



PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

A PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

Volume 9, Issue 5

March, 2014

EDMUND RICE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS NEW CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

At our recent Congregational Chapter in Nairobi, Kenya, the delegates elected a new Congregational Leadership Team to guide our Congregation for the next six years. The members of the Congregation Leadership Team are:



Hugh O'Neill, cfc

Chaminade College School, Toronto, and later at Roncalli High School in Avondale, Nfld. He completed an M.Ed. in Special Education and taught for two more years at St. Thomas More before being assigned to Dominica in the West Indies as the principal of St. Mary's Academy for three years.

Brother Hugh O'Neill, cfc, is the new Congregational Leader. He is currently completing his term as Province Leader for Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America. He grew up in New Westminister, BC, just outside Vancouver. He attended St. Thomas More where he encountered the Brothers and studied microbiology at the University of British Columbia. He entered the Novitiate in 1974. Following an assignment to Antigua, he went to teach at St. John's, Nfld, where he completed his B.Sc. and B.Ed. He taught in



Peter Dowling, cfc

Brother Peter Dowling, cfc, is our Deputy Congregational Leader. He is from Melbourne, Australia. He has been involved in school, social welfare and leadership ministry in Australia, and more recently was a member of the last Congregation Leadership Team. Peter's qualifications are in education, counselling and social science. Experience of meeting the Brothers and Edmund Rice Network people around the world has been a wonderful privilege for him, and he looks forward to being part of this new team. His interests include the fortunes of Collingwood, an Australian Rules football team and the daily challenge of Sudoku.

A Blessing

May the light of Mystery illuminate me and may the flame of love burn brightly in me. May I discover each day anew my own hidden fire and enter it fully.

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Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.

Collect, Ash Wednesday

Brother Julian McDonald, cfc, joined the Congregation in 1960, after being educated by the Good Samaritan Sisters and Christian Brothers at Rozelle and Lewisham, Sydney, NSW. He taught English, Latin, French and Religious Education at secondary level for 11 years. He was principal of Trinity Senior High School in Wagga Wagga for three years. He was also Director of Formation and Vocation Director for 12 years, simultaneously lecturing in French, English and Child Psychology at Mt. St. Mary College of Education, Strathfield, and Catholic College of Education, Sydney. Julian was the Director of the International Tertianship in Rome (1988-90); Province Leader, St. Mary's Province, Australia (1990-2002); Chancellor, Australian Catholic University (2000-2009); member of Oceania Province Leadership Team (2007-2014); and Deputy Province Leader for last few years. He has had 24 years dealing with sexual abuse issues. He was admitted as an Officer in the Order of Australia, AO, in 2003. Julian has received honorary doctorates from Divine



Julian McDonald cfc Word University, PNG (2007) and Australian Catholic University (2013). His interests are beach fishing and children's literature.

Brother John Casey, cfc, joined the Congregation in 1983 and, after working as a secondary school teacher in Ireland, went to Latin America in 1997. He has worked in Uruguay, Bolivia and Perú since then. His ministry initially was with teenagers in informal education and community development work in marginalized communities. He has been Region Leader in Latin America since 2004. He was involved in the evolution of the "A Way Into The Future" plan as a Spark Group member and most recently was part of the "Transition Support Team" charged with implementing this plan.



John Casey cfc

Brother Richard Walsh, cfc, was born in Dunedin, New Zealand, where he attended the Brothers' schools for nine years before travelling to Australia for novitiate and two further years of initial formation. He subsequently returned to New Zealand where he was a member of the communities in Dunedin and Christchurch, including periods on the New Zealand PLT and as principal of St. Thomas of Canterbury College. In 2001, Richard moved to Zambia as Director of the International Spirituality Centre in Lusaka. In 2005 he was appointed the first Province Leader of the newly formed Africa Province.



Richard Walsh cfc

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Brother Dennis Gunn. On March 27th he successfully defended his Ph.D. dissertation at Fordham University. The title of his dissertation is "Toward Infinite Horizons of Wonder: Bernard Lonergan's Philosophy of Education and the Role of Critical Thinking in Teaching Religion in Catholic High Schools."

