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CINCINNATI C.P.P.S. NEWSLETTER

*In Christ, through the
shedding of his blood,
we have redemption and
forgiveness of our sins.*

Ephesians 1: 7a

Presiding Practice Prepares Candidate

Greg Evers Completing Presiding Course for Advanced Formation

Jean Giesige, editor

From the view from the pew, a Mass is supposed to flow. Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, from procession to recession, it should be a seamless garment.

But it unfolds that way usually only with planning and practice. And when there's a new guy on the job, no one wants the liturgy to break down.

That's why candidates for ordination to the priesthood, such as Gregory John Evers, C.P.P.S., take a class in presiding as they near the end of their advanced formation.

Greg has been enrolled in the class, taught by Fr. Richard Fragomeni, at Catholic Theological Union since last fall. In February, Greg "presided" at a practice mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Celina, Ohio, where he spent part of his special formation.

Greg's family, friends and a few folks from the parish were invited to be the congregation. Greg was front and center, vested and ready, exactly

as an ordained priest would be at an authentic Mass.

"People asked me how it felt. I told them the worst part for me was sitting in the sacristy waiting to step out in the sanctuary and get started," he said. "Once we were ready to process toward the sanctuary as a group, my nerves went away."

The class had him well prepared.

"Starting last fall, we went through all of the Roman Missal," he said. Students went through various practice sessions, learning about the art of presiding.

"Our professor told us it's really important to do one thing at a time," one turn, one movement, one prayer. "Sometimes, a priest will start the preface leading into the Eucharistic prayer when they're turning the pages to get to the next part. Our professor told us not



Greg Evers in the sacristy of St. Charles Center.

Candidates who are preparing for the priesthood take a course in presiding—and learn it's tougher than it looks.

to try to do two or three things at one time, because if you lose your place, it takes people out of the flow."

He had been practicing the parts of the Mass on his own, when he had the time, at San Felice House in Chicago, where he lives with Community members. "When I had some down time, I'd go into our chapel at the house and go through the Missal. I'd go through the in-

(Continued on page 44)

Presiding Practice Prepares Candidate

(Continued from page 43)

troductory rites or through the liturgy of the Eucharist. It was weird to practice in a space all by myself. It felt a lot different to do it in front of people."

Greg said it took him about four hours to compose his homily, not all in one sitting. His professor had told the practice presiders to prepare a homily as if it was to be delivered at their first Mass after ordination. "I try not to be long-winded in preaching, seven to 10 minutes is plenty," Greg said.

Greg preached about the circles that support us in our journey of faith: family, friends, Community, classmates, wider and wider. "As we widen the circles of our own lives, the

The presiding professor told his students that "aside from the preaching class, this is probably going to be one of the most important classes we would ever take. This is something you'll be doing every single day for the rest of your life."

people we meet all have an impact on us, and shape us into the people that we become," he said. "I feel like the congregation was hearing my message. People came up to me afterward and commented on it."

Greg's class at CTU offers other practice presiding opportunities. The class was divided into groups and assigned a particular rite, such as a wedding or funeral Mass. Greg's group drew the wedding assignment, and Greg was the presider. Volunteers from the class served as bride and groom, so Greg joked that he had to be the presider, and not a classmate who was already ordained a deacon, so that they wouldn't accidentally

marry the volunteer couple.

Greg feels he has learned a lot through the class, with more learning to go. At the beginning of the term, the professor told the students that "aside from the preaching class, this is probably going to be one of the most important classes we would ever take. This is something you'll be doing every single day for the rest of your life. So it's important for us to understand how to use the books, and what liturgical options are available, so you can enliven the liturgical experience that people have, and help them find God in their daily lives."



Cincinnati C.P.P.S. Newsletter

This newsletter is published monthly by the Cincinnati Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. It is sent to all incorporated members, Companions, Amici and friends of the province upon request. Your input is welcome. Deadline for submissions is the tenth of every month. Email submissions to cppscommunications@gmail.com or mail to Cincinnati C.P.P.S. Newsletter, 431 E. Second St., Dayton OH 45402-1764

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Community Notes

Assignment

Fr. Matthew Keller, C.P.P.S., pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, Glandorf, Ohio, for a six-year term, effective July 1, 2022.

Reminder

Members, please be sure your power of attorney, med-

ical power of attorney, and will are up to date and on file at the provincial office. Contact Cindy Sipes for forms.

Business

The IRS mileage rate is 58.5 cents per mile, as of January 1, 2022

Being Together Strengthens Relationships

Companions Happy To Gather in Person At Annual Retreats

Vicky Otto

The older I get, the more I appreciate the gifts that my parents gave me. One of them was a love of reading. I enjoy most novels, history or other works, but I have never been a fan of poetry. I often get impatient trying to figure out what point the poet was trying to make. Thanks to our Companion retreats this year, "Opening the Gate—Reengaging Each Other and Our Neighbors in a Divided World," I may have to give poetry another try.

As a Companion in formation I often heard the phrase, "Where location is essential to a realtor, relationships are essential to Companions." Building these relationships takes place at our gatherings and our annual retreat. Not holding the retreat during the height of the pandemic was a significant blow for Companions. While virtual gatherings were helpful, they did not have the same significance as meeting in person. One can imagine, then, that when the retreats were announced, Companions were excited to get back to normal.

