



CrossRoads: Bulletin of the Passionist Alumni Association

February 2021

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**Did a friend forward this
bulletin to you?**

[Click here to register.](#)

Thinking of forwarding this?

Please forward this bulletin to a former classmate or friend who attended school in Passionist formation. The Passionist Alumni Association relies on you to build our membership. Every day we hear stories of renewed friendships and new friendships. Did a friend forward this bulletin to you because you once studied with the Passionists? If so, please **CLICK ON THIS LINK:** <https://passionistorderalumni.org/> to register with the Passionist Alumni Association to stay in touch. Thank you.

Louisville, Kentucky is the location of our 2021 Reunion.

WANT PAST ISSUES?

To read past issues of CrossRoads, click this link: <https://passionist.org/crossroads-bulletin/>

Will We Have a Reunion in 2021?



Pencil in 'Louisville' for October 8-10, 2021!

With the ongoing coronavirus issues in our country, you are probably wondering whether or not we will have our reunion this year. Our current plan is to hold the reunion in Louisville from October 8-10. Carl DeLage, Ray Alonzo and Jim Byrne are continuing their planning for that weekend. As we have seen so many times during the past year with this virus, it is very difficult to accurately forecast infection rates, travel restrictions, etc. We want to hold our reunion, but only if we can do so safely. The Council will monitor the overall situation and make a Go-No-Go decision in July. Thanks for your patience!

Building Community Again

Please help finding people!!! Think of five people from your Passionist formation days that you regularly keep contact with and know how to reach—especially those whom you don't remember seeing at any of the past reunions. Please send those names – just their names right now to:

Paul Schulte at pschulte@horizon-insight.com or

Don Noltemeyer at dfnoltemeyer@gmail.com.

You may know someone we have not been able to reach. You may be the key to building our community of Passionist Alumni. Do it now! Please. You can finish reading CrossRoads as soon as you are finished.

We currently have 176 members and would like to continue to grow that number to 200 or even 250 by the end of this year. We need each of you to help. We are working to complete the Passionist Alumni Association section of the website: <https://passionist.org/passionist-formation-alumni-welcome/> to list all current members and all deceased members and the over 400 people we still can't find. We will update you later on how we can all work together to turn those names into the gold of renewed friendship and community.

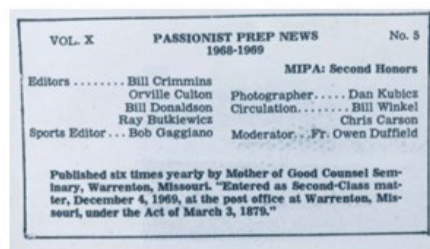
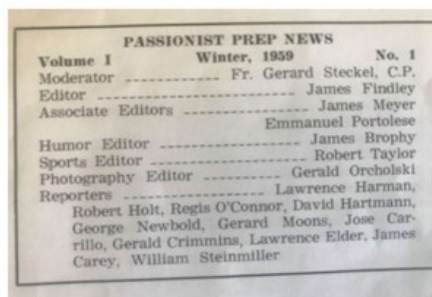
Stay safe! Stay connected!

Mega Milestones



The FIRST and LAST editions of The Passionist Prep News

Both the first and last editions of The Passionist Prep News were born during seismic changes in the Passionist Order – the autumn of 1959 and the spring of 1969. The new newsletter for the relatively new minor seminary replaced the decades-old *Prepannu*, a premium-level yearbook that contained writing of distinction, student drawings, and the archive-worthy group photos of all classes and faculty. Later within the chaotic atmosphere of post-Vatican II, the editors of the 1969 version did their optimistic best to document their own confusion and frustration with the sudden and full closure of the Prep.



Every issue contained a staff block. You can't help but notice family names of people who either became Passionists or whose brothers did. The original newsletter hierarchy in 1959 looked big-city and included a "Humor Editor." The 1969 group identified 'Circulation' – an ambitious word for a small publication which, by the way, received honors from the MIPA, the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association—an organization that continues today. <https://mipajournalism.com/>

Mega Milestones *cont'd*

It was big news in 1959 that sisters from Mexico would take over the refectory kitchen. In 1969, the article reporting the projected scattering of priests and brothers crushingly hardened the no-return impact of closing the Prep.


