



PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

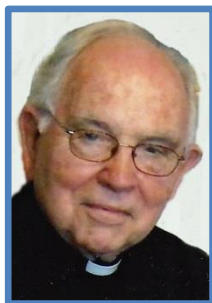
A PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

Volume 9, Issue 1

September, 2013

MOUNT ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY

St. John's, Newfoundland



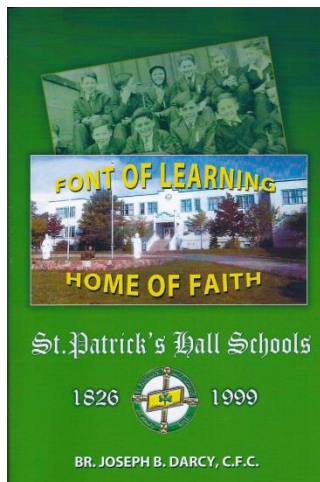
Brother Joseph Bertrand Darcy, the senior member of the Mount St. Francis Community in St. John's, Newfoundland, has just published *The History of St. Patrick's Hall Schools* in St. John's. For Brother Darcy, at 93 years old and the second oldest Brother in North America, this is his fourth book publication.

In addition to this, he wrote a sacred musical, "*Miracle in Stone*" for the 150th anniversary of the St. John the Baptist Basilica in St. John's. His musical depicted the building of the Basilica. All the music and script for this musical were his original compositions. It was performed professionally in the Basilica to celebrate its anniversary.

Before it stopped publication, he was a regular contributor to the Catholic newspaper of the St. John's archdiocese, *The Monitor*. He is a current contributor to *Catholic Insight* magazine.

For more information about these books, or to purchase a copy of any book, please contact Brother Darcy at jbdarcynl@gmail.com or at 4 Merrymeeting Road, St. John's, NL A1C 6K8. The cost per book is \$20, plus the shipping charge.

St. Patrick's Hall Schools, 1826 – 1999



St. Patrick's Hall Schools, the creation of the Benevolent Irish Society (BIS), was the first modern school in Newfoundland. No ordinary educational establishment, it played a primary part in raising the Catholic young men of St. John's from the degrading poverty that was their lot in the early 19th century to economic affluence and to positions of importance in society in the 20th century.

For Newfoundland itself, St. Pat's, as it was known, played a seminal role in transforming the primitive social and economic structure that existed in Newfoundland in the 19th century into the sophisticated society of the present. It did this by developing educated, responsible citizens who were capable of providing the infrastructure that made this transformation possible.

Newfoundland owes a debt of gratitude to the BIS, which inspired and financed St. Pat's, as well as to the Christian Brothers who were the main architects of its development.

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"Let us rejoice and give thanks, not only that we have become Christians, but that we have become Christ! Do you grasp this? Do you understand the enormous grace God has given us? Stand in awe and rejoice - we have become Christ!"

St. Augustine of Hippo

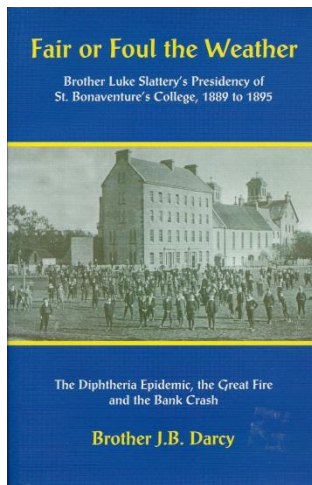


www.ercbna.org

Compassion and liberation
in the spirit of
Jesus and Edmund

Brother Darcy's other published works are:

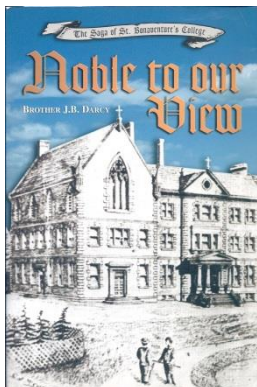
Fair or Foul the Weather, Brother Luke Slattery's Presidency of St. Bonaventure's College, 1889 - 1895



If a novelist, writing of a small city in a small country, were to cram into a seven-year period such calamities as a terrible epidemic, a devastating city-wide fire and the crash of all the country's banks, he would rightly be suspected of overstepping the bounds of dramatic possibility. Nevertheless, such were the traumatic events which formed the background for Luke Slattery's seven-year regime as President of the illustrious St. Bonaventure's College in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Brother Luke Slattery, the principal teacher at the latter institute, was assigned the task of reviving the hallowed but dying institution. After taking up this responsibility, Brother Slattery wrote a constant stream of voluminous letters to his Superiors in Ireland commenting on every facet of life in his adopted country. He possessed a most eloquent pen and poured out in these letters his hopes and fears, his successes and frustrations, as the disasters mentioned above inundated the College and defeated so many of his promising plans. To his gifted pen we are indebted for a graphic picture of the impact of these disasters on the life of the island and on individual citizens. Imbued with sympathy for the ordeals of the people, Brother Slattery's accounts are also unique. They relate events not as historical but as experienced by one who was personally undergoing the brunt of their violence and witnessing their impact on those around him.