During the retreat, Fr. Dave Matz, C.P.P.S., serving as retreat leader, encouraged participants to pray with music and poetry. One of the poems offered was "New Day's Lyric," by Amanda Gorman. It beautifully echoed the energy of the retreat.

She begins, "May this be the day we come together. Mourning, we come to mend, withered, we come to weath-

er, Torn, we come to tend, battered we come to better." Our retreat began by giving all who gathered the opportunity to share their experiences during the pandemic. The grace that occurred during this time

was that because we were in relationship with each other as Companions, we could prayerfully, as Gorman writes, mourn together, acknowledge the hurts and care for each other.

As the title of our retreat suggests, we then moved "outside the gate." Gorman writes, "This hope is our door, our portal. Even if we never get back to normal, someday we can venture beyond it, to leave the know and take the first steps. So let us not return to what was normal, but reach toward what is next." Focus then shifted to moving outside the gate, especially recognizing that we were not the same people in this post-pandemic world. Again, grace and mercy flowed in the support that Companions gave each other as we explored possibilities.

One of the most influential movements of the retreat came when we acknowledged the importance and strength of relationships and the future.



Companions making their first covenant in Assumption Chapel at St. Charles Center in March were (front row, left to right) Gordon and Nancy VanderVelde, Rick and Beth Weber and Sheila Dorsten. With them in the second row are Vicky Otto, Fr. Jeffrey Kirch and Fr. David Matz.

Gorman writes, "So let us not return to what was normal but reach toward what is next. . . . Where we weren't aware, we're now awake; those moments we missed are now moments we make, the moments we meet, and our hearts, once all together beaten, now all together beat." Fr. Dave helped guide our reflections and prayer to recognize that the future is now before us, and our strength is evident when we stand together as a community.

The excitement that everyone gathered felt when we gathered in retreat was echoed when we looked to the future. There was a distinct recognition that our Community is stronger when we work together and when "our hearts beat together as one." The need for this strength became apparent as we discussed the divisions in our world today and the importance of our roles as ambassadors of reconciliation as
(Continued on page 48)

“The Shepherd Will Lay Down his Life for his Sheep”

The Short Life and Sacrificial Death of Fr. Richard Schwieterman, C.PP.S.

Following is the second installment of the account of the death of Fr. Richard Schwieterman, C.PP.S., whose shocking murder took place in Minster, Ohio, where he had been named pastor of St. Augustine Church shortly before he was killed. His heroic outreach—even at great personal risk—to one who certainly was suffering from addiction and mental anguish is marked in this, the 100th anniversary of his death in 1922. This history was written by Fr. David A. Hoying, C.PP.S., who researched and synthesized many newspaper accounts of the day to bring Fr. Schwieterman’s story to light. This is the second of four installments.

Part Two: “John, I Have Been Shot!”

On Monday and Tuesday, February 13–14, 1922, the behavior of Minster, Ohio, resident Charles Piening was odder than usual. He was quite paranoid. He cut his telephone wires as he feared he would be arrested. (The line was quickly mended.) He made numerous calls to the telephone exchange, asking bizarre questions to the women, such as if the world was really ending that day.

Later that Tuesday afternoon, feeling so ill he believed he was dying, Charles called Dr. Henry (Harry) Gudenkauf about 4:30 p.m. He related he was ailing most severely and in need of help. Sometime after, Fr. Richard Schwieterman, C.PP.S., the pastor of St. Augustine Church in Minster, was

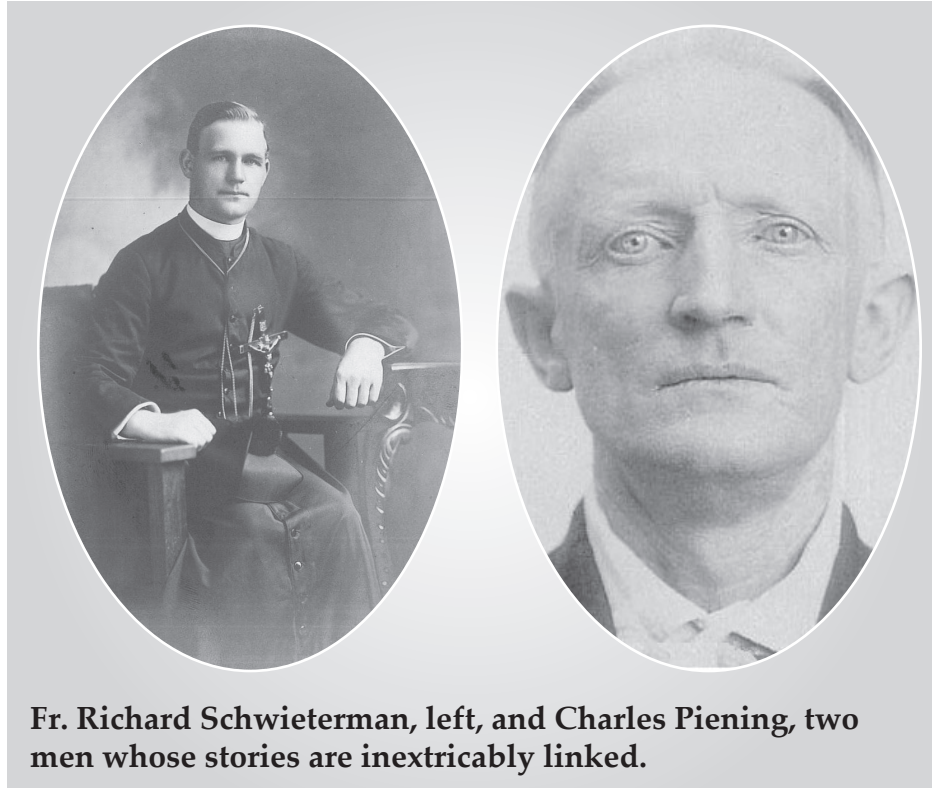
called, and he too was told of Charles’ illness and his need to see him. Fr. Richard asked if he could wait till the next day, but Charles insisted he could not.

