



PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

A PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

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Brother J. David Concannon, C.F.C. Receives Spirit Award

On Friday, January 29, 2010, Br. J. David Concannon received the Spirit Award from Bishop Raymundo Peña of the Brownsville (Texas) Diocese. David joins other Christian Brothers who have received the award (Brothers Larry Heathwood, Brian Walsh, and Arthur Williams). In the citation and introduction, the roles of David in Guadalupe Regional Middle School were described: Cafeteria manager, 4th trumpet in the Guadalupe Regional Middle School Band, resident story-teller and self-proclaimed "best peanut sandwich maker" of the Rio Grande Valley. Dave was one of the founding faculty members of the school and the province extends its congratulations. This award also recognizes the fine work the Christian Brothers have done in the last nine years in Brownsville, Texas.



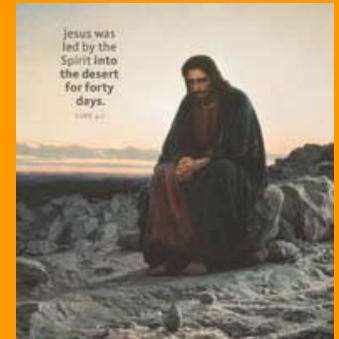
(l to r) Br. Dave Concannon, Br. Ray Vercruysse, Sister Charles Ann Solomon, OP

principals, training teachers, training teams for school accreditation visits, and interpreting standardized test results.

The Spirit Award is given by the schools office of the diocese each year. Each school is asked to name an individual who represents the spirit of the school and Catholic education. There is also a diocesan Spirit Award given to a person who has made a major contribution to Catholic education at a more general level. This year's recipient was Sr. Charles Ann Solomon, OP. She was the associate superintendent of schools for the diocese for a number of years. She received the diocesan Spirit Award for her work with

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"Whoever finds Jesus finds a rare treasure, indeed, a good above every good. Whereas one who loses him loses more than the whole world. The one who lives without Jesus is the poorest of the poor, whereas no one is so rich as the one who lives in his grace."

Thomas A. Kempis

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NEWS FROM THE LATIN AMERICAN REGION

On Sunday, January 3, 2010, five Brothers from Latin America professed first vows as members of the Congregation of Christian Brothers:

Luis Enrique Ayala Menéndez, CFC (*Canto Grande: Lima, Perú*)
Rafael Inga Mueras, CFC (*Los Flores: Lima, Perú*)
Renato Llerena Lanza, CFC (*Cochabamba, Bolivia*)
Williams Roberto Cunyas Atao, CFC (*Cochabamba, Bolivia*)
Alberto Cumbreras Morales, CFC (*Canto Grande: Lima, Perú*)

The profession of vows took place on the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany and was held in Colegio Fe y Alegría no. 26 (*Faith and Joy school*) in Canto Grande, Lima, Perú. In attendance were: Br. Philip Pinto (*Congregation Leader*), Br. Hugh O'Neill (*Province Leader, ERCBNA*), Br. Juan Casey (*LA Region Leader*), and Br. Kevin Bernard (*Novice Director, L.A.*) as well as Brothers and Associates from the Latin American Region, family, friends, and colleagues.

Each of the men professed his vows, received a medallion of the new logo, and in the presence of the larger



(l to e) Brs. Hugh O'Neill (Leader ERCBNA), Luis Enrique, Alberto, Renato, Rafael, Williams, and Juan Casey (Leader, LAR)



(l to r) Brothers Luis Enrique, Rafael, Renato, Williams, and Alberto after professing their vows

community inscribed his name on the vow formula. Br. Juan Casey formally welcomed these new Brothers to the community and all of the Brothers present greeted them with a handshake or an embrace. The event continued with all present sharing in the Eucharist of the Lord. Next, all present blessed the newly professed Brothers as they continue their journey of discernment and life in the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice. Finally, a reception was hosted by Br. Miguel Córdova Garcia (*Director of Fe y Alegría*) on behalf of the Regional Leadership Team.

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ST. ANN'S ACADEMY

Kamloops, British Columbia

On Saturday, January 23, 2010, the diocese of Kamloops bid an official good-bye to the Brothers community in Kamloops. At a liturgy of closure Bishop David Monroe, thanked the brothers for their contribution to Catholic education in the diocese for the past 29 years.