SISTERS TAKE OVER KITCHEN

By Henry Azios

Among the major changes which occurred at the seminary during the summer months, one of the most important ones was the coming of the Eucharistic Missionary Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus to do the kitchen work which had previously been done by our own Passionist brothers. This, in turn gives the brothers more time for other work, such as farming.

Our former Fr. Provincial, Fr. Neil, C.P., saw the opportunity to and arranged for the opening of the sisters here at the seminary. Their order is headed by Monsignor I. Esperanza Rizo. The order now has five houses in Mexico City.

At present, forty-five novices are working on domestic work, and their lives as nuns.



Priests Scattered Across the U.S.

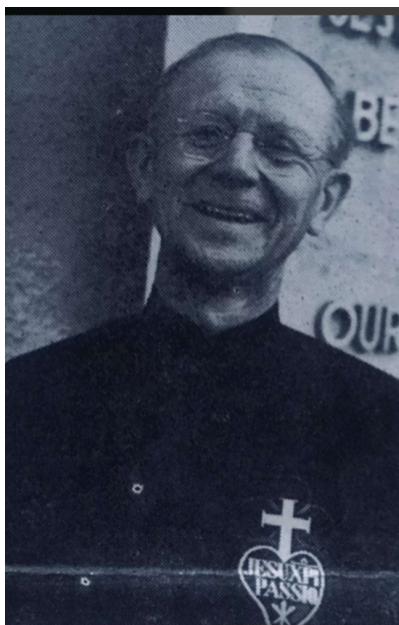
By Pat Flannigan

The students aren't the only ones who are moving out at the end of the school year. Many of the priests and brothers have received their assignments for next year. Some will enter the apostolate, others will teach in institutes of higher education, and the brothers will take on similar jobs at new locations.

The Retreat House in Houston, Texas, will claim two of our members. Fr. Albert Schwer will be stationed there to assist with retreats. Br. Jerome Milazzo, after the Warrenton property is disposed of, also expects to be stationed there on maintenance work.

Br. Kevin O'Malley will be stationed in Chicago, in the Provincial Office. Fr. Kenneth O'Malley, his brother, will be stationed in Chicago as the librarian of the Catholic Theological Union. Fr. Augustine Welhelmy will work on a doctorate at the University of Wisconsin.

Three faculty members will be moved to Louisville, Ky. Fr. John Baptist Ormechea will be assistant pastor at St. Agnes parish. Fr. Michael Hoolahan will be director of students at the Passionist College. Fr. Alfred Pooler will be Assistant Dean for Continuing Education at Bellarmine-Ursuline College.



Fr. Herbert Tillman, C.P.

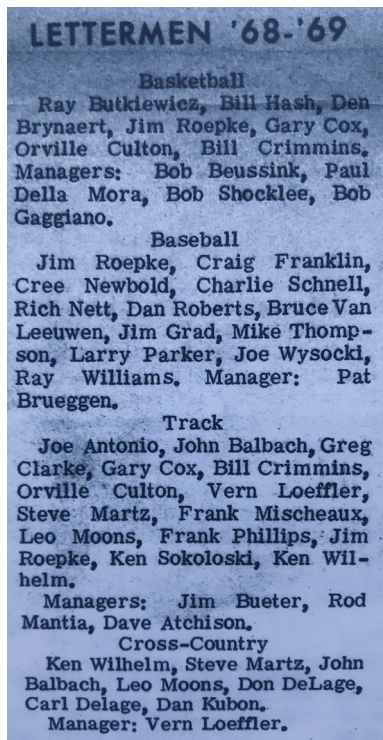
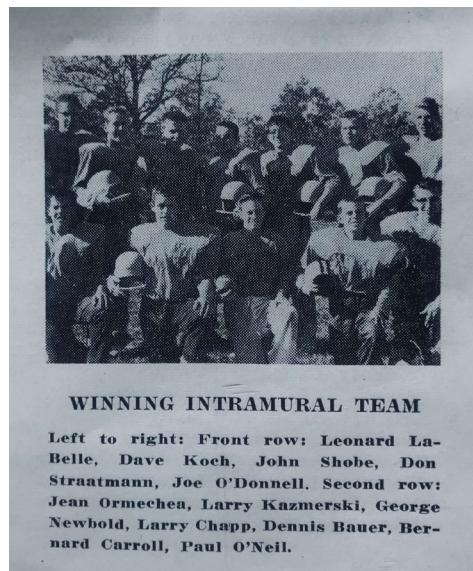
This writer's freshman Latin class, according to the first issue of the PPN, was Fr. Herbert's very last after 33 years of teaching at Normandy and Warrenton. Famously 20 years younger in manner and speech, he entertained us with his sense of humor.

