MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

CANADIAN ADVENTURE PROVINCE
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Dear Friends,

You can probably imagine what it was like to be in a significant moment of time. Maybe you were off to college or the military, graduated or got your first place. It is a big step and it usually signifies a whole new chapter in your life.

For Brother Don Doerksen, CPPS, it happened when he was 17 years old. He set off by train alone, from his hometown of Center Lord Mills, just north of Kitchener, Ontario. It was 1962 and he was going to Bramsvale, the high school seminary of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

Brother Don in seminary into Chapel, the heart of the place of his vocation.

Time were other times in Our Lady Immaculate in Bramsvale, but Don didn't know each other. "We all got off the train in Canton and were standing there on the platform looking at each other," Brother Don said. The [illegible] and they climbed into it, and that was the start of a whole new life for young Don Doerksen.

Brother Don is now 80, the oldest brother in the Cincinnati Province. He looks back on his life and concludes the Lord Guided a work. Through his own hands, which he said will might always to help his religious Congregation.

When Brother Don arrived at Bramsvale in 1962, he had hoped to become a priest. Where he went on to further studies at Saint Louis's College in Bramsvale, but, he said he wasn't gifted enough to be a full-fledged seminary work at the college. "They were supportive, which I was very thankful. They took care of the generals. I admired the brothers and I was more of the small-minded thinking about that. I'm not one for power and ministry. The brothers lived a much simpler life," he said.

He spoke with his mentor monsignor about becoming a brother. "He told me, 'That's the Holy Spirit calling to you. Listen to the Holy Spirit!' he said. 'Okay, that's it.' I was professed as a brother on September 8, the birthday of the Blessed Mother, in 1962."

Religious life takes many forms. Most Catholics know what a priest does: a priest provides at Mass, hears confessions, perhaps is the pastor of a parish. But religious brothers take on many

(Please detach here if you wish to share with your pastor or the newsletter committee)

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