Nobel to our View, The Saga of St. Bonaventure's College

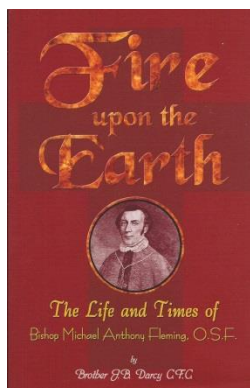


St. Bonaventure's College is one of the oldest and most recognized educational facilities in St. John's, Newfoundland. Designed by James Purcell and built by Patrick Keough, the school opened in 1856 and continues to prosper today.

Graduates of St. Bon's have held leading positions in the educational world, the political sphere, the business world, and the literary scene. The alumni also include eleven Bishops and Archbishops, and over one hundred priests and Monsignori.

This work tells the story of the building, the students, the teachers and the history behind this institution.

Fire upon the Earth, The Life and Times of Bishop Michael Anthony Fleming, O.S.F.



When Father Fleming became Vicar Apostolic of Newfoundland in 1830, Newfoundland was the hub of England's empire, but the Irish Catholics who underpinned this prosperity with their manual labour were barely tolerated.

In their defence, though without a penny to his name, and without any influence beyond his own integrity, the now Bishop Fleming successfully challenged the Establishment, both civil and religious.

This, together with his perilous journeys around the island to minister to his widely scattered flock and his extraordinary achievement in erecting the Basilica Cathedral, marks him as one of the giant personalities of the first half of the nineteenth century.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS RETREATS

Summer, 2013

Christian Brothers Retreat in Beacon, NY



**Br. Seán
Whitty**

On July 1-5, 2013, in Beacon, New York, 14 Brothers attended the retreat at St Lawrence Friary directed by Father Peter McIsaac, SJ, from Jamaica. Father McIsaac, in two presentations each day, led us through the seven stages of the inner spiritual life journey using as his material the seven major miracle stories of St John's Gospel. The presentations were interesting, very informative and challenging. We began each day with Morning Prayer, using the Gospel of the day as our theme. The Eucharist was daily celebrated at 5 pm and the day ended with Night Prayer outside. During the day there was ample time for rest, personal prayer and reflection. As well, we did manage to celebrate July 4 with a good meal and a social. It was overall a good retreat and the Brothers were thankful and happy with the time together.

"Rest in Cosmic Love" Retreat at Jericho House in Wainfleet, Ontario

From July 7 – 13, 2013, in Jericho House, 19 Brothers and Sisters participated in a seven-day retreat directed by Sister Maureen Wild, a Sister of Charity of Halifax. The retreat revolved around the creation-centered spirituality of the mystics within the Christian tradition. We explored the new Universe Story using the seven chokras and a wealth of insights from Brian Swimme, Father Thomas Berry CP, Teilhard de Chardin SJ, Hildegard of Bingen, as well as other Christian mystics and recent popes. Maureen presented the week very well in a gentle, compassionate, prayerful way which pleased all those who participated. There was ample reflection time given for significant readings from our wisdom figures as well as time for poetry, music, song and even dance. For each of the seven chokras we had a specific sacred movement. All participants were very happy with the whole experience.

Attending the retreat were Brothers Bosco Wakeham and Harry French (Mount St. Francis Community), Bill Colford (Ontario), Sean Whitty (All Saints Community), Barry Lynch (Mount Sion Community) and Bill Carrothers (Jericho House Community) as well as thirteen Sisters from various congregations in Canada and the United States.



Social concluding the retreat at Jericho House.

LOS HERMANOS COMMUNITY

Bonita Springs, Florida

"Were we to know the merit and value of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbor for the love of God, we should prize it more than silver and gold." Blessed Edmund Rice



**Br. Ben
McDonough**

The above quote from our Founder was very appropriate this summer here in paradise for many of the Edmund Rice Family.

What a fantastic summer for the children at our camp! They had a total of 46 students from our schools help to make their summer experience awesome. Molly Kenny from Prairie Village, KS, and Jasmine Moreno from El Paso, TX, were our *Notre Dame University* counselors who spent two months in community with us, helping to run the camp and drive the busses.