He bestowed a nickname on nearly everyone. He called me 'DJ' and I can't remember why. But I do remember embarrassing myself by raising a 13-year-old hand and asking, "Father, is it possible for something to occur 'sooner than immediately?'" A classmate felt obliged to explain that 'Immediately if not sooner' was a joke to express urgency.

Fr. Herbert also had a green thumb and played a major role confronting the mud of the new Prep property by planting grass and shrubs. His next post in 1960 would be Louisville where he would give retreats.

Mega Milestones *cont'd*

In 1959, all sports were intramural. In the photo below from intramural play, the high school team of 1959 beat the college challengers 19-0. Note that the 1969 article (center) announced we had lettermen—yes, LETTERMEN!—whose feats included intramural, intermural, regional and state wins, especially in track that last year.



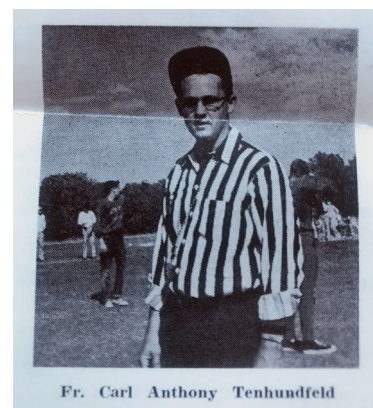
Varsity letter from the Prep.
Photo credit: Carl DeLage

In later years, too, we scored on **speech and debating teams**. In 1969, three Prepsters went all the way to the Missouri state level: **Paul Wadell** in Extemporaneous Speech, **Mike Lynch** in Original Speech, and **Bruce Cinquegrani** in Prose Reading.

In all years, a **Drama Club** performed on stage, always under the directorship of **Fr. Germain Legere, C.P.**, Both the first and the last issue of Passionist Prep News extolled the powerful play *Stalag 17* that was first produced in 1959 and once again before the Prep turned out its lights.

Few conversations at any alumni table at any reunion have failed to recount tales about coach **Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld, C.P.** See the tribute by **Bill Berger** elsewhere in this bulletin. That first issue of the Passionist Prep News dedicated most of the sports page to **George Steinmiller** and **Vince Westhoven's** 900-word article about Fr. Carl. They described him as a history teacher, but mainly as the "center of outdoor sports." As a coach, they claimed, "he was a dictator, but we all liked it that way."

In summary, the article reported he taught us how to play the games. Nobody doubted he liked working with young people. He figured out how to get us all involved in sports. Football was king and the fields got improved and regularly marked. He found money for protective equipment. Soon a time clock and electric scoreboard arrived in the gym, as well as uniforms for basketball. Always thinking all students should be involved, twelve-inch softball was introduced for baseball season.



Mega Milestones *cont'd*

Fr. Randal Joyce, C.P., the spiritual director, held his position the entire ten years. In the very last issue, he said this:

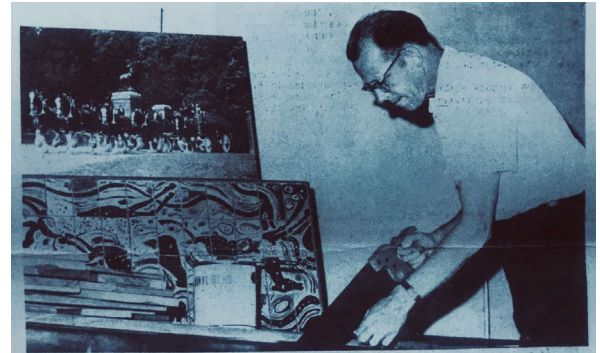
I find it hard to imagine life anywhere but here. I have tried to accept the wisdom of those who have pushed through the proposal to close the Prep, but I am not personally convinced or sure that it is right.

