Prayer for the King’s College Community

Lord God, you filled the heart of Father Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, with zeal for the proclamation of your kingdom through the ministry of education. Bless us and all the administrators, teachers, students, staff, and alumni of King’s College with a desire for your truth and a passion to make you known, loved, and served. May we work together to educate the mind and heart of every member of our college community. May your gracious Spirit enable this work of resurrection in us so that we might bring light to those in darkness and proclaim your liberating love to all in need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer by Rev. Thomas Looney, C.S.C.

Blessed Basil A. Moreau, C.S.C., founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, was beatified September 13, 2007 in Le Mans, France. His beatification brought him one step closer to being canonized as a saint by the Catholic Church.

The Mission of Holy Cross in the Wyoming Valley

(Adopted November 6, 1989)

Faithful to the mission of the first Holy Cross religious sent to minister to the people of the Wyoming Valley, we continue to preach the Gospel, to teach, and to serve. We do this primarily within the King’s College community, as well as in the local church and through participation in the wider civic community.

Our ministry is guided by our desire to follow the example of Jesus Christ who, by living a preferential option for all in need, helped people to grow in knowledge and experience of the Father. The ministry flows from a strong community life rooted in prayer and fidelity to the vows of celibacy, poverty, and obedience.

In living out our mission as “educators in the faith,” we wish to help others to learn the values and the religious meaning of life. We also seek to collaborate with and empower our colleagues, students, and others to join us in this mission.

Holy Cross Service Today

King’s and the local Holy Cross Community are entering their 64th year. Currently, 17 “C.S.C.s” (the Community’s Latin name is “Congregatio a Sancta Cruce”) serve at King’s and in the Wyoming Valley. Of those, 13 minister at the college; four others work locally, residing on campus or in the area.

In addition to their roles at the college, the Holy Cross Community members are actively involved in Northeastern Pennsylvania religious, civic, and service organizations. Many of our priests also assist at area parishes on weekends.

Holy Cross in the Holy Cross Community

Holy Cross Affiliates Program

We offer this experience for those students who may feel called to examine religious life in Holy Cross. They have an opportunity to meet on a regular basis for prayer and conversation with Holy Cross religious and with other young men who are interested in religious life.

Holy Cross Candidate and Semester Residential Program

This is a two-semester residential program for college graduates who are seriously interested in pursuing a vocation as a Holy Cross religious. They share daily prayer and meals, volunteer ministry, and take courses in theology and philosophy, while exploring the various aspects of religious life and the sharing of faith. The Holy Cross Candidate Program is situated at the University of Notre Dame. You may also ask Fr. Richard Hockman, Fr. Dan Issing, or any Holy Cross priest or brother for further information.

Holy Cross A Brief History

The Holy Cross Community was founded at Sainte Croix (“Holy Cross”), France, in 1837 by Fr. Basil Anthony Moreau. He envisioned a religious community of priests, brothers, and sisters who would assist the diocesan clergy, teach at all levels of education, and respond to other pressing needs in the church.

In 1841, the first Holy Cross priests and brothers came to America. Late in November of 1842, Fr. Sorin and the brothers arrived at what is now South Bend, Ind., and began building. Since that time, three Holy Cross Congregations of priests, brothers, and sisters have founded nine colleges and universities.

St. Mary’s College
1842: Notre Dame, Ind.
St. Edward’s University
University of Portland
Our Lady of Holy Cross
King’s College
Scuola College
Notre Dame College
Manchester, N.H. (closed)
Holy Cross College
1846: Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
1901: Portland, Ore.
1948: North Easton, Mass.
1950: Manchester, N.H.
1966: Notre Dame, Ind.

Holy Cross has ministered for more than 170 years in the United States in parishes, educational institutions and as chaplains in hospitals, the military service, and elsewhere.

Celebrating A Saint

Brother Andre Bessette, C.S.C., was canonized in Rome in October, 2010. He had served faithfully at the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, Canada, where he tended to the sick and cured many through his prayers. The Congregation of Holy Cross has been celebrating “The Year of the Brother” since October 2011 to honor this vocation and way of life in the church. The celebration will conclude on October 17, 2012.
Brother George Schmitz, C.S.C., a native of New Haven, Conn., is a member of the Moreau Province of Holy Cross Brother George is the coordinator of the McGowan Hispanic Outreach Program at King’s. He has an academic background in Spanish and religious education. He has ministered as teacher and administrator in schools sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross. In 2010 he was appointed to General Council of the Congregation. He lives at 185 N Franklin St.

Rev. Fidel Ticona, C.S.C., is a Holy Cross priest from the District of Peru. Formerly, he worked as director of vocations in Peru and also in parish ministry in Puno and Lima. He has a master’s degree in mental health counseling from Seton Hall University. Fr. Fidel ministers to the Latino community in the Wyoming Valley as assistant pastor at St. Nicholas Church, Wilkes-Barre. He resides at Moreau Court.

Religious in residence at King’s

Rev. Joseph Long, C.S.C., ’74, a Wilkes-Barre native and King’s College alumnus, spent 12 years in secondary education and more than 30 years in the health care ministry. He continues to serve in this capacity as well as assisting in parishes both in the Wilkes-Barre area and Cocoa Beach, Fla.

Brother Jerome Matthews, C.S.C., is a native of Kingston, N.Y. He has worked in library service at King’s College and Stonehill College in Massachusetts and also served at the Holy Cross Generals in Rome, Italy. He resides at Moreau Court.

Religious in other area ministries

Rev. Robert Loxinski, C.S.C., a former campus chaplain at King’s, has been involved in parish ministry in several places. After completing a term as pastor at our Holy Cross Community’s parish in Bennington, Vt., Fr. Bob is now the pastor of St. Michael’s Byzantine Catholic Church in Dunmore, Pa.

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