Dr. Gudenkauf called on Charles on his way to see another patient. It was 5:30 p.m., and he found Charles in bed. Charles arose, ranting over his illness. The physician enquired of Charles if he had consumed any alcohol that day, and he candidly admitted he had taken some hootch. Charles then banged his fists against the doors of the cupboard where he kept his firearms, telling the doctor that soon, they “would know who was boss around there.” Charles roughly handled his shotgun, loading it,

and threw it on his bed, along with another gun. Dr. Gudenkauf left, informing Charles that he would return after finishing with his other patient.

That Tuesday, in the morning, Fr. Richard had been in Rhine, near Botkins, Ohio, for the close of Forty Hours at St. Lawrence Parish, and on his way home stopped at the rectory in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Sometime after 6:15 p.m., Fr. Richard left the rectory, telling the housekeeper, Mary Horst, he was going to see Charles Piening. Mary insisted he not go to him, because Charles was a bad character. He assured Mary nothing would happen. Yet, she feared Father did not really know the



Fr. Richard Schwieterman, left, and Charles Piening, two men whose stories are inextricably linked.

man. He told Mary it was his duty to God to go. As Charles had called, stating he was sick, so it was his duty as a priest to see him. Fr. Richard set out on foot for Charles' hovel, with the Oil of the Infirm in one hand and a flashlight in the other.

John Trailed Behind

Unknown to Fr. Richard, Charles' brother, John Bernard Piening, trailed behind him, and saw Father enter the hovel. John, a justice of the peace, had been in Wapakoneta for legal matters. Upon returning to Minster at about 5:30 p.m., he was informed that Charles was ill, and Dr. Gudenkauf wanted to see him. John went to the physician's office where the doctor's wife told him the doctor had left to see Charles.

To his brother's dwelling John Piening went, and nearing the dwelling, he saw a man with a flashlight. He recognized Fr. Richard and witnessed his entry into the hovel. John then came in, hearing his brother and Father talking. However, as soon as Charles saw John, Charles flew into a rage, screaming at him to get the hell out. Charles had been estranged from John, for he disagreed with how their mother's estate was settled.

Attempting to quiet his brother, John said he and the priest were there to help him. Again, Charles yelled for both to leave. As the front room was dimly lit by a single lamp, a shadow was cast over the table, and Charles' revolver was not noticed. His shotgun, however, could be seen upon a bench at the table. Charles abruptly took the revolver and shot his brother. John was hit in the waist, at the location of the watch pocket

of his trousers.

John fell back, but quickly fled from the hovel, thinking he had been wounded. Fortunately, John carried pennies in the pocket, and the coin deflecting the bullet was thoroughly bent. John was expecting Fr. Richard to follow, but heard only a blast from the shotgun.

Turning to the hovel, he saw Fr. Richard stagger through the door. He yelled out, "John, I have been shot!" How the encounter played out is speculative. It is thought Father had turned, with the muzzle of the shotgun getting hooked into the left underarm of his coat. It seems then the priest bent himself over to lessen the shot's impact. The shot entered the left rib cage from the back, shattered ribs, and followed a downward trajectory into his lung. His wound bled profusely. This occurred about 6:45 p.m.

Fr. Richard in the Roadway

John assisted Fr. Richard as best he could and headed toward Henry "Creedy" Kramer's house, Charles' neighbor to the west. Halfway there, Fr. Richard collapsed, and John was unable to help him up. John positioned Father in the roadway, with his flashlight nearby, and went off to get Kramer's assistance.

Henry Kramer quickly made his way to Fr. Richard. Two brothers, Frank and Herman Oldiges, were on their way to Charles' dwelling. Nearing the Piening place, a flashlight's beam was spotted ahead of them, and they came upon Fr. Richard in the roadway. The Oldiges brothers and Henry Kramer had simultaneously reached Father, and

these three carried him into Henry's house.

Frank Oldiges was the director of the telephone exchange. The operators of the exchange told him of Charles' various phone calls, especially the one to Fr. Richard, and they thought something bad was about to happen. Frank went off to Charles' hovel, hoping to intercept Fr. Richard. On his way, Frank was joined by his brother.

Inside Kramer's house, Fr. Richard was carried to a bedroom. Dr. Rudolph Andrew Rulmann was summoned. After a brief examination of the wound, he asked for Dr. Colston Dine to be called to assist him. With Dine's assistance, Rulmann made a more thorough inspection of the gaping, ragged wound, and realized the hopelessness of Father's condition. Blood was heard gushing into the lung.

