Rite of Entry into Novitiate

On August 6, 2017, Brother Kevin Griffith (Province Leader) and Brother Barry Lynch (Novice Director) received Brother Robert Droel into the Callan Novitiate during a Rite of Entry into Novitiate Ceremony at the Callan Novitiate in Chicago, IL. Nearly twenty Brothers and Robert’s immediate family attended. Let us continue to hold Robert in prayer as he journeys with us in Brotherhood.

The Novitiate is designed to provide Rob with experiences in four areas:

- community living and a simple lifestyle;
- faith development and prayer;
- the mission of the Congregation;
- healthy interpersonal relationships.

Your prayers for Rob's success as a Novice are appreciated.

Br. Kevin Griffith (standing) addresses the gathering.  
Seated (l to r) Brs. Robert Droel, and Barry Lynch, Novice Director.

Novice Master, Brother Barry Lynch, presents Rob Droel with a copy of the Congregation's Constitutions

Br. Sean Moffett (right) presents Br. Robert Droel with a rosary that was blessed by Pope John Paul II at the Beatification of Blessed Edmund Rice.
PILGRIMS IN PERÚ

On July 24, 2017 ten strangers left their homes in New York, Detroit, Chicago, Vancouver and Honolulu to fly to Lima, Peru to become part of the experience of Pilgrims in Perú. We were greeted late that night in Lima by Brother Stephen Casey, CFC and Brother Paul Keohane, CFC and shown our new “home” at Hendrickson House in the Las Flores section of San Juan de Lurigancha. After a good night’s sleep the next day was spent learning about the local neighborhood and enjoying the best churros on the planet in the center of the city. Already a community was forming as work and traveling teams were organized.

Front Row (l to r) Carlin Glennon (St. Laurence HS Burbank, IL), Melissa Cortez (Damien Memorial Honolulu, HI), Marty Grogan (Br. Rice HS Chicago, IL), Mich DesLauriers (Past Principal St. Thomas More Collegiate Burnaby, BC), Amin Fernandez All Hallows School Bronx, NY)

Back Row (l to r) Carolyn Popp (Br. Rice HS Bloomfield Hills, MI), Ursula Lowe (St. Thomas More Collegiate Burnaby, BC), Maureen Kiers (Office of Educational Services), Christine Chana (Iona Prep New Rochelle, NY), Julio Bustamante (O’Dea HS Seattle, WA)

Our first worksite was in Tahuantinsuyo. After rides on three different buses, we got to meet Sister Monica and Sister Jane (both from the United States) at the Women’s Center there. Both women have given many years of service to the local community fighting for the rights of the local women. We were quickly set up to make pasta noodles which the women sell at the nearby markets. Under the patient eyes of the women we made pasta, hung it to dry and packaged it for sale. Later we made and wrapped delicious chocolates also meant to sell.
We bought them all! The women are very proud of what they do and were happy to tell us about their work and their families.

Over the next two days we worked in Canto Grande, an area of Lima in the foothills of the Andes. This area is very poor, but over the years more than one hundred new homes have been built by immersion groups from Christian Brothers schools. The homes are made of simple plywood but are far better than the original dwellings these families have lived in. While there we had the chance to meet and talk to the local families, play with the children as well as put together and paint a new house for a family with three small children and a baby on the way.

The weekend brought us to Jicamarca, another poor area outside the city. There we stayed overnight with a local family who could not have been more welcoming and hospitable. Their five children ranged in age from 10 to 24; each one was engaging and we were grateful to have some native Spanish speakers in our group so we could have real conversations with them. Two of the older children attend university classes and there is a real appreciation in this family of how an education can affect one’s future. Our work there was digging trenches for the foundation of neighbor’s house. This was physical labor that most of us had never done before, but it was very satisfying to know we had made a start.

After a return to “home” we set out in the middle of the night for a flight to Cuzco and the tourism part of our trip. Cusco is high in the mountains at 11,100 feet so we took it slow walking around the city for a couple of hours. Then we headed by van to a local textile and woolen market and then to the salt pools in the area. By late afternoon we were at our destination, Ollantaytambo, a charming town where the next morning we would board a train to Machu Picchu. The ride through the mountains was spectacular as was the tour through the Incan site. One of the pilgrims put it beautifully when he said, “The first part of our trip was doing God’s work; the second part was appreciating God’s creation”.