As of the last issue, a buyer for the seminary property was yet to be found. Nobody imagined it would become some organization's headquarters—in this case, an administrative and publishing enterprise for evangelical outreach.

We know the property has become a pilgrimage venue for many of us. Over several decades, the current owners, Child Evangelism Fellowship, have generously guided us around the building and allowed us to prowl about the grounds. The walls and forests whisper to us stories, old thoughts, memories of friends no longer reachable, and gratitude for the friends we still have.

An unnamed senior editor of the 1969 edition had the last word in his editorial "Final Analysis." For anyone keeping in touch with former classmates, the answer to the editor's final paragraph is most often a resounding YES.

Was and is the Prep school a beneficial institute? Just ask any of the many thousands of people, cleric and lay alike, who have gone through "the once glorious institute of the Passionist Preparatory Seminary."



FR. RANDAL JOYCE has sawed many a plank and hammered many a nail in making storage cabinets, settings for Henze ceramics, or frames for decorative pictures to be hung in the rec rooms.

Future Uncertain For Seminary Property

By Tom Szczesniak

Through the many decades of the Passionist Preparatory Seminary, three times has the school gone through the process of moving to a new location. Now the Seminary is going through just about the same amount of commotion, but instead of moving we are staying right here. That is, it is still undecided what is going to happen to the buildings and grounds after the closing.

There have been a few inquiries about the place, but there still isn't anything definite. Some who have taken a look at the grounds are more interested in the place as a boarding school, which is its present state. Consequently, this could possibly eliminate many of the problems of selling the furniture, blackboards, books, etc.

What to do with the farm is another problem. In recent years the farm has been quite beneficial, but it doesn't seem logical to prolong its existence since the Passionists are selling the land and property. No one knows what exactly will become of it. As a mat-

ter of fact, the Order prefers to sell everything as a package deal: the grounds, convent, farm, and even the Retreat House.

What is going to happen to our Retreat House? I asked Fr. Owen Duffield, the presiding rector, what was going to become of it. He replied that the Passionists would keep it in its present location if it could be separated from the sale of the Seminary.

Another thing that many are wondering about is, "What is the fate of our altar?" The marble altar in the chapel, with the mosaic of St. Gabriel in front, was brought here from Normandy, the location of the old Prep. But if the Seminary is sold and the new owner doesn't wish to keep the altar, the Order will have another problem on its hands.

An assessor came out a few weeks ago and spent five days measuring and estimating the worth of the building. This was done so that when the property, is put on the market purchasers will have a somewhat full picture of what they might invest in.

Final Analysis?

Since the Prep is closing its doors in June, a question has been asked by many people especially seminarians. "Has the Prep school been a beneficial institute?"

Scholastically we are fully accredited, which simply means we have been just as well placed in the educational system of Missouri as any other school in the state.

Scholastics, though, are only a part of the whole picture. A well balanced teenager must also participate in sports. Thus, the Prep offers a well balanced intra-mural and inter-scholastic program with such things as basketball, track, cross-country and baseball making up the inter-scholastic department, and soccer, football, softball, handball and basketball making up the intra-mural department.

There have always been traditional arguments against minor seminaries, such as, "The boy is much too young to know what he wants; he won't know what he is missing in the outside world nor how to act in it; and he also won't mature properly in the presence of only boys."

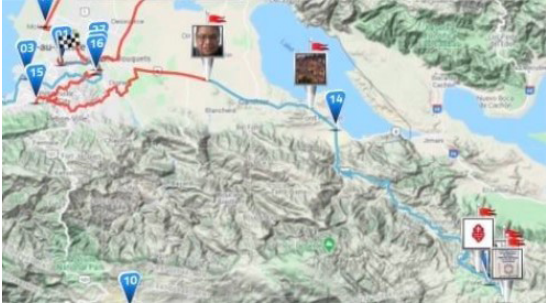
The answer to the first argument is unfortunately true. A boy of thirteen or fourteen doesn't really know what he wants to be. But the real point is that there is nothing wrong in his trying to find out.

It is a proven fact that it is extremely healthy for a boy to relate closely with his own peer group of the same sex during the early part of adolescence. As far as a boy not knowing what he is missing in the outside world by attending the Prep, it would only seem fair to follow that same trend of thought and say that everybody should enter a minor seminary to find out what he is missing "by not attending one."