Father asked how long he had yet to live, and Dr. Rulmann responded it would not be long. Several times Father spoke, exclaiming, "He shot me." Fr. Anthony Paluszak, C.P.P.S., Fr. Richard's assistant, came and administered the Last Rites to his pastor and offered the prayers for the dying.

Fr. Richard, who was conscious to the end, whispered to Fr. Anthony, "Father, I must die." Father lapsed into unconsciousness, drew his last breath, and died, held in the arms of John Piening. His death came at 8:40 p.m.

*Next Installment:
Requiem for Fr. Richard.*



There is no Perfect Discerner

It is Better to Issue The Invitation Than to Remain Silent

Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S.

I have for pretty much my whole time as vocation director encouraged people to practice the art of invitation. Invite young men to consider life as a Missionary priest or brother. Ask young women if they've ever thought about being a sister. What I hope to encourage is the broad casting of seeds, in hopes that some of them might germinate and grow.



C.P.P.S.
for
Tomorrow

VOCATION MINISTRY

Sometimes I am met with the questions: How do I know who I should invite? What is the sign I should be looking for? The short answers are: invite lots of people, and there is no way for you to be sure. So much better to invite and suggest than to remain silent.

As the title of this column states, there is no perfect discerner. In fact, when I meet someone who at first glance seems a perfect candidate, I begin to wonder: What am I not seeing? What has he not told me?

One of the things that can get in the way of our invitations today is that the generation gap isn't just a matter of age, but it's also a question of how we imagine Church and how we pray, to name just a

couple of the differences.

It is very human to look at someone who prays differently than you do and decide that maybe they aren't right for our Community. I am sure it happens, but I am here to ask you to stop. Stop deciding that he couldn't be a good fit for our Community. Please trust in the process and that the decision is up to the Holy Spirit.

We have a vocations office and an admissions committee to help weed out candidates who may not be a good fit, and to make recommendations as to the things that might be beneficial for the candidate as he enters formation. We have formation directors who work with the candidates to guide them through formation. The process is seven to ten years long to help facilitate each person's growth as a human being, a minister, and a Missionary. No one exits formation the same person they were when they entered.

We constantly remind discerners that discernment doesn't end when you make the decision to request an application. Discernment is a constant, ongoing process. The candidate is discerning each year if he is called to continue, and we are discerning if this man has what takes for life as a Missionary. At different steps along the way, he and we will discern if he's ready for the next level of commitment.

Even after definitive incorporation, he's not a perfect Missionary. At no point in his life will he ever be perfect. Our faith speaks of ongoing conversion, and our documents call us to a life of ongoing formation.

We know that none of us is perfect.

Every young man in your parish is a potential Missionary, and every young woman is a potential sister. There is no external sign for us to look for. All we can do is invite and encourage. The more we do this the greater the possibility that someone might hear God's call.



Being Together

(Continued from page 45)
we help others reengage.

As we concluded our retreat with liturgy and renewal of covenants, it felt as if there was a stronger sense of commitment than I have experienced in the past.

I am grateful that Gorman has given readers a roadmap of sorts that benefited Companions and may apply to each of us. It is hard to move forward into the future without first acknowledging the pains and wounds of the past. When we recognize where we have been, we can move to the future. The fear of the future becomes insignificant when we recognize that we need every person in our Precious Blood Community. It is when our hearts beat together we truly become one. And in that oneness, as a song from King and Country suggests, "Together we are bolder, braver, stronger."

After this retreat experience, I guess I am going to have to give poetry another try.

Vicky Otto is the director of Companions.

Do Our Passions Lead to a Resurrection?

Holly O'Hara

The other week, I noticed this line in Mass: "The passion leads to the glory of the resurrection." Hearing it, I was surprisingly shaken. I wondered if this is true: do our passions, our sufferings, really lead to a resurrection?

Some days here at PBMR, it doesn't feel like it. Some days, it's hard to find hope amidst the suffering and injustice that envelop our youth, families and neighbors. Some days, it just feels like passion after passion with no clear resurrection in sight. But every time I get to this place of darkness and desolation, God always greets me there, holds me close, and brings me an unexpected radiant light, a renewed hope lifting me from my darkness.

A couple weeks ago, Sr. Donna Liette, CPPS, invited me to deliver some gift cards to a mother in our community. Grateful for the break from my office and growing to-do list, I accompanied her to the house of one of our youths and his mother—I had heard a great deal about his mom, but this would be the first time I'd get to meet her.

As she opened the door, we were greeted with warm hugs and words of welcome. As she invited us into her home, she introduced us to her children, grandchildren and others who live under her roof

and care. I instantly felt enveloped by the love that flowed through the house, and that emanated from the tiny yet mighty woman standing before me.

As she took us through her house, she shared about some of the struggles she and her sons have endured over the years—children incarcerated, deceased and impacted by violence in the streets. As she invited us downstairs into the basement, I was introduced to her son—a young man around my age, paralyzed from the waist down after being shot two years ago. Sitting with him, my heart ached as I listened to the rollercoaster these past two years have been.