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Each evening we had the chance to reflect on our work and travel and to try to process what we had seen and done. We were touched by each other and by the people we met. Each of us came away with a new appreciation of how privileged we are and with questions about how that privilege can be used in the future. We returned to North America on August 4th enriched and humbled by our experiences.
During the second week of November 2017, students from three Edmund Rice Network schools worked together on a Mission Trip in Brownsville, Texas. This trip provided these students with a number of learning experiences. They worked directly with families who have recently left their homes in Central America hoping to become American citizens and learning what that process entails. They worked with local parishes in whatever the parish needed done, mostly yard work. They visited Guadalupe Regional Middle School and met children from one of the poorest counties in the U.S. but who demonstrate great educational success.

If you'd like to learn more about the schools represented here, visit their individual websites:
Brother Rice High School
Bloomfield Hills, MI

Brother Rice Students go on mission trip to Perú
–Karen Rottenberk

This past summer, nine Brother Rice students embarked on the school’s annual mission trip to Lima, Perú.

The students from the Bloomfield Hills Catholic school spent a week experiencing a different culture and using their hands to build and serve. The trip was led by Spanish teacher Andrew Cielieski. He shared a blog of the daily experiences and the impact the immersion trip has on the young missionaries.

Upon arrival, the students hit the ground and moved directly into serving others – constructing a home for a family, supervising and playing with young children, assisting local women with the items they sell in the market. Sleeping on foam mattresses on the floor, the trip had a unique ability to challenge students’ comfortable perceptions.

Julian Karim, who will be a senior in the fall, said, “I’ve been humbled while here in Perú, seeing the terrible conditions in which people live. We built a home for a family of four and the house that they lived in before was very eye opening. They used cardboard walls, shared one bed and everything was hanging by its last thread. We transformed their life by building them a wooden, three-room house in which most of the people in the United States would find disgusting to live in, even though it is like a mansion to them. Perú has a special place in my heart. This immersion experience has been the greatest time of my life.”

Visit brrice.edu/peru17 to read Cielieski’s blog with complete details on daily life for our missionaries while in Perú.

For more information on Brother Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI, click here: https://brrice.edu
Our Campus Redevelopment Plan flows from our mission, vision, and strategic plan and is the culmination of many years of deliberation and development. As a result of our successful educational visioning process conducted in the spring of 2015 with teachers and parents, our architects, Acton Ostry, have developed a Campus Master Plan, which the Board of Vancouver College Limited approved in September.

Our new campus is designed to include concepts that have traditionally contributed to the students’ unique educational experience at Vancouver College (e.g. interaction amongst students at all grade levels through the use of shared spaces) while incorporating innovative, state-of-the-art learning settings and increased school life opportunities.

Our financially responsible Redevelopment Plan is based on a phased construction strategy to ensure minimal disruption during construction. It also ensures that the College retains and preserves historic architectural elements of our heritage building in honour of our celebrated past.

The first phase will redevelop the site on which the Brothers Residence sits with a new Middle School, Manrell Hall that maximize shared spaces so all students can experience the uniqueness of a K-12 setting. This new building will include:

- The Learning Commons comprising the library, Student Services Counselling, and the Learning Centre
- Enhanced and expanded Dining Hall without outdoor features
- Spacious classrooms arranged in “neighbourhoods” to improve collaboration, increase
efficiencies, and advance learning performance

- “Makers” space for programs such as digital media, robotics, the arts, etc.
- This building will initially be utilized as swing space while the subsequent redevelopment is executed.
- The next phase will address the seismic and functional challenges of Lannon and McCormack Halls with the replacement of a brand new structure primarily for our Elementary Students. This new building will:
  - Feature a Chapel, supporting the spiritual life of the school community.
  - Consolidate and cluster the elementary grades to promote teacher collaboration and student interaction.
  - Provide a special area for kindergarten students with easy access and adjoining enclosed play area
  - House the Elementary School Learning Commons including the Elementary Library and space to accommodate our diverse learners
  - Include the new Elementary school gym
  - Create a beautiful and welcoming main campus entrance with improved way-finding, as strengthened by the relocated administrative functions.