He will also be presenting part of his research next month at the NCEA national convention in Pittsburgh with a talk on "The Role of Critical Thinking in Adolescent Faith Development."



ARCHBISHOP CURLEY NOTRE DAME PREP

Miami, Florida



**Ms. Lisa
Morales**

Students from Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep broke a new record raising funds to help feed Miami's homeless, while raising awareness of world poverty at the 18th Annual HungerFest. Each year, students abstain from food and drink (other than water) for 27 hours while bagging and delivering lunches to Chapman Assistance Center, Better Way, Camillus House, Lotus House, Miami Rescue Mission, Miami Rescue Mission Women's Shelter, and Missionaries of Charity Mission. Funds raised through the two-day car wash at ACND and Miami Jewish Health Systems benefited ACND's sister schools in Haiti and Peru.

\$4,200.00 was raised and 3,866 lunches were packed and delivered. At the end of the fast, there was a presentation by Andres Novela and Raquel Laurure from Amor en Accion (a Catholic lay missionary community of the Archdiocese of Miami, involved in short-term missions and long-term projects that respond to urgent needs, currently in the Dominican Republic and Haiti), an Agape Mass, and a dinner sponsored by Kocoyeh Cuisine located in North Miami.



ACND Prep students fast for 27 hours while packing lunches for Miami's homeless; (left) Aisha Louis; (right front) Iboni Richards; (right back) Jolina Gonzalez



Process from the HungerFest car wash and sponsorship donations topped last year's record; and this year \$4,200.00 was raised to benefit ACND's sister schools in Haiti and Peru. (front) Tiffany Ospin; (back) Annasthasia Poitier

On Friday, March 7, 2014, six young artists from Archdiocesan middle schools received the *Middle School Art Festival Viewer's Pick Award*. Their winning artwork was exhibited and seen by hundreds of visitors who attended *First Friday Art Walk* at McCormick Place in Downtown Miami.

This event topped off Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Prep's annual *Middle School Art Festival* that began in December with a selection process, continued with the art being reviewed by Miami art professionals, and ended January at ACND's gallery with an Opening Reception and exhibit of all 30 pieces. The top six art pieces were chosen by popular vote.

The Viewer's Choice Winners were: Samara Gustafson, Br. Rice Honors Academy (Miami); Gabriela Perez-Robles, Our Lady of the Lakes (Miami Lakes); Elizabeth Rivera, St. Mary Cathedral (North Miami); Astrid Savaresse, St. Patrick (Miami Beach); Alexandria Celaya, Sts. Peter and Paul (South Miami); Rebecca Jean, St. Rose (Miami Shores).

Students had an opportunity to meet and see the studios of the resident artists including Eleazar Delgado, Monique Lassooij, Andrea Beloff, Eva Avila, Andres Conde, Karen Kim. Also professional artists Marcelo

Holzinger, Jane Harris, and Cuqui Beguiristain as well as Sean McCormick (owner of McCormick Place), all jurists for the art festival, were there to applaud the students' achievements.

"I am very excited about the urban growth and the development of the world-renowned art districts near to ACND - Wynwood, the Design District, and now Downtown Miami, with its galleries and flagship, the Perez Art Museum," commented Douglas Romanik, ACND's principal. "We aim to provide as many opportunities for our own students and those who participate in ACND's outreach programs, such as the middle school art festival, to connect and learn from professionals. Just last week our middle school students worked with the pastry chef at the Buena Vista Deli [across the street] on Pi Day, March 14th. Making pies and other circular desserts was the best math lesson!"

This June, ACND's Summer Knights Visual and Performing Arts Camp will connect campers each week to artists, galleries, and museums. Field trips and workshops have been scheduled with ACND Prep's cultural partners: O'Cinema (Wynwood) and FilmGate/Indie Film Club; Perez Art Museum Miami/PAMM (Downtown Miami); De la Cruz Collection (Miami Design District); Wynwood Art Walk; and Spoken Word Artist and Vocalist, Omilani.

To see more photos from the art exhibit at McCormick Place, visit

www.acnd.net/HighSchool.asp?photos=MS_Art_Winners.