We were blessed to have helpers from *Trinity HS* in Ocala, FL, *Bishop Hendricken HS* in RI, *Bishop Kearney* in Rochester, NY, *All Hallows Institute* in the Bronx, NY, *Brother Rice HS* in Bloomfield Hills, MI, and alumnae from *Tampa Catholic HS*. Six out of the eight weeks of the camp were covered by these high school students giving up part of their summer break to help here in Bonita Springs.



The summer camp which we help to staff and sponsor was run by Mr. Matthew Zeek from Catholic Charities. Forty-five children were enrolled in the camp and 46 students from our schools helped. What a ratio of kids to counselors this was.



What an experience it was for the little ones as well as the bigger ones!!! This was a blessing and great experience for all involved. Each night, Brother Ben McDonough prepared dinner for the groups. The groups were housed at the *Ranch House Motel* a few blocks from the Los Hermanos Community, where meals were shared. We are so grateful for the sharing of time, treasures and talents of the students in our schools!

Brother Mike Connolly and Associate Rigoberto Rodriguez have been very busy renovating one of the Iona House Corporation's properties. We are very grateful to Mr. Dario Frisardi, a graduate of *Catholic Memorial HS* in Boston who spent two months with us helping out and working on the renovations

Bishop Hendricken HS Trip June 2013
Los Hermanos Camp Bonita Springs, FL



Tom and Mary Jo Gambardella and Vin Mancuso spent a full two weeks here with eight boys from Hendricken.

All Hallows & Bishop Kearney 2013
Los Hermanos Camp Bonita Springs,



Ms. Pippa Bianco, Campus Minister at Bishop Kearney, arrived with three students and Brother Jim Hamilton from All Hallows came with five boys.

Brother Rice HS, Bloomfield Hills , MI 2013
Los Hermanos Camp Bonita Springs, FL



Mr. Thane Hall and Mr. Bob Barnes brought nine men from Brother Rice HS for week seven of the camp. Five of the nine young men are Chaldean and Aramaic was their first language.

Los Hermanos Camp Bonita Springs
Tampa Group July 2013



The last week of camp was covered by young women who were here four years ago as students of Tampa Catholic HS. Now as college students and beyond, they returned to help out with the last week this year too! They brought some present Tampa Catholic students, a friend and a brother to help. One of the young women just finished her freshmen year at Iona College.

Associates Lucy Morton and Leticia Rubio continue to help staff the Centro Juan Diego Office with Brother Ben McDonough. Associate Lois Boomgaard keeps busy with finding great deals for our weekly “pulgás” or flea markets at the house for the local families. And Associates Bruce and Evelyn Fedor continue to help out when they can.

Brother Joe Payne took some vacation time with Brother Dennis Gunn up at Mepkin Abbey and Disney. Joe continues to teach the marginalized English and is gathering groupies who want in on his classes rather than others.




Ten students from Trinity Catholic in Ocala, FL, came with Campus Minister Jennifer Muhlig and Brother Damien Ryan for the first week which was very rainy.

After camp finished Brother Ben went north for retreat and some time with his family.

Things in Saint Leo Parish have gotten better these past few months with a new administrator, Father Jarek, and two new associates, Father Jim Cogan, who as a seminarian spent time helping with the summer camp here, and Father Jamie Gonzalez from Chile. Both Brother Mike and Brother Ben are again involved in the educational ministry of the parish in the RCIA and Confirmation programs. Ben also keeps busy piping at funerals and weddings all over SWFL.

Blessed Edmund Rice Prayer Cards

Pray for us



Founder of the Christian Brothers
and the Presentation Brothers

Will be remembered in the daily Masses and devotions of the Christian Brothers' communities and share in the prayers and good works of the Congregation of Christian Brothers around the world.

Requested by: _____

Address: _____

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

for the Christian Brothers

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

ARCHBISHOP CURLEY NOTRE DAME PREP

Miami, Florida

Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep Receives \$10,000 Grant to Assist with Teachers' Salaries



**Ms. Lisa
Morales**

During the first week of September, Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep received a \$10,000.00 grant from the Catholic Negro-American Mission Board (CNAMB) to assist with teachers' salaries.

"We are happy and grateful to receive this generous grant from the CNAMB," stated Mr. Douglas Romanik, ACND's Principal. "I feel that our school's mission aligns perfectly with that of the CNAMB's. We are committed to provide affordable and accessible education to anyone despite economic and cultural backgrounds. And, by embracing our school's diverse population, we can prepare each student to become involved and compassionate citizens."