For a virtual tour, click here: Campus Redevelopment Fly Through.

The life of Blessed Edmund Rice challenges all involved in Christian Brother Education to live and teach Gospel values. His vision inspires the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education at Vancouver College.

Visit Vancouver College
Vancouver, BC Canada
www.vc.bc.ca
Brother Jim Keane - From Africa

Note: This was written in September, 2017

I’m doing fine these days, having fought flu/cold for about 2 weeks. Fortunately, I was able to get some decent meds. There’s no doctor in town; the last one was killed in a dispute over a car while I was in USA. Many of the local “chemists” (pharmacists) cannot read, so they know little about the products they sell, but will tell you it’s just what you need to cure your ailment!

School is keeping me gainfully employed. I’m teaching 3 hours daily, but am on campus most of the day with other duties. One of the other teachers is going back to India for a home visit, so I will soon pick-up one of her English classes for about 2 months.

It continues to be pretty hot here, and the rains have been good and cooling, but that increases the risks of cholera and malaria. We are sinking another borehole on the property to enhance our water supply. With the improved water system we’ll be able to have a “trickle shower” and flush toilets year-round, not just in the rainy season. Progress!

It’s been a bad week in Yambio; lots of bloodshed and many people have fled. On Sunday (Sept. 10th) government soldiers came into town and killed one of the rebel leaders. In the shootout a 17 year old boy was killed. He was the younger brother of one of our STTC students. The Sunday Mass in Arabic was being celebrated when the shooting started. Some people were injured in the stampede from the cathedral.

Since then other soldiers and citizens have been killed in retaliation. Their bodies, often mutilated, are left in place until someone decides it’s safe enough to fetch the remains. One of the college employees lost her son, who was one of the bodyguards for the killed rebel leader (who was widely considered a particularly vicious, cruel man).

While the situation is tense, life with all its fragilities goes on. Everybody is extra careful and doing only necessary movements. As in the past, many of our neighbours have come onto the property for security. They store their few possessions with us, and some sleep on the property or in the gathering hall at night, believing God and the Brothers will protect them.

It’s hard to predict when things will settle down. Soon, we hope. This is my first experience of such troubles. In 2015 nightly shootouts were normal.
Mission Frère

The Congregation’s path to renewal and transformation, Our Way into the Future, challenges us to “find new ways of being Brother for the world” while allowing “the agenda of the world to be our agenda.”

Here in North America, we have attempted to do this by what we call our Mission Frère initiatives. At present, we have 5 initiatives in operation. They are not made of brick and mortar. They are not necessarily buildings and institutions. Rather, they are projects/initiatives that allow us to be Brother in new ways, responding to the world’s agenda.

Mission Frère Harlem
Directed by Brothers John Casey and Ben McDonough.
This operates out of the Christian Brothers Community residence in East Harlem, NY. It provides hospitality to those ministering in both Central and East Harlem. The Brothers involved do volunteer work in these areas, in already existing programs. A goal is to eventually use the residence for short-term immersion experiences in NYC and for longer-term volunteer opportunities for young adults.

Mission Frère Advocacy
Directed by Mr. Sean D’Alfonso
This is a direct response to the Chapter Call “to engage in advocacy with the voiceless, the marginalized and all that are oppressed.” Our advocacy efforts include:

- work at the United Nations and with Edmund Rice International
- our Province Mission Education and Immersion program in collaboration with our North American schools and our Latin American Region
- Action Alerts on topics such as immigration, Catholic school education, the Right to Life for all, the Dream Act, etc.
- and a quarterly newsletter – NorAm – that attempts to share the good news of the service and advocacy works taking place around the Province.

