The Congregation of
HOLY CROSS
at King’s College
2009-2010
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 group of 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 in the United States.

University of Notre Dame 1842: Notre Dame, Ind.
St. Mary’s College 1844: Notre Dame, Ind.
St. Edward’s University 1885: Austin, Texas
University of Portland 1901: Portland, Ore.
King’s College 1946: Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Stonehill College 1948: North Easton, Mass.
Notre Dame College 1950: Manchester, N.H.
(closed)
Holy Cross College 1966: Notre Dame, Ind.

The Holy Cross Community has ministered for more than 160 years in the United States in parishes, educational institutions and as chaplains in hospitals, the military service, and elsewhere. The community seeks to form people whose Christian values guide their lives and who will contribute to the development of a more just society.
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 the knowledge and service 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.

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 15, 2007 in LeMans, 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)

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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. Dan Issing or any Holy Cross priest or brother for further information.

Service in the Holy Cross Community

King’s and the local Holy Cross Community are entering their 63rd 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, 11 minister at the college; six 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.
Rev. Genaro R. Aguilar, C.S.C., from San Antonio, Texas, is a new college counselor. He received a B.A. from St. Mary’s University, Texas, a M.Th. at the University of Notre Dame, and an M.S.W from Boston College. He has recently worked at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass. serving as chaplain to the alumni office and chaplain to variety sports. Previously, he worked in Stonehill College’s counseling and testing center. Fr. Genaro has interests in travel and sports. He resides at 113 N. Franklin St.

Rev. Thomas C. Bertone, C.S.C., was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. He is a licensed social worker and is the director of the college’s counseling center. Fr. Tom was recently selected as the assistant provincial of the Eastern Province of Holy Cross. He will continue in his current duties at King’s through the first semester before moving to Bridgeport, Conn. Fr. Tom resides at Moreau Court.

Rev. Anthony Grasso, C.S.C., from Boston, is professor of English and the associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty. Fr. Grasso is also national chaplain of the Delta Epian Sigma honor society and serves on the Northeast Regional board of the Conference on Christianity and Literature. He enjoys working out, walking, reading, and writing poetry. Fr. Grasso lives at 185 N. Franklin St.

Rev. Richard Hockman, C.S.C., from Cambridge, Mass., is the director of campus ministry. He has a professional background and long history in special education. He is a master of sacred theology in parish based special religious education programs. Fr. Dick has been involved in formation work, religious education, and parish ministry both in Canada and the U.S. The assistant superior of the Holy Cross Community, he lives at Moreau Court.

Rev. Daniel Issing, C.S.C., from College Park, Md., is an assistant professor of theology at King’s and resides at Moreau Court. After completing a licentiate in sacred theology (S.T.L.) at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, Calif., he is currently teaching full time while completing the dissertation for his doctoral studies in the Council of Trinitarian in parish based special religious education programs. Fr. Issing served on the board of directors at King’s from 1981 to 1994, currently works in the Office of Volunteer Services and in the McGowan Hispanic Outreach Program. He lives at 185 N. Franklin St.

Rev. Charles Kocislak, C.S.C., from Jersey City, N.J., worked for an accounting firm and in several Holy Cross Brothers’ high schools before coming to King’s. He taught accounting at King’s for many years. He currently serves as director of academic advancement and as a special assistant to the president.

Brother James Miller, C.S.C., ’74, is chair of the theater and speech department and designs sets. He has been with theater companies in his native Baltimore and other cities. Bro Jim has received awards for excellence in teaching and for service to the college. He resides at 185 N. Franklin St.

Rev. John Ryan, C.S.C., from Wilkes-Barre, is the dean of the William G. McGowan School of Business. He worked in an accounting firm before entering Holy Cross. Fr. Jack enjoys playing tennis and traveling. He lives at Moreau Court.

Brother George Schmitz, C.S.C., ’83, is an assistant professor of theology at King’s. He has taught 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 Danville, Pa.

Brother Harold Rogan, C.S.C., has worn many hats while at King’s. He founded both the security department and the bookstore. A native of Scranton, Pa., he had been the business manager for the Holy Cross Community until recently. He serves on the board of the St. Vincent dePaul Kitchen. He lives at Moreau Court.

Brother Jerome Matthews, C.S.C., is a native of Kingsville, N.Y. He 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.

Brother Robert Laskowski, 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 Danville, Pa.

Rev. Fidel Ticona, C.S.C., is a Holy Cross priest from the Districts of Peru. Before coming to the United States, he worked as director of vocations for six years and also served at Señor de la Esperanza (Lord of Hope) Parish in Lima. Peru. Fr. Fidel resides at Moreau Court and is working with Hispanic families at Holy Rosary Parish, Wilkes-Barre. He is studying counseling at Seton Hall University.

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