



EDMUND RICE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS NORTH AMERICA

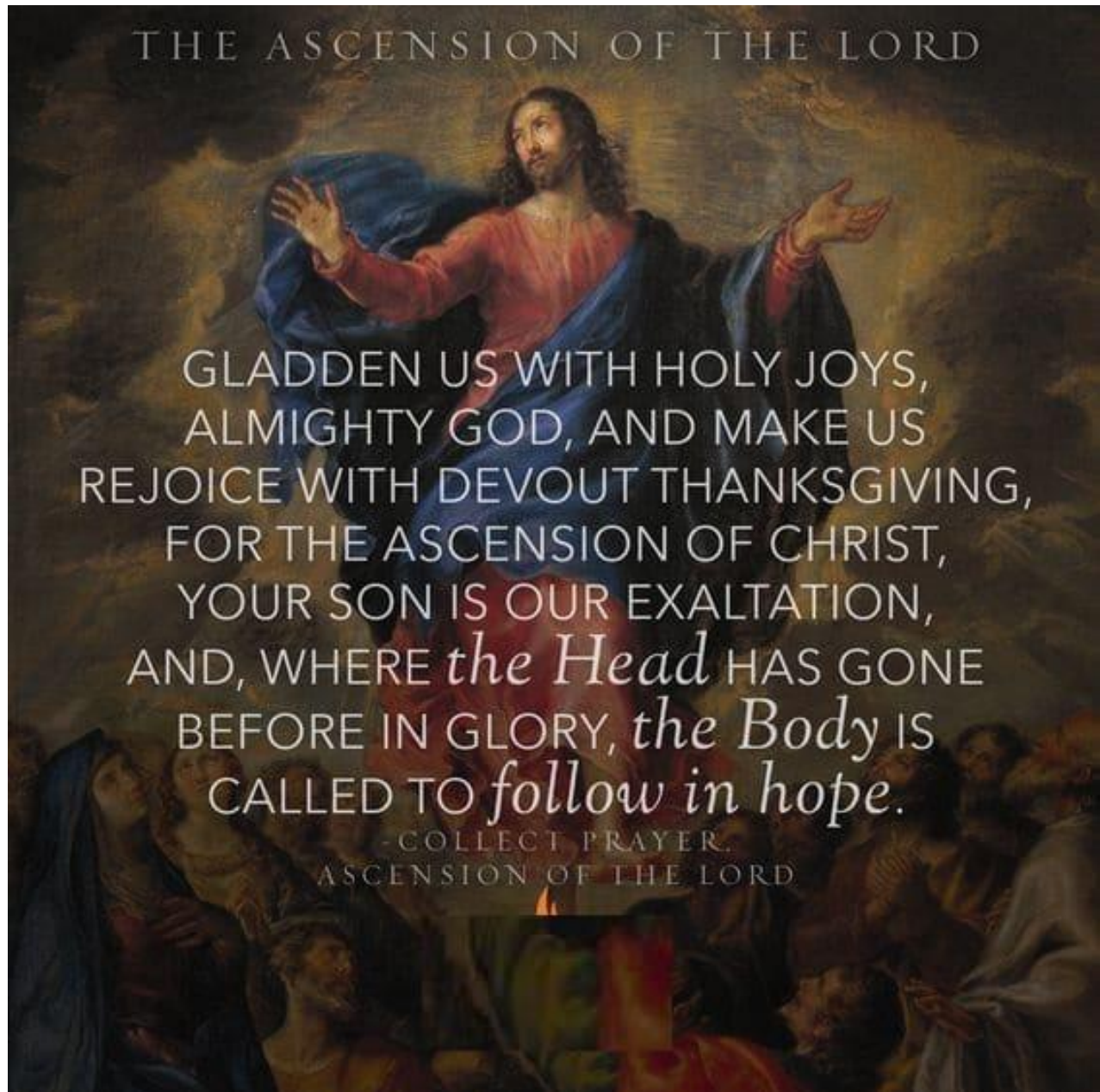
Province News

"Cast all your cares into the arms of Divine Providence" Blessed Edmund Rice

VOLUME 15

MAY 25, 2020

ISSUE 13



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

GLADDEN US WITH HOLY JOYS,
ALMIGHTY GOD, AND MAKE US
REJOICE WITH DEVOUT THANKSGIVING,
FOR THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST,
YOUR SON IS OUR EXALTATION,
AND, WHERE *the Head* HAS GONE
BEFORE IN GLORY, *the Body* IS
CALLED TO *follow in hope.*

- COLLECT PRAYER,
ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Vow Renewal



Bro. Robert Droel

The Province Leadership Team is pleased to announce that we have wholeheartedly approved Brother Robert Droel's request to renew his annual vows as a Christian Brother this June. We thank Rob for his commitment to living as a consecrated Religious and for journeying with us as a Christian Brother. We continue to hold Rob in prayer as he follows God's call in his life.

