



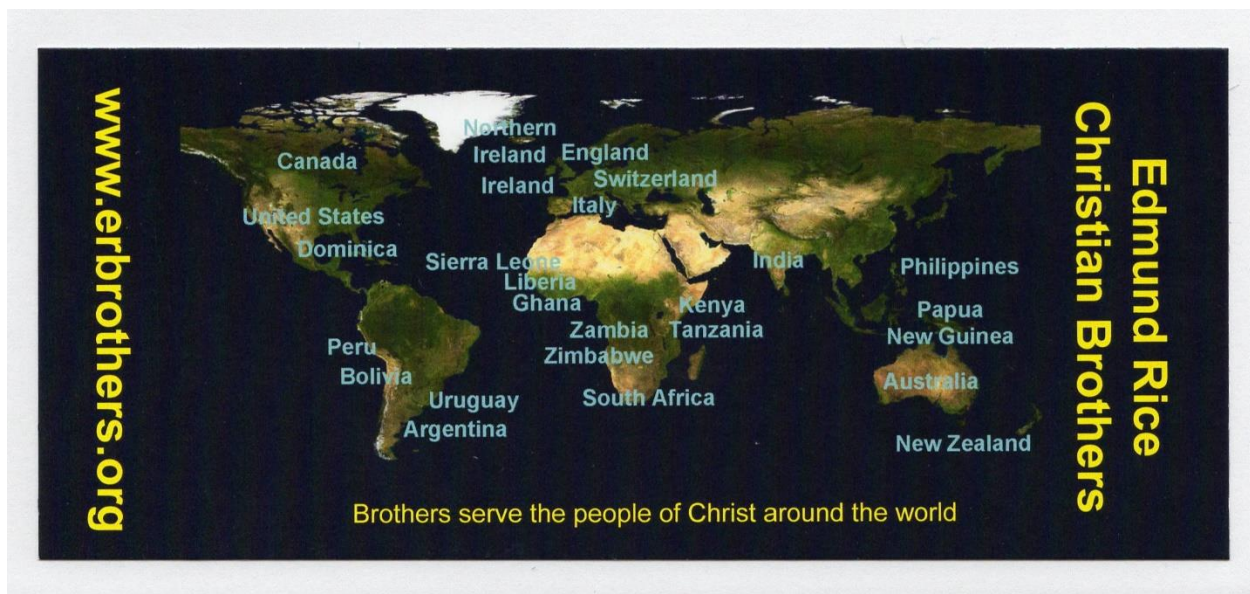
# PROFILES 2020

Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

January 2020

## North American Delegates to the Congregation Chapter

The decade opens with a new edition of PROFILES offering a brief introduction to the six brothers selected as delegates of the North American Province to the General Chapter of the Congregation of Christian Brothers to be held in Lima Peru, in March of 2020.



Congregation Chapters, held every six years, invite the Brothers into serious discernment on our individual and collective faithfulness to Jesus Christ and the Gospel, the Church and her mission, the Charism of our Congregation, and the men and women of our times. Each Chapter seeks to articulate how the Spirit is moving among us and indicate directions for the future.

Over the past six years PROFILES has had the privilege of sharing the stories of fifty-one brothers from the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North American Province, three from the Latin American Region, and two brothers from Africa studying at Iona College. These accounts are kept accessible at the Province Web Site: <http://ercbna.org/>. Their stories chronicle efforts of the brothers to live the calls of the 2014 Chapter – calls to form joyful communities, live a simple life style, be mindful of people made poor, advocate for the voiceless, work

collaboratively within the Church, and welcome new members to the vowed life as Christian Brothers.

Preparations for the 2020 Congregation Chapter have fostered a climate of generative listening. Throughout the world clusters of brothers have shared from the depths of our personal, communal and ministerial experiences an awareness of the Spirit acting among us. The fruits of this discernment are to be the starting point of the gathering in Lima.

Representing the North American Province are the Province Leader, Brother Kevin Griffith, and elected delegates, Brothers Peter Zawot, Peter O'Loughlin, Kevin Cawley, Raymond Vercruysee, and Sean Moffett. Each has been asked to share briefly what stirs within as they prepare for the Chapter.

