



Holy Cross Priory

An Anglican Benedictine Community
In Canada

The Heart of the Church

Dear Friends,

Archbishop Rowan Williams said of religious orders that they were “the heart of the Church.”

The human heart is a small organ not visible to the eye; religious communities in our Anglican Communion tend to be small. In some parts of the Communion such may not be known. In Canada at this time there are three residential traditional religious orders – the Community of the Sisters of the Church, the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine, and the Order of the Holy Cross. The Society of St. John the Evangelist maintains a foundation in Canada and is generous in providing resources for spiritual growth. There are other expressions of the religious life such as the Oratory of the Good Shepherd, the Society of our Lady St. Mary, the Third Order of St. Francis, the Worker Brothers and Sisters of the Holy Spirit, Contemplative Fire, the Brotherhood and Sisters of St. Gregory, and several newly emerging communities.

At the centre of all religious communities is prayer. In fact, prayer is the first responsibility and privilege of those who choose the religious life. Prayers are offered daily for the Church, the world, special intentions, the sick, those in special need, the departed, and for thanksgivings. Prayer requests are honoured. There are no “vacations” for prayer.

Worship is a beloved component of the religious life. As with prayer, worship is essential in the lives of religious brothers and sisters. Religious have made and continue to make valuable contributions in liturgy, music and architecture – this has been apparent especially in Prayer Book revision, supplementary texts, and hymnary.





Building community is an ongoing discipline in the religious life. Most of our religious houses host sisters and brothers from varied backgrounds, different abilities, temperaments, and ages. Commitment to Christ and his way of life allows the religious to grow in love, patience, and compassion.

Prayer, worship, and community are building blocks of the Church. Religious offer their prayer, worship services, hospitality, and talents to God's Church so that together we build up the body of Christ on earth.

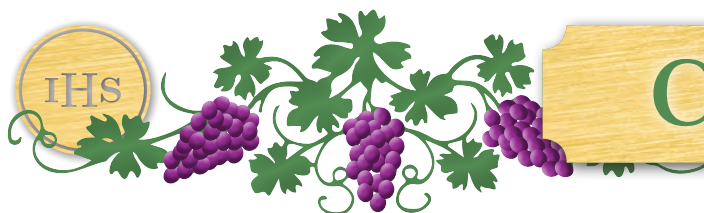
We rejoice when others respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to become part of the religious life and we uphold them in prayer and love as they live into community. Please pray that we remain faithful in the holy work of keeping the heartbeat of the Church strong and steady.

Faithfully,

David Bryan Hoopes OHC
PRIOR

EXPLORING A VOCATION

If you think God may be calling you to explore the monastic way of life in the Order of the Holy Cross, the first step is to contact the Director of Admissions, Br. Reginald-Martin Crenshaw OHC (reginald.martin@live.ca).



Commun

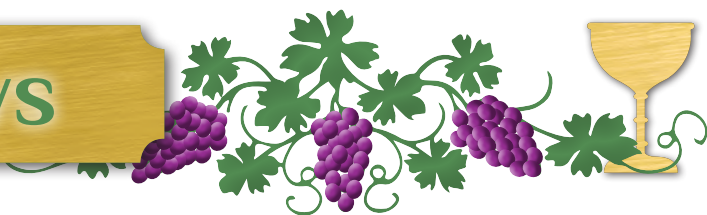
THE ORDER

The Holy Cross monks of **Mariya u Mama we Themba Monastery** in Grahamstown, South Africa have moved to Hermanus in the Western Cape. The monastery in Hermanus is St. Benedict's Priory at Volmoed. Holy Cross began its monastic life in Grahamstown in 1998. Many thanks to the founding brothers Timothy, Andrew (now deceased) and John. The brothers built a new refectory, enlarged the enclosure, and founded Holy Cross School. Their ministry at Volmoed will be centred on prayer, spiritual direction, and discernment of possible new directions for Holy Cross monastic life in South Africa.

Meanwhile in Grahamstown, **Holy Cross School** continues to flourish. Grade 4 was established this year, and the plan is to add a new grade each year until 2022 when the school will offer seven grades. The brothers have given the Grahamstown enclosure to the school to enable new classrooms. OHC brothers will continue to be part of the Board of Directors and the Order will continue to own and operate the school. Please keep Brs. Daniel, Scott and Roger in your prayers as they begin a new witness in Hermanus. Also continue to pray for the students, teachers, and staff at Holy Cross School ("A Place of Hope").



Community News



Br. Max Esmus received the monastic habit on 20 July at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, New York. (See photo, top left).