Office of Educational Services



**Mr. Tom
Gambardella**

The PLT is pleased to announce that Mr. Tom Gambardella will join the office of Educational Services as an associate director, beginning July 1, 2020. We welcome Tom aboard and offer him our prayerful support as he embarks on this new role.

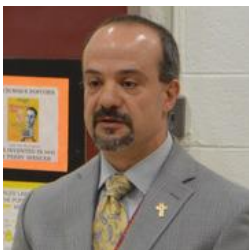
Brother Rice High School, Michigan



On May 3, 2020, Brother Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI kicked off the celebration of its sixtieth year in educating young men in the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers. The below link will bring you to a video marking the event.

<https://brrice.edu/celebrating-60-years-of-brother-rice/>

Iona Preparatory School



Mr. Joe Blanco

Brother Tom Leto, President of the Iona Preparatory School in New Rochelle, New York, recently announced that Mr. Joe Blanco will be transitioning from the role of Lower School Principal to the Iona Prep Director of E-Learning. With this, Tom has announced the appointment of Deirdre Mone as Lower School Principal, beginning July 1, 2020. We offer our prayerful

support to both Joe and Deirdre as they move into these new roles.



Ms. Deirdre Mone

Mt. St. Francis Community



In the midst of this past winter's cold and snow season in St. John's, NL, the Christian Brothers community at Mt. St. Francis lost their furnace and could not adequately heat their residence. Thankfully, the Presentation Sisters offered our Brothers a floor of their residence for as long as needed. After consulting with the Archbishop of St. John's and the PLT, the decision was made to remain with the Presentation Sisters for the upcoming year and an agreement was signed by the Sisters and the Province. This will be

reviewed on a year to year basis.

Mt. St. Francis was the first permanent residence of the Christian Brothers on the North American continent in 1876. As it is owned by the Archdiocese of St. John's, the decision has been made to return it to the Archdiocese in the upcoming months. The departure from Mt. St. Francis will have a significant impact on many of our Brothers, on the church in St. John's and on countless others who identify with the Christian Brothers. Let us hold in prayer our five Brothers who remain in St. John's: Brothers Barry Lynch, Rick Fowler and Harry French now residing with the Presentation Sisters and Brothers. Bosco Wakeham and Dave Murphy in residence at the St. Patrick's Mercy Home.



(l to r) Bros. Rick Fowler, Harry French, Barry Lynch



Br. Bosco Wakeham



Br. Dave Murphy

Laudato Si'



On May 25, 2020 we will commemorate the fifth Anniversary of Pope Francis' highly acclaimed encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. The encyclical, subtitled, *On Care for our Common Home*, encourages "every living person on this planet" to be in dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. Pope Francis has called upon the church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join with him in embarking on a new path. Please see the below link that serves as a resource for all those seeking to participate in activities connected to the Laudato Si' week.

<https://laudatosiweek.org/activities/>

<https://laudatosiweek.org/>



On-Line Retreat Opportunity



The Archdiocese of Chicago is sponsoring an online retreat from June 02 - 24, 2020 focused on assisting Religious who are transitioning into retirement. The retreat is being sponsored in conjunction with Catholic Theological Union. Please see the attached flyer for details.



Catholic
Theological
Union

Attachments

- The Archdiocese of Chicago On-Line Retreat

Calendar of Events

May 19, 2020	PLT Briefing in Elizabeth, NJ.
June 01, 2020	PLT Briefing in Elizabeth, NJ.
June 05, 2020	World Environment Day
June 22, 2020	Budget Meeting (Zoom) with Province Treasurers.



Please Pray For

- All of our Brothers at St. Joseph's Residence and in other care facilities throughout North America and the Congregation, and their courageous caregivers.
- All members of the global Edmund Rice Network.
- All those who have been most impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.
- Mr. Joe Ceh, Edmundian, who is rehabbing from spinal surgery.
- Mr. Bernard Ho, past President of Damien Memorial School, who is rehabbing from a recent illness.



The Repose of the Soul of ...

- † Brother Bill Cronin.
- † The mother of Brother Francis Agoah, Presentation Brothers Congregation Leader.
- † Father Frank Morrissey, OMI.
- † Edmundian Paul ('73) Cappelli.
- † Brenda Critch, sister of Edmundian Father Cecil (Dominic '71) Critch.
- † Janice Z. Bessette, mother of Sr. Ona Bessette, CND
- † Mr. Ken Birnbaum, husband of Kathy Birnbaum, member of the St. Joseph's Residence Board of Directors.



Prayer during a Pandemic

Loving God, Holy One,
Your desire is for our wholeness and
well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer
the collective suffering of our
world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and
vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our
neighbors, standing before an
uncertain future.

We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.
Inspire our leaders to discern and
choose wisely, aligned with the
common good.

Help us to practice social distancing
and reveal to us new and creative
ways to come together in spirit
and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your
faithful presence,
You, the God who does not abandon,
You, the Holy One,
breathing within us,
breathing among us,
breathing around us
in our beautiful yet
wounded world.

- Chris Koellhoffer, IHM



MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace.

Embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Amen