Mission Frère Haiti
Directed by Brother Kevin Griffith and Mr. Sean D’Alfonso.
This is an outgrowth of MF-Advocacy. Haiti is the poorest country in our hemisphere. It is adversely affected by hurricanes, earthquakes, government mismanagement, and sometimes US policies that stand in the way of progress. The components of Mission Frère-Haiti include:

- immersions trips/service projects in Le Borgne, Haiti that are a joint effort of the Province, Iona Prep and Archbishop McCarthy H. S. in Ft, Lauderdale, FL
- the selling of Haitian art at Iona College to raise funds that will assist the ministries (6 schools, a mobile health clinic and an orphanage) of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary in Jean Rabel, Haiti
- collaboration with a Bergen Catholic alum who is part of a venture to build a school in Hinche, Haiti through an organization called – Center for Hope in Haiti.

Mission Frère Edmund Rice Young Adult Ministry
Directed by Brother Tim Smyth
This is a ministry that encompasses:

- follow-up contact with students who attend ACTION and/or school
- immersion/mission trips
- volunteer opportunities
- vocation discernment/promoting vocations to our Brotherhood
- college contacts with graduates of Christian Brother high schools

**Mission Frère-Miami**
Directed by the Christian Brothers Community in Miami
It has been recently established as an outreach to the Haitian and other immigrant communities in Miami, FL. Our Brothers in Miami minister at the St. Mary’s School and Parish in Little Haiti, as well as at Catholic Legal Services of Miami. They teach ESL; they coordinate a school resource center; they assist with a food bank; and they provide services to immigrants.

**Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry**

![Br. Tim Smyth](image)

The North America Province recently instituted a new position to reach out to young adults, particularly graduates of our consortium schools, and even more particularly graduates who have participated in Province-sponsored activities such as immersion trips or the ACTION Leadership Workshop. Brother Tim Smyth has been asked to develop this position while acting as Province Vocation Director. Brother Tim’s two Peru immersion experiences and his twelve years as an ACTION team member have helped prepare him for this new position.

During the first months of this school year Brother Tim has contacted all the school Principals and Campus Ministers to determine how he can best work with them on their vocation promotion efforts. Some programs are already well established while others, usually due to a change in personnel, are in developmental stages. In addition to scheduling school visits, Brother has also been working on new promotional materials that are available to schools.

One area of concern for Brother Tim has been the use of social media. Everyone knows how involved high school students and young adults are in the use of various social media, but do they still use email or Facebook? Or do Twitter and Instagram fill their needs? Or is there something new that they are using? These are questions that Brother Tim faces as he tries to determine the best means to reach out and connect with students, present and past.

Why reach out to alums? Two reasons: First, because we value the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice with which we have been blessed, we wonder what lasting effect it has on our graduates. How many of our graduates continue to carry that charism forward in their lives through their career choice or through volunteer service opportunities? Is there any way that we can help our graduates recognize those possibilities or any way we can stimulate them? Second, we know that, a few years after college, many young adults choose a career path different from the one they started out on. We think that one of those choices can be a response to a religious vocation. What can we do to help them discern that path?

As he visits consortium schools around the Province, Brother Tim also hopes he can visit with alums on their college campuses. The plan for these visits is to bring together graduates from Consortium schools and help them realize that they are part of the same Edmund Rice Network imbued with the charism of Blessed Edmund. Once they make that connection, hopefully they will be willing to act in the name of Blessed Edmund. The ultimate goal would be an ongoing presence of the Edmund Rice Network on that campus keeping Edmund’s charism alive and active.
Memorial Masses for Deceased Brothers in North America
St. John’s Newfoundland


Second Row (l to r) Br. Rick Fowler, Br. Dave Murphy, Bill English, Bob Quigley, Dan McGettigan, Richard McHugh, Arden Hall, Br. George Fitzpatrick, Malachy Mandeville, Kevin Veitch, Phil Fitzgerald, Gerry Duggan, Rene Estrada.

Third Row (l to r) Brian Galway, Garry Bambrick, Walter White, Richard Hall, Kevin Rumsey, Harold Stapleton, Frank Galgay, Art Griffin, Rene Estrada

Most Brothers would recognize Brother William Simon Barry as the caretaker of the West Park property for something around six decades. Probably more than anyone, he became aware of the significance of the Province cemetery on the grounds. Sometime in 1991 Brother Simon received a bequest that he decided would be best used for the installation of an outdoor altar in the midst of the cemetery. The project was completed with the assistance of the Edmundians, former Brothers who had recently been formed to maintain the relationships that they had formed with the Brothers, with each other, and with the Congregation. Brother John J. McCarthy who had been asked to assemble the Edmundians into a formal organization decided early on that a suitable activity for the Edmundians would be the celebration of the lives of the deceased Brothers buried in the cemetery in West Park. This was the beginning of a tradition that has grown over the years to include deceased Brothers in cemeteries across North America.