Samara Gustafson, from the Br. Rice Honors Academy at ACND stands in front of her work, "Flowers Gleam and Glow" with Elvira Aeda Dago (Curator, McCormick Place) and Sean McCormick (Owner of McCormick Place)



(Back Row from l to r): Elvira Aeda Dago, McCormick Place Curator; Douglas Romanik, principal at ACND; Edward McCormick, Sr. (McCormick Place owner); Sean McCormick (McCormick Place owner); Br. Jason Ford, CFC, Admissions Director at ACND.

DRAWN BY MYSTERY DESTINED FOR LIFE

Facing Choices About the Future

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America Province Chapter
Jacksonville, Florida – July 12 – 20, 2014

BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Oradell, New Jersey



Mr. Dan Long

Bergen Catholic enjoyed its finest wrestling season in school history this winter, as the Crusader wrestling team finished (24-4) overall, won their 8th New Jersey state championship, and were named as the NJ Team of the Year for the first time in program history. The Crusaders finished ranked 9th overall in the country, and their four losses this winter all came against teams ranked in the top ten in America. BC became only the second Catholic school in 34-years to finish as the top-ranked wrestling team in the Garden State, and the first Catholic school to ever start and finish a season as #1 in the state.

The Crusader program has dominated Bergen County over the past two decades and continued that run of success under legendary head coach Dave Bell this winter. BC won their 17th county championship overall, and their 11th county title in the last 15 seasons. BC also placed 2nd at the Beast of the East Tournament in Delaware which features some of the best competition on the East Coast, and finished 3rd overall at the prestigious Clash National Duals in Minnesota. The Crusaders also captured their 25th consecutive District 7 team title this winter.

After an undefeated regular season against New Jersey competition, Bergen Catholic successfully completed their own “three-peat” and won their third-consecutive Non-Public A state championship, defeating two of the top four teams in the state in the process.

Following their successful team tournament, Bergen Catholic sent 11 of their 14 wrestlers into the individual state tournament in Atlantic City. In the tournament, six Crusaders placed in the top eight in their respective weight classes and BC finished as the only school in New Jersey to have two state champion wrestlers. Congratulations to the BC wrestling program which embodies the school’s commitment to chasing excellence in all aspects of student life!

For more information on Bergen Catholic, please visit our website at www.bergencatholic.org.



BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES THE RE-DEDICATION OF THE ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER



**Ms. Megan
Parks**

A re-dedication ceremony was recently held at Brother Rice High School to celebrate and bless the school's newly renovated Academic Resource Center. Principal Brother Michael Segvich, cfc, and President John Birney, '76, welcomed and honored those who were instrumental in the project. Key staff members, distinguished donors, auction event planners, together with the architect and construction project manager, gathered to bless and tour the space.

Originally opened in 1989 as the first major addition to the original school, the nearly 6,000 square foot library housed the school's hardcover texts and periodicals. As computer technology became increasingly commonplace during the 1990's, the facility was minimally updated and renamed the Media Center. One of the objectives of the school's 2012 Strategic Plan was to adapt and implement 21st century learning methodologies throughout the curriculum. In recognition of this initiative, and as a result of the dramatic impact of modern information technology tools on academics, the school made it a priority to redesign the facility. Funds raised from the highly successful 2013 Irish Nite Auction, combined with specific donations from a few generous donors, made the renovation of what is now referred to as the Academic Resource Center a reality.



**Brother Michael Segvich, cfc, principal, invokes a blessing
of the space.**



**Director of Technology Chris McCoy and
Architect Paul Stachowiak demonstrate key
technology features of the ARC.**

past 10 years on various phases of their facility renovation. With the completion of this project they have successfully integrated the improvements they have made in the classrooms with the hub of the school. We look forward to continuing with their impressive vision as they break ground on the Science & Engineering Wing."

President John Birney, '76, stated with gratitude, "We are incredibly thankful for the generous donations that made this renovation possible. This space serves as the center for student research and learning, thus enhancing our students' overall experience. We are very aware that collaboration is a much more common element of learning and now we have the space for students to fully interact. With this newly renovated Academic Resource Center, we are able to complement our existing first-rate curriculum."