Was and is the Prep school a beneficial institute? Just ask any of the many thousands of people, cleric and lay alike, who have gone through "the once glorious institute of the Passionist Preparatory Seminary."

Why So Many Alumni Went to Haiti

(Virtually, that is)



Why did so many Alumni go to Haiti? (Virtually, that is)

Quick answer: To feed hungry people

Two former Prepsters got excited about touring northern Spain—virtually—on bicycles. One said to the other, “This was fun and what a great tool to use to raise money to help some people!”

The Alumni Council heard the idea and leaped on it. It was a no-brainer to choose feeding the hungry in Haiti. Two Passionist major leaguers by the name of **Fr. Hugo, C.P.**, and **Fr. Rick, C.P.**, happen to be working there for the most desperate people of the entire Western Hemisphere.

This fundraiser would not be ordinary. To start with, it was designed to support our own individual wellness during a virtual tour of the nation of Haiti. We would walk, run, ski, and ride bicycles at home in order to progress on mapped roads throughout the nation of Haiti. Concurrently, we would pull together some dollars for rice, beans, and cooking oil: \$6,000 (our original goal) to feed 100 families for two full months.

We formed teams. All five teams completed the 409 miles six weeks ahead of schedule and donations as of 2/15/2021 hit \$14,046.94.

Fr. Rick: “People live out their lives and destinies in the tremendous stress of poverty.”

Abraham Maslow: “For the person who is extremely and dangerously hungry, no other interests exist but food. She dreams food, she remembers food, she thinks about food, she perceives only food and she wants only food.

“Freedom, love, community feeling, respect, philosophy...fail to fill the stomach. Such a person may fairly be said to live by bread alone.

“Food is the most basic and most important of all needs. A full stomach shows the first light at the end of tunnels. A full stomach offers the first glimmers of hope.”

Jesus: “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

All team members received the following letter near the project’s end:

Congratulations on completing: Touring Haiti, and supporting Fr. Hugo’s Food Bank!

On behalf of the Passionist Alumni Council, CONGRATULATIONS on finishing this Challenge! We hope this has been a pleasant experience for you, as a way to keep active during the winter months. Here’s a video, which is as close as we can get to thanking you personally: youtu.be/4kgvauNviVE...

You’ve now arrived back at Touissant L’Overture International Airport. May your virtual plane ride back to the US go smoothly!

Fr. Hugo and the families he’s helping in Haiti thank you for your financial support. To feed the hungry is one of the basic acts of mercy.

Those needs will, of course, continue, so Fr. Hugo and Fr. Rick would be happy to have your support in the future!

May God bless all of us.



Fr. Hugo Esparza-Pérez.

Haiti *cont'd*

In case you missed any of the milestone postcards (e.g. if you started the mission late) you can see the full set here:

dropbox.com/s/511upq8z...

Thanks for touring Haiti, and supporting Fr. Hugo's Food Bank Ministry

Check out videos that helped us appreciate the scene in Haiti

The launch of Fr. Hugo's food program: youtu.be/TL_Qt6fC1fo...

Special focus on Fr. Rick's work: youtube.com/watch?v=lK...

We could never sufficiently describe the hope this event has given to every single person involved – all of us along the spectrum from giving to receiving.

It's never too late to donate to Fr. Hugo's food bank. You can do so easily at:

<https://passionist.org/make-a-donation/> and select "Haiti - Fr. Hugo's Food Ministry" in the drop-down menu.