ACND Prep, which has an over 50% African-American student population, plans to use the funds to provide monetary bonuses to teachers who provide free after school tutoring or supplemental classes such as SAT Prep. Any additional funds will also assist with ACND's Foundation Program, which is a ninth grade curriculum that provides extra math, reading, writing, and study skills for incoming freshman.

The Catholic Negro American Mission Board, established at New York City in 1907, serves to build the Church in African American communities. The CNAMB has been part of the Black and Indian Mission Office family in Washington, D.C., since 1980.

The CNAMB provides for the needs of parish-based religious education programs serving African Americans. It also helps schools recruit and support dedicated teachers, religious and lay alike.

"It is through the generous support of our benefactors that these grants are made possible," wrote Reverend Wayne C. Paysse, Executive Director of the CNAMB, in his congratulatory letter. "We realize that during these difficult economic times, the generosity of our donors is being stretched. Yet, many generous individuals continue to give faithfully and we are grateful for every penny received."

To learn more about the CNAMB, visit www.blackandindianmission.org and about ACND Prep academics at www.acnd.net.



ACND's 2013 National Honor Society.

Front (L - R): Jose Cruz-Morales, Jenny Lamy
2nd Row (L - R): Daniel Briz, Darby Vilme, Ketsia Dorlean
3rd Row (L - R): Rhian Romanik, Keyanna François

ACND Prep Students Participate In Miami Dolphins Special Teams National Service Day

On September 11, 2013, members of Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep's Edmund Rice Community participated in the *Miami Dolphins Special Teams National Service Day* held at the Sun Life Stadium. The day, designed to honor those currently serving overseas, consisted of sorting, packaging, and preparing thousands of items to be shipped to United States' troops overseas.

“The Edmund Rice Community and all ACND students are committed to living the Gospel message of Jesus Christ through service and prayer,” commented ACND’s Coordinator of Student Services, Br. Jason Ford, CFC. “This event helped to remind our students that there are men and women who have sacrificed much for people they have never meet, while also responding to the basic human needs of our soldiers.”

The Miami Dolphins Special Teams is a unique volunteer organization created to enlist and mobilize the ongoing services of the community with the Miami Dolphins staff, players and alumni. The mission of the Special Teams is to offer hands-on services to communities and families in need, to partner with existing organizations on worthwhile social, civic and charitable programs, to provide assistance at Miami Dolphins Foundation events, and to support community efforts in times of emergency.

The Edmund Rice Community, established at ACND Prep in 1996, commits itself to the ideals of prayer, community, and service in the tradition of Brother Edmund Ignatius Rice, the Founder of the Christian Brothers. The group is composed of approximately 30 adults and students. Adult membership consists of the professed Christian Brothers at the school and the Associates of Edmund Rice in Miami and student membership consists of junior and seniors. The group organizes service activities such as: clothing and food drives, disaster relief projects, landscaping and maintenance assistance projects, and the school’s annual HungerFest.



(l to r) (Back Row) Sean Smith, Rhian Romanik, Daniel Briz, Daniel Diaz, Annasthasia Poitier, Lourdes Giani; (Front Row) Michael Smith, Alyssa Lambert, Shelby Charles; (Front Row) Jamal Mapp, Aisha Louis, Tiffany Ospin, Jenifer Lamy, Milienne Bonenfant, Derotie Pierre, Maniola Monprimer



ACND Prep students gather at the Joe Robbie sign. Tim Robbie, Joe Robbie’s son, graduated from ACND. In 1991, he was the youngest chief executive in the National Football League and credited for turning the Miami Dolphins franchise around. (l to r) Aisha Louis, Tiffany Ospin, Milienne Bonenfant, Daniel Briz, Annasthasia Poitier, Rhian Romanik



Drawn by Mystery Destined for Life

Christian Brothers
Congregation Chapter
March 2014
Nairobi

NEWS FROM BROTHER JOHN HOLDEN, CFC

Bo, Sierra Leone

Greetings from Toronto. I'm sending along a couple of photos, if you have space in the next newsletter, of Jerry & Bob Picco's visit for dinner at Mount St. Francis in St. John's, Newfoundland, this past summer.

Jerry & Bob, both graduates of Brother Rice HS in St. John's and good friends of mine all through our school years (St. Joseph's, Kilbride, Holy Cross and Br. Rice). Their whole family moved to the U.S.A. in 1965, where they've lived ever since. Bob (Gabriel) is an Edmundian, having joined the Brothers after graduating from Rice in 1964.

Jerry and I were in the same homeroom and in the first graduating class at Brother Rice with Brother Raph Bellows as our Principal and English Literature and English Language teacher and Brother Harry French as our physics teacher, (we were both members of Harry's physics club). It's the first time Jerry and I have met since graduating from high school 50 years ago. Dinner at the Mon was good opportunity for them to re-connect especially with Raph, Harry and Brother George Fitzpatrick who were on the first Br. Rice faculty.