In 2002 Edmundian Robert Kman was asked to take over the leadership of the Edmundians in what was then the Western American Province. Bob decided that the West Park Memorial Mass tradition would be important to imitate, so the following year he organized a similar Memorial Mass at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery near Chicago, where over thirty Brothers are buried. It was an immediate success with over 50 Brothers, Edmundians, spouses, and Associates in attendance. In 2011, following the reunion of the three North American Provinces, Bob was asked to become the President of the Edmundians. In this role he decided to spread the Memorial Mass tradition to other parts of the North American Province. Bob’s efforts paid off as, in addition to West Park and Chicago, Memorial Masses have been celebrated in Los Angeles and Salinas, California; Seattle, Washington; Tampa, Florida; and St. John’s, Newfoundland.
The tradition of the Memorial Masses has developed a unique form in whatever location it is held, but there are common elements: a Mass for departed Brothers, typically celebrated by an Edmundian, graduate, or friend of the Brothers; a special commemoration of the Brothers and Edmundians deceased in the past year; a meal where camaraderie and memories are shared. From all accounts there were well over two hundred Brothers, Edmundians and friends of the Brothers who attended the Memorial Masses held this past October.

Chicago, Illinois

William Kramer, Phyllis O'Keefe, Mariam Pepping, Mary Ann Droel, Bernard Pepping

Br. Louis Stanich, Br. Jogues Collins, Mark Quinn, Ray Mackey, Br. Barry Lynch
Once again we experienced the bond that draws us together. This meeting gave us a chance to reminisce as well as to bring our current experiences to the forefront. The topics ranged from where each of us taught in the Monks to the happy occasions we had during those years with others who helped us in our quest to become a better person who serves the Church.

As expected, we heard testimonies of how important our religious formation has helped us in life. Truly a blessing! To a man, whether or not verbalized, there was a feeling of gratitude for that period in our lives as we grew into adulthood.

Of course after Mass we were treated to a fine Mexican restaurant that had a plethora of platters, from tacos to talapia. Let’s not forget the homemade flan! Viva Los Angeles!

In addition to the plentiful food, we were filled up entirely with the “good” company we all enjoyed!
First Profession in Lusaka, Zambia
From left to right: Alphonce Sokia (Kenya), Alphas Odoyo (Kenya), Smart Machachi (Zambia), Dennis Nyabota (Kenya), Clive Hanjalika (Zambia), Bruce Hakalembe (Zambia), Ismael Juma (Kenya).

Please fill out and mail this page to the address at the bottom of the page

Yes, I/we would like to accompany the Brothers on our faith journey and will keep the Brothers and those with whom they minister in my/our prayers. I/We would also like to support the Brothers’ ministry with the following gift:

☐ $100  ☐ $50  ☐ $25  ☐ Other____________________

I/We would like the gift to support:

☐ Wherever the Brothers believe my/our gift is most needed at this time.
☐ The elderly and infirm Brothers who have given their life to serve God’s people.
☐ The Brothers’ vocation and formation programs which seek and train men to follow Blessed Edmund as Christian Brothers.
☐ Please send me a packet of Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer cards.

Name__________________________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________

City_________________________ State/Province_______________________

Country______________________________ Zip/Postal Code____________

e-mail________________________ Daytime telephone____________________

☐ My/Our check is enclosed (please make your check payable to “Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Foundation”)

☐ Please charge my credit card: ☐ Master Card/Visa ☐ American Express

Card Number____________________________________________________

Expiration Date_____________________ Security/Validation Code____________________

Name as it appears on card ____________________________________________

Please mail to:

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers
260 Wilmot Road
New Rochelle, NY 10804
Brother Joseph André Manning  
1937 - 2017

Brother Joseph André Manning passed away on August 03, 2017. Brother Manning was born on September 01, 1937 in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada, the son of John and Bridget Manning. He received a BA in History from Iona College and a MAT in theology from St. Michael’s College in Vermont.