His mom explained how for years it was just her and her sons, but that they always knew they would be okay because they were together: "We always had each other through it all." Through the pain and suffering there was a strong undercurrent of faith, hope and deep love burning bright between mother and children. As I sat on a box in that basement, a light of hope flickered in the darkness.

Driving home that night, I was overwhelmed. I could feel my heart was bursting with an overabundance of joy and sorrow. I thought about how tempting it would be to not feel this pain and sorrow that I felt for this family who suffers so greatly, and in not feeling their

sorrow, not grappling with my call to do what I can to care for them.

But to block out the sorrow

and the responsibility, to shy away from the passion, would be to block out the divine joy of being in relationship, and to block out the light of hope that I found in our togetherness. I realized that growing in relationship means taking up this cup of joy and sorrow; embracing the passion to find a resurrection. Meeting our neighbors, growing in relationship with them, feeling their pain, and uniting ourselves to their wellbeing transforms us. Because now that I know you, I love you, and I care about what happens to you. Now that I know you, I am with you to confront in whatever comes our way, together.

I guess the first step to resurrection is allowing ourselves
(Continued on page 54)

PBMR Seeks Early Pictures

This year, the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation (PBMR) celebrates the 20th anniversary of its founding in 2002. The PBMR staff has a multi-faceted, month-by-month celebration planned.

As part of this milestone anniversary, the staff is trying to establish a timeline on how the PBMR grew from its humble beginnings to what it is today. They are particularly interested in any photos or mementos from those early days at PBMR. Did you visit or volunteer there? Do you have any photos that would help tell the story of its early years?

If so, please contact Holly O'Hara at holly@pbmr.org.



Precious Blood
Ministry of Reconciliation

In Memoriam

ETERNAL REST GRANT
UNTO THEM, O LORD

**Br. Timothy Hemm,
C.PP.S.**

**August 31, 1947–
February 21, 2022**

Br. Timothy Hemm, C.PP.S., died at 10:20 p.m. on Monday, February 21, 2022, in the infirmary at St. Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio, after a lengthy illness. He was 74.

Br. Tim was born on August 31, 1947, to the late William G. and Cecilia (Recker) Hemm. He entered the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1961 and was professed a brother on August 15, 1968. He was active in education ministry for many years.

After his profession, Br. Tim was assigned to Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Ind., which is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. He taught at St. Joseph School in Wapakoneta, Ohio, from 1971–72 then returned to Saint Joseph's College, where he was a part of campus life for decades.

Br. Tim performed many functions at the college. At first, he oversaw the college's motor pool and volunteered at St. Augustine Parish in Rensselaer. Later, he was the director of campus ministry at the college, organizing liturgies, Kairos retreats and innumerable other events to encourage students in their spiritual growth and help them find a home on campus. He also served many years as the Missionaries' local director at the college.

Called "BT" by SJC students, Br. Tim was a constant

presence on campus, remaining even after the college's operations were suspended in 2017 to help in whatever way he could with the maintenance of the place that he loved so much. That love extended to the woods and fields surrounding the college; Br. Tim was known as an excellent hunter and fisherman.

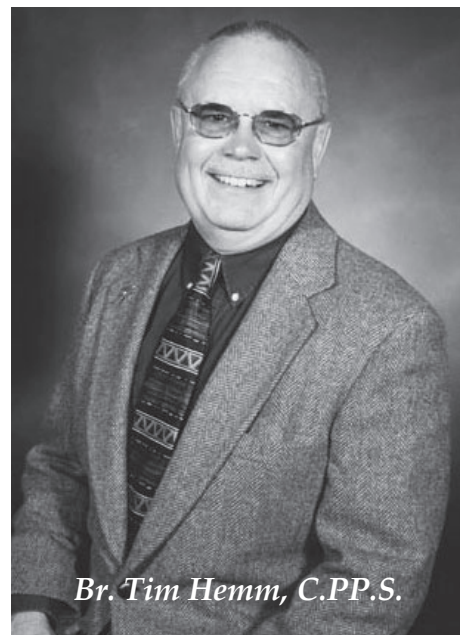
Poor health led him to move to St. Charles Center in 2020, and there he was reunited with many friends and brothers in community. They helped him in his last years, as he had helped so many in his life.

He is survived by two brothers, Thomas Hemm, C.PP.S., who was by his side in his final months at St. Charles; and Will (Cindy) of Crescent City, Calif.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother Joseph and sister-in-law, Anne.

Br. Tim had a missionary heart. During his long ministry in Rensselaer, Br. Tim lived at the crossroads of so many lives that he became a landmark. He was a cultural touchstone known to nearly everyone who passed through Rensselaer, St. Augustine's Parish or Saint Joseph's College for nearly 50 years.

Br. Tim committed his life to supporting young people in their faith, especially as they transitioned from youth to young adult. It was his genuine nature that helped him accompany young people for so many years, staying young at heart himself through aging and infirmity. He approached



Br. Tim Hemm, C.PP.S.

his ministry with a humble heart, often serving behind the scenes. In doing so, he inspired young people to ask real questions of themselves and their faith and seek out the God moments in their lives.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on February 28, 2022, in Assumption Chapel at St. Charles Center. Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.PP.S., provincial director, presided and Fr. Denny Kinderman, C.PP.S., was the homilist. Burial followed in the Community cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.