"It has been a pleasure to work with Brother Rice," said President Paul Stachowiak of award winning Integrated Design Solutions who served as the architect for the project. He continued, "We have worked with Brother Rice for the

The gift that made this possible and the effort of staff and volunteers represents an extraordinary vote of confidence for Brother Rice and for the mission of providing a quality Catholic education committed to 21st century learning.

Birney emphasized the school's strong and vibrant future, "Brother Rice will continue to move forward with its Strategic Plan, advancing our mission and continuing the fundraising efforts necessary to bring these and other projects to fruition."

Charles Gleeson, President of CE Gleeson Constructors Inc., served as the general contractor on the job. Gleeson, a 1980 graduate of Brother Rice and the father of three current students, knew first-hand the importance of completing the project on time and on budget. "It was a privilege to be able to handle the construction of the ARC. I'm pleased to be able to deliver such a top notch space for my own boys to benefit from, not to mention the hundreds of Rice students who will pass through these doors," Gleeson said.

Elements of this exciting renovation include:

- A new configuration that offers flexible space for a computer center, meeting area and lounge for small group learning
- A Netfloor system installed over the existing concrete, allowing for fully accessible cable and power trenches for all future configurations and needs
- Projectors and flat screens for professional presentations for individuals, small groups and classes
- A centralized resource desk for tutors, ACT prep and the Writing Center
- Private study carrels
- Dedicated office space for the ARC Director and faculty
- New carpet and paint

Those in attendance symbolized the group effort necessary to complete this project.



Congratulations to those pictured: 2014 Auction Co-chair, Nora Hamill; President of Integrated Design Solutions, Paul Stachowiak; Director of Technology, Chris McCoy; Director of Advancement, Chris Drouin '93; Project Manager CE Gleeson Constructors, Inc., Steven Taseski ; President John Birney '76; 2014 Auction Co-chair, Ken Alessi; Seated: Distinguished Donor Mary Petrovich; Auction Coordinator, Susan Reid; 2013 Auction Sponsor, Suzanne Iacobelli; Auction Coordinator, Michelle Lievois.

IONA COLLEGE

New Rochelle, New York



The Thomas Merton Contemplative Initiative at Iona College & Blue Cliff Monastery invite you to join: Easter Retreat: An Exploration of Christian and Buddhist Double-Belonging, *April 17-20, 2014*.

Zen Master, Thich Nhat Hanh, teaches us that religious traditions interact; they are not separate from one another. Join us for our Easter retreat at Thich Nhat Hanh's Blue Cliff Monastery, a mindfulness practice centre located in New York's Catskill region.

This retreat offers the opportunity for us to deepen our experience of Christ as Buddha, as brothers and as

spiritual teachers. Through the practice of mindfulness as taught by Thich Nhat Hanh, we will explore our deep connection to both of these teachers. In the words of Catholic theologian Paul Knitter, we find greater strength and meaning through our experience of "double-belonging."

This retreat will be led by monastic Dharma Teacher Thay Phap De, a laicized Catholic priest, and lay Dharma teacher Jeanne Anselmo, along with the monks and nuns of Blue Cliff Monastery.

Join us as we practice mindfulness in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh and walk in the footsteps of the Buddha and Jesus during the Christian Holy Week.

Register Online at: BlueCliffMonastery.org

The Heritage of Iona

A Celebration of the Spirit and Legacy of Saint Columba on the 1450th Anniversary of His Founding the Monastic University at Iona. *Special guest and wisdom guide John Philip Newell*

The Iona Spirituality Institute invites you to a festival day of contemplative reflection to honor the spiritual legacy of Columba's Iona, as Reverend John Philip Newell opens to us the wisdom treasury and teachers of the Celtic tradition.



The name *Iona* evokes an ancient spiritual legacy that endures to this day. Nearly 15 centuries ago the Irish monk Columba and his companions founded a center for spiritual culture to illuminate the world with grace and hope - a great school for mystical transformation, intellectual learning, artistic expression, ecological care, and social service. Over a half-century ago the Congregation of Christian Brothers founded a college and named it Iona, whose educational mission likewise bears a deep and long standing commitment to the illumination of culture in the light of faith.