Brother Manning entered the Congregation on September 17, 1956 and pronounced his final vows on June 27, 1964. His ministry took him to many positions including Vancouver College, St. Louis College (Victoria) and St. Thomas More Collegiate (Burnaby) in British Columbia. He also ministered at St. Pius X High School in Montreal. And in Newfoundland he also ministered at St. Bonaventure’s College, St. Patrick’s Hall School, Br. Rice High School, Mt. Cashel Home in St. John’s, and Roncolli High School in Avondale. He returned to St. Patrick’s Hall School and Mt. St. Francis Monastery in 1991 and remained at Mt. St. Francis until his death in 2017.

Brother Thomas Eugene Guihen, CFC  
1937 - 2017

Brother Thomas Eugene Guihen passed away on September 03, 2017. Brother Guihen was born on November 11, 1937 in the Bronx, NY, the son of Thomas and Margaret Guihen. He received BA in history from Iona College, a MA in Theology from St. John’s University, a MA in History from St. John’s University, and a MA in Admin & Supervision from Hunter College.

Brother George Gregory Lindeman, CFC  
1928 - 2017

Brother George Gregory Lindeman passed away on September 30, 2017. Brother Lindeman was born on September 29, 1928 in Chicago, IL., the son of Adrian and Mary Lindeman. He received a BA in History from Iona College and a MA in Industrial Arts.

Brother Lindeman entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers on August 13, 1946 and pronounced his first vows on December 25, 1947. His ministry took him to many positions including Holy Cross School, Mt. Cashel Home, and St. Patrick's Hall School in St. John's, Newfoundland. He also ministered in Leo High School in Chicago, IL, Power Memorial Academy in New York, NY, Br. Rice High School and Leo High School in Chicago, IL, St. Laurence in Burbank, IL, Br. Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI, St. Paul's Technical School in Ballaret, Victoria, and St. Patrick's College in Launceston, Tasmani (both in Australia), Cantwell High School in Montebello, CA, and many years at O'Dea High School in Seattle, WA.

Brother Henry Sebastian Wright, CFC  
1937 – 2017

Brother Henry Sebastian Wright passed away on October 29, 2017. Brother Wright was born on June 03, 1937 in the Bronx, NY, the son of Henry and Ann Wright. He received a BA in History from Iona College and a MA in European History from Seaton Hall University.

Brother Wright entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers September 08, 1952 and pronounced his first vows on September 08, 1956. His ministry took him to many positions including St. Patrick’s Hall School, Holy Cross School, and Br. Rice High School, all in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada. Brother Wright also served in Blessed Sacrament High School in New Rochelle, NY, Essex Catholic High School in Newark, NJ, Cardinal Farley Military Academy in Rhinecliff, NY, Bishop Hendricken High School in Warwick, RI., and Msgr. Farrell High School in Staten Island, NY., where he remained until his death.
Brother James Richard Kelly
1927 - 2017

Brother James Richard Kelly passed away on November 01, 2017. Brother Driscoll was born in Holy Well, Wales, England, the son of Patrick and Christina Kelly. He received a BA in History from Iona College and a MA in History from Fordham University.


Brother Michael Austin Driscoll, CFC
1934 – 2017

Brother Michael Austin Driscoll passed away on November 13, 2017. Brother Driscoll was born on November 27, 1934 in New York City, the son of John and Mary Driscoll. He received a BS in Chemistry from Iona College, a MS in Physical Science from the University of Notre Dame, and a MS in Computer Science from De Paul University.

Brother Driscoll entered the Congregation of Christian Brothers on September 13, 1950 and pronounced his final vows on September 08, 1953. His ministry took him to many positions including St. Cecilia’s Grammar School in New York, NY, Rice High School in New York, NY, Essex Catholic High School in Newark, NJ, Cardinal Farley Military Academy in Rhinecliff, NY, St. Laurence High School in Burbank, IL, Palma High School in Salinas, CA, and St. Joseph’s Residence in New Rochelle, NY.