*Eternal rest
grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light
shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.*

**Fr. Eugene Schnipke,
C.P.P.S.**

**September 10, 1953 –
March 17, 2022**

Fr. Eugene Schnipke, C.P.P.S., died of natural causes at Mercer County Community Hospital, Coldwater, Ohio, on Thursday, March 17, 2022. He was transported there from St. Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio, where he was recovering from a recent surgery. He was 68.

He was born on September 10, 1953, in Lima, Ohio to Othmar and Dolores (Verhoff) Schnipke. Raised in Glandorf, Ohio, he entered the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1967 at Brunnerdale, the Congregation's former high school seminary near Canton, Ohio. He was ordained on June 21, 1980.

After his ordination, Fr. Schnipke was assigned to St. Anthony in Falls Church, Va., as associate pastor. He was commissioned as a U.S. Air Force chaplain in 1984 and served for nearly 22 years.

Fr. Schnipke served at HESSISCH Oldendorf Air Station in Germany; Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado; George Air Force Base in California; and Osan Air Base in Korea. He attended Harvard Divinity School from 1994-95, then was appointed director of the spirituality/character division of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Later assignments included chaplaincies at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base in Germany; Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio; and Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas.

Fr. Schnipke attained the

rank of lieutenant colonel and received several major awards and decorations during his years of service.

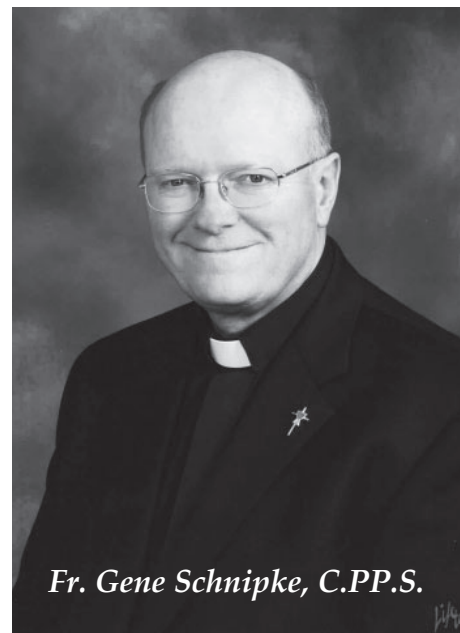
He retired from the Air Force in 2007. In 2008, he was appointed pastor of the Marion Catholic Community, a cluster of five parishes in or near Maria Stein, Ohio, where he served for 12 years and was a constant presence at community gatherings and local sporting events. He was a faithful fan of the Marion Local Flyers in all sports, all seasons.

In 2020, he was appointed pastor of the Catholic Communities of Northwest Dayton (Precious Blood, St. Paul and St. Rita Parishes), where he served until his untimely death.

Fr. Schnipke was the oldest of nine siblings. He is survived by his mother; five sisters, Marilyn (Bruce) Bohrer-Dunham; Ruth (Don) Blankemeyer; Janice (Dan) VonderEmbse, Mary Kay (Doug) Durliat, and Chris (Nick) Lehman, all of Ottawa, Ohio; and three brothers, Ron (Denise), Glandorf; Fr. Ken Schnipke, C.P.P.S., Celina, Ohio; and Larry (Kathy), Ottawa; numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father and a brother-in-law, Bruce Bohrer.

Fr. Schnipke was a priest who sensed his religious vocation from the time he was four years old. He loved the Church steadfastly, believed resolutely in the Resurrection, and unfailingly looked to the future with hope. A succinct but memorable homilist, he shared stories that people could take with them from the church into the world. He was a pastor yet a part of the community; to go to a local festival with him was to



Fr. Gene Schnipke, C.P.P.S.

stop every few feet so he could visit with the folks.

But above all, he had a heart for young people—for the growing families he served as an Air Force chaplain, for the young people at his parishes. He made them feel welcomed and valued. The same was true of his nephews and nieces, for whom he was an encouraging presence and an accepting listener. He never failed to take them out for ice cream. He was a loving son to his mother, whom he called every night, and remained the protective big brother to his siblings for all of his days.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on March 21 at St. John the Baptist Church in Maria Stein. Fr. Ken Schnipke presided and Fr. Ken Schroeder, C.P.P.S., was the homilist.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on March 22 at St. Charles Center. Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., provincial director, presided. Fr. Ken Schnipke was the homilist.

Burial followed in the Community cemetery.

(Continued on page 54)



Missionaries Report

NEWS FROM OUR
MINISTRY SITES

Pray for Ukraine

James Seibert, C.P.P.S.

The eyes of the whole world are on Ukraine. The invasion of Russia has brought into clear light once again the atrocities of war. But this latest suffering is by no means the first for the Ukrainian people and their Catholic population. Historians claim that in the 1940's, the Ukrainian Catholic Church under the Soviets was the largest suppressed group of believers in the world.



*Sorrowful
Mother Shrine*

In June 2001, Pope St. John Paul II traveled to Ukraine to beautify 25 martyrs. These martyrs of Ukraine belonged to the Greek Catholic Church and were martyred for the faith during the severe persecutions of the Communist authorities dominating Ukraine throughout the Soviet era. The martyrs represent all categories of the ecclesial community: among them are bishops and priests, monks, nuns and lay people.