## Brother Kevin M. Griffith, CFC

Teaching English, assisting students in need of remedial reading, coaching baseball and basketball, and directing the retreat programs were some of the activities that engaged Brother Griffith in his early assignments to All Hallows High School, Bronx, NY, Archbishop Curley-Notre Dame High School, Miami, FL, Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons, Schenectady, NY, and Rice High School, Harlem, NY.

His initial call to Province ministry was in the role of Director of Formation. Subsequently he was elected to the Province Leadership Team and is now entering his second term as Province Leader for the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North American Province.

In this role, Kevin has taken a special interest in the area of advocacy, and much of his ministry is focused on creating an atmosphere where our Province ministries remain cognizant of our responsibility to be advocates for the poor and marginalized in our midst.

Brother Kevin shares the following thoughts about the Congregation Chapter:

*As I prepare for the upcoming Congregation Chapter, I am aware that the global realities of our Congregation must be first and foremost in the minds and hearts of the delegates. I am aware too that we must find a way to strike a balance in resourcing (financial and human) the different areas of the Congregation in advancing Edmund Rice Mission (Education,*





*Advocacy, Community Engagement, and Compassionate Presence) in caring for our senior and infirm Brothers and in addressing the care of our good earth. And that we must do so in light of the call of the Gospel and the Charism of the Founder as we seek to be signs of hope for a faith-filled future guided by the Holy Spirit who always dwells in our midst.*



This photo come from Haiti where Brother Kevin Griffith is thanking the people from the local parish at Sunday Mass for welcoming a student immersion group for the week in Le Borgne, Haiti where they helped to paint/renovate the local Catholic School.



Brother Kevin In Machu Picchu, with Frank Colucci and his son, Joe at the conclusion of the Peru Immersion.

## Brother Peter E. Zawot, CFC

Known by generations of students at Sacred Heart Grammar School, NYC, Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, NJ, Iona Prep, New Rochelle, NY, and Tampa Catholic High School, Tampa FL, as their favorite Biology teacher, Brother Zawot has served as principal at St. John Neumann High School in Naples, FL, Blessed Sacrament – St. Gabriel High School in New Rochelle, NY, Trinity Catholic High School in Ocala, FL, and Damien Memorial School in Honolulu, HI. For the past six years he has been a member of the Province Leadership Team attending particularly to the school ministries of the Province and fostering engagement in Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders. He has recently been appointed to the role of Deputy Province Leader.



Attending what will be his first Congregation Chapter, Brother Zawot comments: *"I look forward to engaging with brothers from around the Congregation, sharing their stories and looking toward and visioning for our common future. I'm sure it will be a grace filled experience."*



## Brother Peter L. O'Loughlin, CFC

Teaching English, History and Religion to students at Brother Rice High School, St. John's, Newfoundland; Chaminade College School in Toronto, Ontario; St. Francis High School, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, St. Thomas More Collegiate, Burnaby, BC, St. Ann's Academy, Kamloops and Vancouver College, Vancouver, BC, Brother Peter O'Loughlin has had the opportunity to be involved in the lives of many young men and women. As Principal of St. Ann's Academy and St. Thomas Collegiate he was able to witness the unique role that parents, and teachers play in the lives of their children and students. Brother has served as Director of Novices and Formation Director and currently serves on the Leadership Team for North America. He was recently appointed to a second term on the Edmund Rice Christian Brother North America Leadership Team.



Brother Peter O'Loughlin and Steven Selvaraj (Patrician Brother from India) at St. Peter's in Rome.

Brother O'Loughlin comments about the upcoming Congregational Chapter to be held in Lima, Peru: *"I believe this Chapter gives us the opportunity to take bold steps in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ as we continue to foster and proclaim the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice to the world. Pope Francis has called us to be bold witnesses, to be servants, to be proclaimers and to be alive with the Holy Spirit active in the world. The Congregation Chapter is a unique opportunity to set directions for the next six years while building on the work of previous Chapters. A Congregation Chapter is a blessed opportunity for all of us who will gather in Lima ... an opportunity to be open to new and exciting possibilities for the Congregation and for those who work with us in fostering the Charism of Blessed Edmund Rice."*



Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Peter O'Loughlin, Brian Monaghan, Jorge Tavera , and Maurice Fernande, at the *Tutti Fratelli* Program in Rome.