Fr. Frank Keenan, C.P. Our Oldest Passionist Alumnus

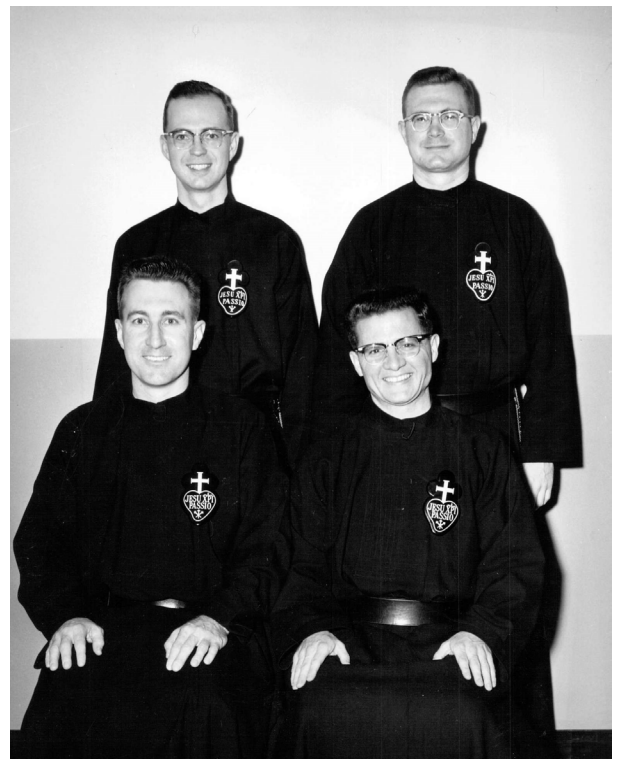
By Fr. Don Webber, C.P.

Fr. Frank Keenan, C.P. was born in Chicago on July 18, 1933. He entered novitiate in 1953 and professed first vows in July of 1954 in St. Paul, Kansas. His studies in philosophy and theology were at the monasteries in Des Moines, Chicago, and Louisville. After sacred eloquence he was assigned as assistant Novice Director back in St. Paul. After this one-year assignment, Fr. Frank was appointed as Director of Students for the next six years in Detroit, Louisville and finally in Chicago for theology students attending Catholic Theological Union. At the recommendation of the Provincial Chapter to establish a Prayer Center, Frank was appointed with two other men to establish this center in 1970 in the Chicago area.

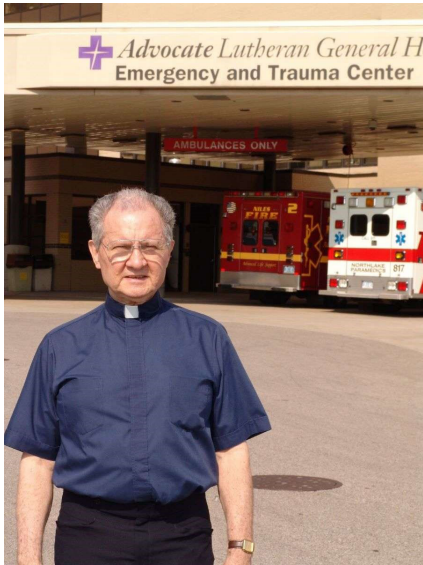
Fr. Frank's ordination class - May 27, 1961,

Seated (l-r): **Damian McHale** (RIP 1/7/2004)
Frank Keenan

Standing (l-r): **Mike Hoolahan** (RIP 6/2/2018)
and **Ben Olsen** (RIP 1/21/1999) (back)



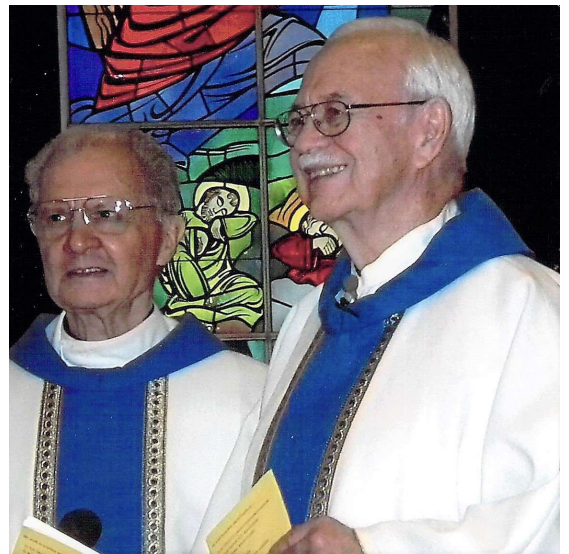
Fr. Frank Keenan, C.P., *cont'd*



He remained at this ministry until 1975 when he began his ministry at Lutheran General Hospital for the next forty years. He loved this pastoral ministry and became chaplain not only for the patients but also for the doctors, nurses and other staff personnel; all at the hospital loved him. They responded to his compassion and responsiveness, his sensitivity to their suffering and problems, his genuineness in his prayers for them, and his Passionist identification with their pain, struggles and suffering. Patients and staff created another ministry for Fr. Frank beyond the hospital campus: baptisms, weddings, and funerals.