In 2005, the Sorrowful Mother Shrine erected a shrine to honor the Ukrainian martyrs, the only one of its kind in the U.S.! Last month, Fr. Yuri Kuzara, C.P.P.S., conducted two

para-liturgies asking the Blessed Virgin to intercede for the Ukrainian people.

We have also had a second collection at all our weekend Masses for humanitarian aid for Ukraine. This money was sent to our provincial treasurer to be transferred to our Polish Province.

Recently, a wreath was placed next to the Ukrainian shrine with a banner that reads "Pray for Ukraine." Amen to that!



A beautiful shrine honoring the Ukrainian martyrs can be found at the Sorrowful Mother Shrine.

College Prepares for Outdoor Graduation

Jim Ballmann, C.P.P.S.

Spring break brought a change in a college policy: no masks required for the first time in two years. It has been a long two years but we have had no serious outbreaks. We hope we will not have to revert to wearing masks again.



**CRIMSON
WAVE**

Two hundred invitations were sent out to graduates to attend the GradFinale. There was a change from previous years and everything was conducted with one-stop shopping on the first floor so that stu-

dents could check in with the registrar, academic advising, financial aid, and student billing offices to verify that there were no obstacles to graduation.

Alumni and career services explained the services offered by their offices. Jostens was on hand with their caps and gowns so grads could pick them up at this time. There were several settings in the library with a professional photographer on hand for those who wanted graduation photos in their regalia.

Winter weather has slowed down the construction of the new dorm. The two stair towers are built, and the slab has been poured. The walls for the first floor, which were built off-site, are being installed, so the building is starting to take shape.

We are closely monitoring the construction schedule so that we can determine if crews will be able to meet the deadline before classes start in the fall. Contingency plans are in the works should we need tem-

porary housing. Naturally, we would like to avoid that scenario if at all possible.

Expanded food service for the dorm occupants will be on the second floor of the main building with the serving line in the former Study Buddy café and the food preparation taking place in the unoccupied space above the Katsahnias Commons.

With the construction of the new dorm, there is no longer ample parking to have the commencement in the Rittenmeyer Athletic Center. This year, graduation will be outdoors at the Hammond Pavilion at Wolf Lake Park, a mile west of the college. This will be the first time that the college has had an outdoor graduation, so we are hoping for ideal weather.

Bishop Robert McClory of the Diocese of Gary was on campus for the St. Joseph Society Mass and luncheon on the feast of St. Joseph. Thirty-five people attended this annual event for donors who pledge at least \$1,000 per year. The event had been on hiatus the past two years due to COVID.

The annual Trustees Scholarship Dinner was once again an online event as a precaution for COVID. The St. Joseph the Worker Award was presented to Larry Cubalchini, our campus minister for the past 18 months. Under his leadership, campus ministry has blossomed. He coordinated the projects during the year of St. Joseph, which resulted in over 7,000 volunteer hours to the local community by students, staff and faculty. During Lent he offered his third "Busy Student" retreat, which has averaged around seven students for each retreat.

The college library and its academic resources center, with support from a Department of Education grant, offered two webinars for the Spring Professional Development series suitable for faculty, staff and administrators.

Melanie Flores-Fragoso, Ed.D., conducted the first webinar: Best Practices for Latinx Students at HSIs. This webinar fostered an understanding of different culturally relevant practices needed to support students through an equity lens. As a Hispanic-serving institution, an ad hoc mission is adopted to intentionally serve Latinx and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) student populations. Flores-Fragoso discussed topics such as student engagement, community-building in the classroom, equity and culturally relevant mentorship.

The second offering was conducted by Aaron Cortes, director of STEAM Pathways

at Northeastern Illinois University. He presented "Creating a Culture of Support for First-Generation College Enrolled Students in STEM Disciplines."

The transition of first generation and/or low-income students (FGLI) to college is difficult, but attaining a degree is an even greater challenge. He discussed approaches to develop/integrate resources to increase FGLI success and attainment, which focused on implementing a culture of inclusion and understanding for FGLI students.

The latest film in the social justice film series for viewing and discussion was *Just Mercy*. In this film, world-renowned civil rights defense attorney Bryan Stevenson works to free a wrongly condemned black man who was sentenced to death for the murder of a white teenage girl in Monroeville, Ala.



Condolences from the C.PP.S.

The prayers and sympathy of the Precious Blood family are extended to:

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood and family of **Br. Timothy Hemm, C.PP.S.**, who died on February 21, 2022.

The family of **Robert Mullen**, who died on February 28. Robert was the brother of Fr. Charles Mullen, C.PP.S.

The Italian Province and family of **Fr. Eliseo Pace, C.PP.S.**, who died on March 4.

The Sisters of the Precious Blood and the family of

Sr. Theresa Rizzo, CPPS, who died on March 7.

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood and family of **Fr. Eugene Schnipke, C.PP.S.**, who died on March 17, 2022.

The Sisters of the Precious Blood and the family of **Sr. Nancy Raley, CPPS**, who died on March 20.



*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Do Our Passions Lead to a Resurrection?