Dr. John Philip Newell is a poet, peacemaker, writer and scholar. Formerly Warden of Iona Abbey in the Western Isles of Scotland, he is the co-founder of *Heartbeat: A Journey Towards Earth's Wellbeing* and is Companion Theologian for the American Spirituality Center of Casa del Sol at Ghost Ranch in the high desert of New Mexico. An ordained minister of the Church of Scotland with a passion for peace among the great wisdom traditions of humanity, he holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh, and is internationally acclaimed for his work in the field of Celtic spirituality. He has authored over 15 books, including *Listening for*

the Heartbeat of God, Praying with the Earth, and his most recent visionary work, *A New Harmony: the Spirit, the Earth, & the Human Soul*. In 2011 he received the Contemplative Voices Award from the Shalem Institute in Washington, DC. Visit www.SalvaTerra.org.

Throughout the day, enjoy the music of *Celtic Incantation* with Kathleen Deignan, CND, and Beth Bradley; poetry by Ann Deignan; the sound and steps of the Iona Pipers and Dancers; and the culinary artistry of Chartwell's Chefs who will offer an imaginative Celtic luncheon and variety of refreshments.

Important Registration Information

Saturday, April 12, 2014: 9:30 AM –10 AM Registration / Program 10 AM - 5 PM

Burke Lounge of Spellman Hall, Iona College

715 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

Seating is limited, attendees must reserve their space.

Pre-Registration by Mail: \$40 (includes luncheon). Registration at the door on the day of event: \$50; Students Gratis / Iona Faculty and Staff: \$25.

Checks payable to Iona Spirituality Institute. For information call 914 633 2590



THE NEW IONA CONNECTION SITE IS LIVE!

<http://ionaconnection.com/s/1551/start.aspx>

We are excited to announce our redesigned alumni website. The fresh new look, user-friendly navigation and search functionality are some of the featured highlights. Use the easy drop down menus to view updated information about alumni benefits, career networking opportunities, events, ways to get involved and much more. Visit the new Iona Connection to become a member or re-register your membership today!

All the best, and Go Gaels!

Paul J. Sutera

Senior Vice President for Advancement & External Affairs.

Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations with questions or concerns.



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 Jacque Keefe, cssf, Brother Bill Carrothers, cfc

GUADALUPE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Brownsville, Texas



**Br. Tom LeJeune front
Br. Dave Concannon behind.**

want to say a very special thank you to all our donors, benefactors, parents, students, faculty and staff for making this dream a reality," said Mrs. Stapleton.

Mrs. Stapleton and her husband also kicked off the "Buy a Seat on the Bus" Campaign by delivering the first \$500 donation to help raise the last of the funds needed to complete the purchase. They were quickly followed by GRMS's technology/art teacher Ms. Jennifer Rose, who gave her donation in honor of her son, Patrick James.



8th graders pose with the school's new bus

A creative group of parent volunteers surprised students with a lovely reception of juice and tasty treats to round out the celebration.



ERCBNA
Justice Peace Integrity of Creation
Promoting social justice and eco-justice



A TRIBUTE



The following was written by Brother Bosco Wakeham, (Mount St. Francis Community, St. John's, Newfoundland) as a tribute to our senior Brothers, especially those living at St. Joseph's Residence in New Rochelle, New York.

ST. JOSEPH'S RESIDENCE

*Once young and active,
now frail and feeble,
my confreres carry on.
Their unfailing faith
and joyful hope
make them ever strong.*

*Their feet unsteady,
their hearing poor,
their sight declining, too,
with steadfast love,
unswerving faith,
they don't fail to follow you.*

*Now in old age,
as in their youth,
unselfishly they serve
the only way
that they can now
and heaven they deserve.*

E.B. Wakeham, cfc

In Gratitude

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the members of our former Congregation Leadership Team, to thank them for their continued dedication and service to our Congregation, and to assure them of our prayerful best wishes as they move into new ministries in our Congregation.



Br. Philip Pinto



Br. Jack Mostyn



Br. Francis Hall



Br. Peter Dowling



Br. David Gibson

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

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America
Vocations - Please direct inquiries to:
Br. James McDonald, CFC
815.272.7742 or bromaccfc@yahoo.com