(l to r) Mr. Jerry Picco, Brs. Raph Bellows, Harry French, John Holden



(l to r) Br. Harry French, Mr. Jerry Picco, Edmundian Bob (Gabriel '64) Picco, Br. John Holden

ST. LAURENCE HIGH SCHOOL

Burbank, Illinois

Congratulations to this year's inductees into the St. Laurence Athletic Hall of Fame. The full list of the inductees is below. They will be inducted at the Viking Pride Dinner on November 8th.

There is still time to nominate alumni for the Viking Pride Awards. Click on the link below to fill out a nomination form. There will be awards for CEO of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, and Professional of the Year. http://www.stlaurence.com/alumni_main

Robert Bennett '86 - Football

Raul Cepeda '99 - Hockey

Joseph DiGangi '93 - Baseball

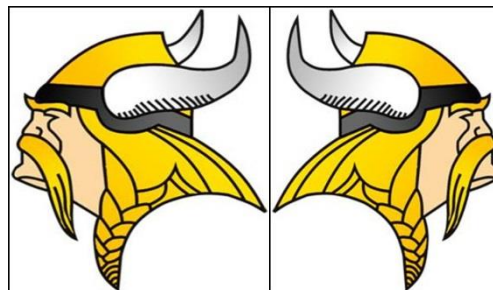
Edward Flores '90 - Soccer

Tom Pallardy - Coaching (Basketball/Baseball)

Anthony Paterno '80 - Football/Baseball

Thomas Quirk '86 - Swimming/Water Polo

Michael Urwin '86 - Wrestling



Congratulations to Kevin Bracken '90, who has been inducted into the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame! Kevin is a 5-time U.S. National and Olympic team Greco-Roman Wrestling champion. Congratulations on a well-deserved honor.

GUADALUPE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Brownsville, Texas

e-Reader Program Ready to Scale



Mr. Michael
Motyl

During the 2012-2013 school year, thanks to a generous grant from the KinderMorgan Foundation, GRMS was able to pilot a 1:1 E-Reader program with the eighth grade class. Under the guidance of Mrs. Gabby Zavaleta, eighth grade Language Arts Teacher, each student was loaned a brand new Amazon Kindle loaded with novels that would be covered in class. This program was launched in response to the needs of our student body, many of whom learned English as a second language, and aimed to increase language acquisition skills, boost reading comprehension capabilities, and foster a fundamental love for reading using 21st century technology.

In evaluating the pilot program at the end of the school year, it was clear it was a success and a school-wide 1:1 E-Reader program would truly enhance the academic program at GRMS. Students' interest and excitement regarding reading increased, and there were higher levels of student engagement during class. GRMS hopes to secure funding before the beginning of the school year to purchase E-Readers for the rest of the student body. Once the program is implemented school wide, the E-Readers will be used for cross-curricular purposes and for student leisure reading during Study Hall and free time.



Make a Difference - Join a Focus Group

As GRMS leaps into its second decade of existence and our alumni go from backpacks to briefcases, it has become important to ask ourselves about next steps for GRMS's relationship with our older graduates. To help answer this question, we are enlisting help from some of our like-minded supporters and friends, gathering these individuals to form focus groups, which include GRMS alumni, to help lay a roadmap for the future of our signature Graduate Support Program. We have been informally collecting data and ideas to enhance our graduate connection for years, and the time has come to strengthen our program using that information and the collective ideas of others who have experience with other alumni or membership programs. GRMS has kicked off the process and is currently seeking more volunteers to participate.

Neighbors for Newtown



In recent months, GRMS was asked to participate in partnership with Grove Realty, Brownsville Living, and a number of other Brownsville organizations and businesses to create a memorial to honor the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting tragedy. Although Brownsville is 2,000 miles away, we felt moved to show our solidarity with our far-away-neighbors, along with others around the country.

Spearheaded by Craig Grove, a number of donations by community members was made for the GRMS community to create an original memorial and send it to Newtown, where they are planning on constructing a Children's Museum in honor of those lost in the tragedy. Ms. Jennifer Rose, GRMS art and technology teacher, led the efforts on campus, which included the participation of all students. GRMS has been honored to take part in this special collaboration.

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.

What is a
Brother?



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.*



An Answer to
God's Call.

Are you being called to be brother to the world?
Congregation of Christian Brothers • www.cfcvocations.org

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

Please direct inquiries to:

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bromaccfc@yahoo.com