## Brother Kevin Cawley, CFC



Brother Kevin Cawley is the representative of *Edmund Rice International* at the United Nations in New York City. In this role he monitors, interacts with other NGO representatives, lobbies for the rights of children, and keeps the Brothers and the whole Edmund Rice Network informed and engaged in works of justice, peace and integrity of creation. See PROFILES January 2017 for a more complete picture of his special mission.

## Brother Raymond J. Vercruysse, CFC



For over 47 years, Ray has taught math, religious studies, accounting, business math and been director of Guidance. Along with teaching, he has coached cross country, indoor and outdoor track at Power Memorial High School, Bergen Catholic High School and All Hallows Institute. Following these efforts, he served as Vocation Director for four years. He was subsequently named principal and then president of Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester, NY. Upon completion of nine years in these leadership roles, he attended the University of San Francisco where he completed a doctorate and became director of the Institute for

Catholic Educational Leadership teaching in the masters and doctoral program. In 2008 Brother Ray was appointed to Province Leadership and now is completing his second six-year term. While in Province leadership he served as the liaison with the Office of Educational Services. During this time, he has conducted workshops regarding best practices in board governance and school leadership addressing various congregations of women and men religious and the National Catholic Education Association Annual Conventions.

Brother Ray offers the following reflection on the upcoming Congregation chapter: *As I prepare for my third chapter, I am hoping for time to hear from the various Brothers attending, how their province/region/district grew as a result of the Nairobi chapter goals and Our Journey Together. I would hope for the opportunity to clarify regional understanding and implementations. From these conversations and the harvesting that was done in preparation for the Chapter, I hope we will begin to piece together a vision for our future as religious in a polarized Church.*

*Our impact has potential to influence those to whom and with whom we minister. We perhaps misread the lasting impression our presence and compassion has on those observing us in our ministries. I believe our brotherhood witnesses to an authentic human effort to live*

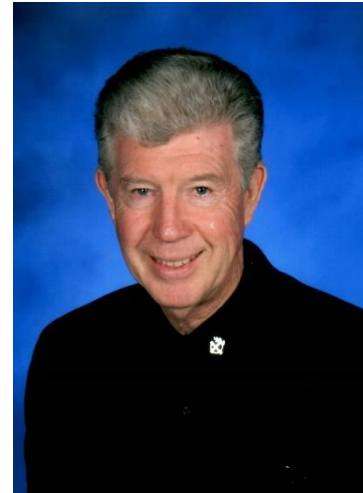


*fulfilling lives in communities that are both 'whole' and 'healthy'. I pray that these efforts will allow others to follow in Edmund's footsteps as Christian Brothers. Past chapters have helped clarify the role of 'Brother'/'brother' in our church. It is a blessing to attend and represent the Brothers.*

## Brother Patrick Sean Moffett, CFC

Another alum of Bergen Catholic and Iona College, Brother Moffett has been a teacher of mathematics, religious studies, and psychology, a counselor or administrator, at Brother Rice High School in Chicago, Iona Prep and Iona College in New Rochelle, and Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School in Miami, FL. He is the President Emeritus of Boys' and Girls' Towns of Italy having ministered to refugee youth in Rome for fifteen years.

Currently he is a member of the Leadership Team of the Edmund Rice North American Province and serves on the Executive Board of the U.S. Conference of Major Superiors of Men. He participated in the Congregation Chapters of 1984 and 2002 in Rome, 2008 in Munar, India, and 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya.



Brother Moffett on a visit to youth sponsored by Boys' and Girls' Towns of Italy ( A Chance in Life) in Kerala, India.



Concerning the Lima Chapter he writes:

*Each international gathering of the Brothers becomes a new expression of the movement of the Holy Spirit and the Charism of Edmund Rice. This past year the Congregation Leadership Team has led us in an intensive experience of generative listening. In small and larger gatherings, we have attended to our encounters with Jesus in each other and in those we are called to serve.*

*We have prayed to be open to the gospel call, to be missionary disciples responsive to the men and women of our times, to embrace the People of God in our individual provinces and in our larger Congregation. Our Lima Chapter promises to be a Pentecost moment. As the event approaches, we pray: Come Holy Spirit.*



This edition of PROFILES closes with an invitation to pray for vocations and especially vocations to the vowed life as Christian Brothers.

Jesus has told us to pray the Lord of the harvest to send out workers. Now is the time, the harvest is ready.

For information on youth ministry, volunteer opportunities, discernment, and religious life, contact:



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