Bishop Monroe recalled how the then bishop, Adam Exner, had invited many religious communities to come to Kamloops to restart the high school department. He recalled that only the Christian Brothers showed any interest in Bishop Exner's project to reopen the high school, especially when he made it known that there was very little, if any, money available for the project. In the summer of 1981 the first brothers' community of Brothers Jim Bates, Bill Martin, and Frank Duff opened in Kamloops, British Columbia; in September the first Grade Eight class in 11 years entered St. Ann's Academy.



(l to r) Mr. Kevin Langevin (class of '86 and currently on staff), Br. Owen Cassidy (2nd and longest serving Christian Brother principal), Mrs. Dianne Langevin (teacher), Br Rick Fowler (last Christian Brother on staff), Mr. Dale Scherer (retired VP).

St. Ann's Academy was founded in 1880 by the Sisters of St. Ann. As such it is the oldest continuously operated school in British Columbia. The school was originally called St. Louis School and was situated in Mission Flats (a suburb of Kamloops). The school moved to Nicola Street and was renamed St. Ann's Academy very early in its history. The present site was selected and purchased by the Sisters in 1910. St. Ann's on the Hill was born. The school continued to grow for the next thirty years, until tragedy struck on V-E Day 1945 and the upper two floors were destroyed by fire.

The school recovered from this disaster and under the guidance of Bishop Harrington a new wing was completed. The school now offered a full high school program, but found it increasingly difficult to keep up

with the changing demands of B.C.'s curriculum changes.

St. Ann's Academy remained a high school until 1970 when it reverted to an elementary school. The Sisters continued to administer the school until 1978, when Mr. Dale Scherer was appointed principal. With the arrival of the Brothers in 1981 Brother James C. Bates became the principal (the first Christian Brother principal) and Dale became the Vice-principal. Dale remained in that position until his retirement in 2007.

At the reception following the liturgy, two teachers from the school, Mrs. Dianne Langevin and Mrs. Sandy Babcock, unveiled a plaque which would hang in the school recognizing the contribution of the Brothers to the school. The plaque lists the names of all six Brother Principals of the school, and the names of all Brothers who ministered at the school.

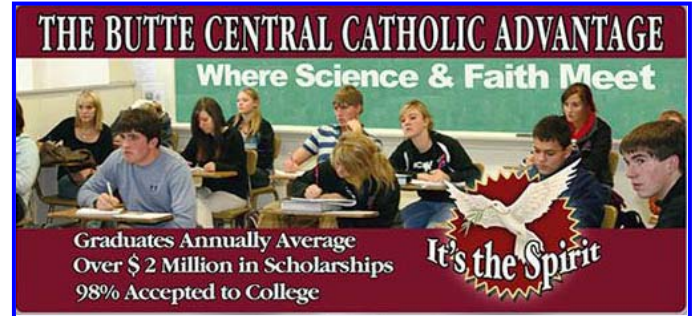


BUTTE CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Butte, Montana



**Br. Donatus
McCormack**

To the right is a picture of a billboard from Butte Central designed in part by Brother Donatus McCormack. It is located at a busy intersection and will be up for the months of January and February coinciding with Catholic Schools' Week and recruiting time, then again in June and July prior to registration and the opening of the new school year.



THE RELIGIOUS BROTHERS CONFERENCE 2010 Convention.

**RBC Annual Convention
July 23 – 26, 2010**

**St. Louis Marriott West Hotel
Maryville Center Drive
St. Louis, Missouri**

Keynote Speaker and Facilitator:

**Brother Sean Sammon, FMS
Former Superior General of the Marist Brothers**

Further information will follow. At this point we would like to invite you to mark your calendar and join us for our Thirty-ninth Annual Convention.

