>

Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer Cards



Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer Cards are a beautiful way to assure loved ones of your prayerful support. Our Prayer Card is a singular expression in honor of some special occasion or at a sorrowful time for a bereaved relative or friend.

The benefactor's donation (payable to the Christian Brothers Foundation) benefits the ministries of the Christian Brothers.

If you would like a set of Prayer Cards, please contact:

Prayer Cards
Christian Brothers Foundation
260 Wilmot Road
New Rochelle, NY 10804

cab@cbinstitute.org

THE PLT CLUSTER MEETING Tampa, Florida

This Cluster Meeting was held in Tampa on Saturday, February 02, 2013



Front Row (l to r): Brothers Sean Whitty, Tom Draney, Hugh O'Neill, Mike Connolly, Bob Koppes, Arthur Gammaro, Jim van Koolbergen, Dominic Sanpietro, Ray Vercruyssen, Jim Fagan.

Second Row (l to r): Brothers Charles Avandano, Dan Casey, Mark Murphy, Tim Granzotto, Mike LaFrance, Damian Ryan, Barry Lynch, Jim DePiro, Kevin Griffith, Paul Hennessy.



Jericho House, Wainfleet, Ontario

Jericho House Youth Leadership, Justice & Spirituality Center is an ecumenical and interfaith retreat center in the Catholic tradition. An ideal location for retreats, meetings, conferences, and seminars.

Info: Jericho House 10845 Rathfon Road, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5V4;

P: 905-834-0553, F: 905-834-5230

www.jerichohouse.org

The Jericho House Team:

Sister Jacquie Keefe, cssf, Brother Bill Carrothers, cfc

Are You Called To Be A Brother To The World? Give It A Try ...

You have nothing to lose and you can learn a lot without having to make a commitment.

If you would like to experience what life as a Brother is like, we'd be pleased to arrange for you to visit.

You may be able to spend a day or so alongside a Brother in ministry and partake in community.

We feel that getting a taste of what we call the Congregation's "spirit" is the best way to help you discern if your call is to the Christian Brothers.

Take time for prayer and discernment and let Him lead you.



Being a Brother is a rich and fulfilling way to live.
www.erbrothers.org