THE TORONTO PRIORY

Thank you to **Charles and Patricia Brown** for the lovely gift of re-landscaping the Priory's gardens. (See photo, second from the left). This was done in honour of Br. Christian's 60th anniversary of priesthood (24 May). Patricia is the sister of Br. Christian and a companion of the Order of the Holy Cross.

Canada Day (1 July) was celebrated at **St. John's Convent** as guests of the SSJD sisters. The Community of the Sisters of the Church as well as other guests were part of a delightful gathering.

Many guests have been with us this summer. It is a pleasure to share our home and grounds with those who wish to have time and space for spiritual renewal and fellowship.

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Community Notes CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

On 9 August our beloved friend and associate **May Kong** hosted a splendid dinner party to mark the birthday anniversaries of Brs. Christian and Leonard, and the Silver Jubilee of the marriage of our friends **Donald and Helen Anderson**. The Andersons' daughter Kate and her children Charlotte and Oliver were part of the event. They were visiting from England.

Brs. Christian, David, Reginald, and Charles attended the First Profession of the Monastic Vow of **Srs. Dorothy Grace and Kathryn SSJD** at St. John's Convent on 17 August.

Brs. David, Reginald, Charles, and Brian attended the **OHC Annual Chapter 4-9** June. Br. David was elected to Council.

Br. Christian celebrated his 86th birthday on 10 August. His sister and brother-in-law joined him for a quiet birthday dinner. (See photo, page 4 at left).

Br. David and Br. Reginald attended **General Synod** in Vancouver 10-17 July. Br. David was an exhibiter at the CAROA booth; Br. Reginald was an official delegate. David also had opportunity to spend a weekend with the SSJD sisters at their house in Victoria. It was a pleasure to welcome the new Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, **The Rt. Rev'd Linda Nicholls** (also our Deputy Bishop Visitor).

Br. Leonard has done Sunday supply work throughout the summer – Church of the Messiah, Trinity-St. Paul, Port Credit, St. Stephen, Downsview, St. Clement, St. John, West Toronto. He had a week's rest at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park, New York.

Br. Charles is settling in as priest-in-charge of St. Leonard's Church. As he did supply work at that parish last year, he is known and held in affection at St. Leonard's. Br. Charles is also very attentive to the Holy Cross Associates in Canada. He has received Fr. Tim Vickery as an associate. (See photo, page 4, at right). He plans to receive three others on Holy Cross Day (14 September), and on that day also to receive the renewal of associate vow from a long-time associate.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and financial help. Together we can continue to be a prayerful witness to the Church and society in Canada

PHOTOS: Cover: First profession at the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine. Left to right: Br. David Bryan OHC, Sr. Dorothy Grace SSJD, Sr. Kathryn SSJD, and Sr. Elizabeth SSJD (Rev'd Mother); **Pages 3-4, left to right:** Br. Max Esmus received the monastic habit on 20 July at Holy Cross Monastery (West Park); Charles and Patricia Brown with the new gardens; Br. Christian with his sister; Fr. Tim Vickery and Br. Charles at Tim's reception as an associate.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Celebrate our annual Patronal Festival with us.
Join us in worship and stay for a light reception.*

WHEN:

Saturday, September 14, 2019
11:00am

WHERE:

St. John's, West Toronto
288 Humberside Avenue

GUEST SPEAKER:

The Reverend Dr. Jason McKinney
Associate Priest-Missioner, Church of the Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale
and Adjunct Professor of Theology, Trinity College

RSVP:

Email info@ohcpriory.com or call 416-767-9081, ext. 3



Jason is a theological educator, a community-based Anglican priest, and long-time resident of Parkdale, Toronto. His work, like his life and family, is rooted in Parkdale. Jason sits on the board of the Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust, around the Parkdale People's Economy Neighbourhood Planning Table, and is a core partner in the development of the Parkdale Community Food Hub.

Love must act
as light must shine
and fire must burn.

- Fr. Huntington OHC

Worship Timetable

7:00am Matins

8:00am Eucharist

(TUESDAY-FRIDAY, SATURDAY AT 5:00PM)

11:30am Diurnum (Midday Prayer)

5:00pm Vespers

7:30pm Compline

(MONDAY IS OUR DAY OF REST.
THERE ARE NO SERVICES.)



Holy Cross Priory

204 High Park Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6P 2S6

416-767-9081 | info@ohcpriory.com | www.ohcpriory.com

Holy Cross Priory is a monastery of the Order of the Holy Cross, a community founded in 1884 by The Reverend James Otis Sargent Huntington to provide a specifically North American expression of monasticism for Anglicans. The Order has had a ministry in Canada since the 1890s. The Priory was founded in 1973.

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