- **Members of Oregon Catholic Press will again provide the Music and prepare the Liturgies and Prayer services for this Convention.**
- **Continuing Education Units in Pastoral Ministry will be provided through the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.**
- ***Starting with this Convention*, Academic Credit will also be offered to those participants enrolled in a Graduate School of Theology. This credit will be provided through the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago; academic requirements will be provided.**

EDMUND RICE NETWORK WEBSITE



**Br. Michael
Burke**

Dear brothers and others in the ER network,

This has to be a circular letter because it needs to reach many people, but please give it a few moments. I'm writing to invite you to be part of making our global umbrella website – www.edmundrice.net – really *work* for us all. I've recently taken over from Brother Michael Godfrey as editor, working with Brother Francis Hall of the CLT and Neil Richards who handles the technical design, and we need your help to get it widely read.

So if you seldom or never look at it, my first request is simply: *please open it weekly*. Roughly each week I try to have at least:

- a new thought-provoking reflection in the 'Rice Express' section,
- a new Profile of someone in the ERN,
- four or five new stories that capture something of the Edmund Rice spirit at work in today's world,
- and a column called 'This Week in Prayer' which is a practical resource for your prayer and for preparing prayer for a community or group, based on the week's special days/times/occasions.

And there is a spread of excellent standing items that have been created as a resource – you might explore these to find out what they offer you. In time, we'd like to introduce many new features – maybe a spotlight on particular ministries, a place where ER schools can share some of their best practices, a section where young people can express their ideas/problems/questions, etc.

What can you do to help? Well, if you start by just opening the site regularly, other possibilities will open up quite naturally, for example:

- You could make it your Home Page so as to keep an eye on it.
- You might take up the invitation to write a comment directly under a 'Rice Express' article. We want to get conversation going.
- You could cue me about relevant special occasions/days/events coming up in our part of the ERN so I can mention them under This Week.
- You could cue me or your local 'Webster' (someone asked to supply stories and material from your part of the ERN) about something that may be of interest to the global ERN and to the reading public. There's a list of the Websters at the end of this letter.
- You could write an article or a story (like your own Profile) – just an 8 ½ page-worth of text, plus photo attachments – usually via your Webster.
- You could inform me if there is any information on the site that needs to be included (e.g. a programme), updated (e.g. Vocation Promoters), or corrected.
- When new sections start up, you could help mobilize participation.
- You could give us constructive feedback or make suggestions for the site. We will listen carefully to your ideas, though we trust you'll understand we can't try them all. (We can't even try all our own ideas!)
- You could make the site known to others in and beyond the ERN – one very obvious sphere would be ER school staffs and students. To help with this, I'm offering two advertisements below that you're invited to share wherever you have the chance – newsletters, notice boards, circulars, etc.

By the way, don't be put off (as I was) by the site's old 'Log On' button – it has never worked; it's no longer there; it's just a possibility for the future.

What makes our global site different from your local ERN website and newsletters is its worldwide scope and its particular focus: it's essentially about sharing, through stories and reflections, flashes and glimmers of Edmund Rice spirit – both the spirituality and the action arising. It's about spreading the calls of our recent Chapters. And it's as much for seekers 'out there' as it is for those who already feel at home.

Thanks for not treating this as soft junk-mail! God bless.

Brother Michael Burke

editor of www.edmundrice.net

e-mail: mtbmichael@hotmail.com or find me by clicking 'Contact us'.

YOUR WEBSTERS

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	Mater Dei:	Puriey Musunga	piorib@gmail.com
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EUROPE:		Liam Deasy	liam.deasy@gmail.com
OCEANIA:		Steve McLaughlin	SDMclaughlin@edmundrice.org
INDIA:		to be announced	

KARIBU 2010 - INTERNATIONAL CROSS-CULTURAL PROGRAM Nairobi, Kenya

Note: For those considering Kariboo 2010, it is a community and/or ministry expense. It is not a funded province expense.

What?

An opportunity ...

- ▶ to experience cross-cultural living and immersion
- ▶ to situate your own life and work in a global context
- ▶ to share spiritual journeys in a group setting
- ▶ to develop links within the Edmund Rice Network.

Who?

Open to Brothers and people associated with Edmund Rice — coming in small groups — from around the world.

How?

Preparatory process of personal and group reflection.

During the month-long program

Participants will be expected ...

- ▶ to live in an international community
- ▶ to engage with people in need through immersion
- ▶ to explore new insights on culture and mission
- ▶ to pray, reflect and keep a journal
- ▶ to plan together for future initiatives.