(Continued from page 49)

to see, feel and experience the passion—opening ourselves to the sorrows that surround us, and discovering how God is bringing new life and love into the most unlikely of spaces. Jesus' heart was pierced by a lance, blood and water spilled out, and from that passion, the resurrection followed. So what happens when I allow my heart to be pierced by the sorrows that surround me? Inevitably, it will hurt, and it will likely end my life as I know it, but the love and community that will be born in the most desolate of spaces will shine radiant like the Easter sun.

Every day, I pray for the grace to open my heart to the people around me—to draw near to their joy and sorrows alike. To love with arms wide open, unafraid, radically available. People are in pain and suffering whether we look or not, but when we choose to draw near to those who suffer, they no longer suffer alone, and that can change everything. Now we are in it together, and now, at least, we have each other.

There is great hope in that—knowing that we are

not alone and that we always have each other, even in our darkest moments. When we stay together through our times of passion, flames of love and community flicker through the

darkness and renew our hope in the promised resurrection.

Holly O'Hara is the coordinator of communications for the PBMR.



Provincial Director's Calendar

April 4–7: Religious Life Conference, St. Meinrad, Ind.

April 9: Mass for the *Missionary Hearts* Mission and Ministry Society, St. Charles Center.

April 12: Chrism Mass, Cathedral Basilica St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati.

April 19: Local superiors' group, Cincinnati.

April 27: CTU Peacemakers Dinner, Chicago.

April 29: CTU corporate board meeting, Chicago.



Community Calendar

April 9: Lenten Day of Reflection led by Fr. Andy O'Reilly, C.P.P.S., for the *Missionary Hearts* Mission and Ministry Society, St. Charles Center.

May 21: Commencement of

Calumet College of St. Joseph, at Wolf Lake Park.

July 24: Companion Day at the Sorrowful Mother Shrine, Bellevue, Ohio. Details coming soon.

The 2022 Joint Provincial Assembly will be held June 13–16 in Indianapolis.

Fr. Schnipke

(Continued from page 51)

A memorial Mass will be held at a later date in the Catholic Communities of Northwest Dayton.

Memorial donations may be made to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Cincinnati Province.



CPPS Materials Available Online

A wealth of C.P.P.S. resources is available to you in a Dropbox folder maintained by Fr. Jerry Stack, C.P.P.S. These resources, mainly PDF files, include works from the C.P.P.S. Resource Series and Precious Blood study weeks, spirituality resources, historical accounts and more.

To access the files, enter the following URL in your browser:

<http://bit.ly/2VoegHz>

Thanks to Fr. Stack for compiling these valuable and informative resources.

Days of Praise

Celebrating Special Days
With C.P.P.S. Members

Celebrating Birthdays In May

- 4 Br. Timothy Cahill
- 7 Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn
- 10 Fr. Clarence Williams
- 11 Fr. David Kelly
- 14 Br. Joseph Fisher
- 16 Fr. Donald Thieman
- 31 Fr. Timothy McFarland



*Happy birthday,
Br. Joe
Fisher*



*Happy birthday,
Fr. Don Thieman*

Please Pray Every Day for a Missionary of the Precious Blood

Missionaries of the Precious Blood of the Cincinnati Province are in ministries of prayer, preaching, teaching, parish work and other apostolates, following their call to serve God's people. Please support them in prayer each day, lifting them up for God's blessing.

Prayer suggestion: O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name), act in him, speak in him and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving, pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. Amen.

Celebrating Anniversaries In May

- 13 Fr. Alfred Naseman
- 15 Fr. Paul Wohlwend
- 18 Fr. LeRoy Moreeuw
- 20 Fr. Stephen Dos Santos
- 25 Br. Thomas Bohman
- 28 Fr. Fred Licciardi
- 31 Fr. Harold Brown
- Fr. James Franck
- Fr. Charles Mullen

MAY PRAYER LIST

The C.P.P.S. major superiors request that all members and lay associates pray each month for a different unit of the Congregation.

April:
Cincinnati Province

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Pray for vocations | 17. Fr. Dennis Chriszt |
| 2. Fr. Kenneth Alt | 18. Fr. Donald Davison |
| 3. Fr. Angelo Anthony | 19. Fr. Stephen Dos Santos |
| 4. Br. James Ballmann | 20. Fr. James Dugal |
| 5. Br. Benjamin Basile | 21. Cand. Greg Evers |
| 6. Fr. Antonio Baus | 22. For living and deceased Companions |
| 7. Fr. Benjamin Berinti | 23. Fr. Barry Fischer |
| 8. For living and deceased C.P.P.S. members | 24. Br. Joseph Fisher |
| 9. Br. Thomas Bohman | 25. Fr. Leon Flaherty |
| 10. Br. Brian Boyle | 26. Fr. Anthony Fortman |
| 11. Fr. Thomas Brenberger | 27. Fr. James Franck |
| 12. Fr. Harold Brown | 28. Fr. Richard Friebel |
| 13. Fr. Joseph Brown | 29. For living and deceased Amici |
| 14. Br. Timothy Cahill | 30. Fr. James Gaynor |
| 15. Pray for those in formation | 31. Fr. Juan Gonzalez |
| 16. Br. Paul Chase | |

PRAYING WITH THE MISSIONARIES THROUGH LENT



Journey with us through the 40 days of Lent.

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