After the month-long program, participants will be expected ...

- ▶ to implement some initiative locally.

Cost?

US \$ 2,000



Applications?

There are only a limited number of places.

Forms are available on-line at... www.edmundrice.org/renewal.

Further Enquiries

Br Peter Richardson at: pjrichardson@edmundrice.org

Africa Province Renewal Team
Christian Brothers and the Edmund Rice Network

Karibu 2010
June 30 – July 21, 2010
International Cross-cultural Program
Loreto Mary Ward Centre, Nairobi, Kenya



Invitation, anticipation...
people from different cultures and walks of life...
Welcome, draw closer... Karibu!

With my new-found friends,
we journeyed...
together...
we shared...
all we had.



International

...the spirit
of African people...
is a powerful gift for all...



Immersion

The more familiar
the journey into the slum became,
the more observant
and confident I could be...
allowing me to be myself.

I am
because we are;
We are
because I am.
— African Proverb



African Culture



Edmund Rice Network



I was coming to help...
in some small way...
to do my bit...
Instead
I found that I was the one being repaired
and made whole again.

Reflection and Ritual



Application Form

KARIBU 2010

International Cross-cultural Program

Nairobi, Kenya

30th June -21st July, 2010

Please Print Personal Details Clearly

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Br, Fr, Sr) _____

Full Name: _____

Current Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

E-Mail: _____ Fax: _____

Present role (in work or ministry):

Name of **current** school/workplace/ministry & location: _____

Previous work/ministry experience: _____

Why do you wish to take part in the KARIBU 2010 program and how do you hope to benefit?

Mention any previous experience of living/working in a cross-cultural setting at home or overseas.

The KARIBU program brings together small groups of people from different parts of the Edmund Rice Network worldwide. It involves advance preparation and subsequent follow through on some local initiative by each small group.

Are you applying as a member of a small group from your area/region/country?

YES NO (circle)

If yes, please give the names of the other members of the small group.

Names, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses of two referees in support of your application:

Name: _____ Name: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Person to contact in case of emergency: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

E-mail: _____

Statement of Waiver for insurance purposes

I understand that certain risks (travel, political unrest etc) are inherent in participation in the KARIBU program of the Christian Brothers in East Africa. I agree to assume those risks. I further agree to hold the Congregation of Christian Brothers and their representatives harmless of any and all liability that may arise in connection with participation in the KARIBU program, 30 June – 21st July, 2010. Personal insurance cover is my own responsibility.

Signature: _____ Dated: _____

Payment

Payment for Karibu is made in Australian dollars using an International Bank Draft payable to “The Trustees of the Christian Brothers” – except for those applying within Australia who should pay in equivalent Australian dollars \$2262.

If you wish to pay electronically, please contact Br Peter Richardson (pjrichardson@edmundrice.org) for bank details.

Forward completed application form with full payment of US \$2000 (AUS \$2262) before 26th February 2010 to:

Br Peter Richardson
Karibu 2010
PO 851
Parkville, Victoria 3052
Australia.

What is a
Brother?

An Answer to
God's Call.



We connect with
the poor and the
marginalized in
our world.

We share and reflect
our experiences in
the light of the
Gospel.

We find our hearts
transformed.

We are Christian
Brothers.

*What we do with
our hearts affects
the whole universe.*

Are you being called to be brother to the world?

Congregation of Christian Brothers • www.cfcvocations.org

In the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice, the founder, the Congregation of Christian Brothers is an international community of vowed religious brothers living and praying in community and missioned by the church for Christian education. The men the Christian brothers seek to join with them are Catholic men who sense a call to live in fraternal community and who wish to minister in the educational apostolates of the church, especially to youth. They are men with the religious inspiration and dedication necessary to live a life of consecrated celibacy and who, through vows of poverty and obedience, place their gifts, talents, and possessions at the disposal of the community in order to meet the needs of God's people. Please contact one of the Brothers listed above.

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

Global Edmund Rice Network
Edmund Rice Christian Brothers NA
Edmund Rice International
Christian Brothers Vocations
Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation

www.edmundrice.net
www.ercbna.org
www.edmundriceinternational.org
www.cfcvocations.org
www.edmundriceinternational.org/jpic