Fr. Frank at his first mass at St. Agnes in Louisville. (l to r): Paul Bechtold, Ben Olson, Roger Mercurio, Frank Keenan, a visiting Monsignor, Damian McHale, Walter Kaelin, and Mike Hoolahan



Celebrating 50 years of priesthood with Fr. Mike Hoolahan, C.P.



Celebrating a birthday with family.



In 2015, Fr. Frank suffered a stroke which weakened his right side. For the past six years, he has been a resident at St. Benedict Nursing and Rehabilitation Home (6930 W Touhy Ave, Niles, IL 60714).

Fr. Frank Keenan, C.P., *cont'd*

Since Frank is not able to use the computer, he asked that his reflection on hospital ministry and one of his poems be included. He wishes all the alumni the best for 2021.

HOSPITAL MINISTRY: MEMORIES OF THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

“We are aware that the Passion of Christ continues in this world until He comes in glory. Therefore, we share in the joys and sorrows of our contemporaries as we journey through life toward our Father. We wish to share in the distress of all, especially those who are poor and neglected. We seek to offer them comfort and to relieve the burden of their sorrow.” (Const. #3)

In hospitals, where a majority of persons in our country die, Christ’s passion is cloned in the physical, emotional, and financial agonies of the sick and suffering. Clothing, belongings, home, family, and job are all stripped away. Cancerous bedsores rival any scourging. Crosses of diseased heart, lung, liver, and pancreas are all routinely carried. Patients are grafted to IV poles with needle nails. The rasping gasp of lingering death is commonplace.



“Our vocation as Passionists prompts us to familiarize ourselves thoroughly with the Passion of Christ, both in history and in the lives of people today, for the Passion of Christ and the sufferings of His Mystical Body form one mystery of salvation.” (Const. #65)

I have kept a daily diary of my experiences in hospital ministry: my perceptions, my reactions, my reflections. Blank verse has become my favorite process of developing these personal “negatives” - candid human landscapes - within a literary frame: a subjective verbal Polaroid.

To the eye of Christian faith, sharing in the sufferings of a member of the People of God is sharing in the sufferings of Jesus.

The following sketches portray patients, families, and staff encountered in a moment of unanticipated stress, in an instant of psychological nakedness, in a scene of unrehearsed drama.

The most rewarding encounters of hospital ministry are to share with another a moment of redemptive pain and suffering, or a moment of joy, fulfilling today the Paschal Mystery of Jesus’ passion and resurrection.

Fr. Frank Keenan, C.P., *cont'd*

PEEK-A-BOO

It is a chilly December Sunday evening in our Rehab Center's family room.
Grandma Maria is in her wheelchair slowly recovering from a stroke.
Her large family is seated in a semi-circle around the visiting area:
Maria is suffering through one of her more depressing days.

She is impatient at her slow recovery and angry at the hospital world.
The family visitors mirror Maria's morose misery.
Her sour sadness is contagious, infecting everyone present.
The grieving group is gloomy and grim, almost funereal.

Suddenly Maria's youngest daughter, Carol, appears at the door.
Carol is cradling her two-year-old child, Baby Angela, in her arms.
With instant intuition, Carol senses the melancholy mood of her family.
She immediately turns on her heels and retreats into the corridor ...
In less than a minute, Carol reappears at the door.

With both arms she is hiding her daughter, covered with a small shawl.
Carol walks past her family and stands in front of her mother's wheelchair.
She pulls the shawl off Baby Angela and shouts the magic ...
"Peek a-Boo !!"

Creative Word! Icy air melts! Warm family reaction radiates the room!
Grandma Maria grins from ear to ear, hugs her angelic granddaughter!
Rehab Unit rings with holiday cheer, sibling sharing ... and loud laughter!
Baby Angela squeaks a baby word: "Peepoo!" Louder laughing echoes!

Fr. Frank suggests a self-help Holiday gift! Peekaboo with a child!
Non-Prescription! Non-Narcotic! All Natural! Cost Free!
God's Own Anti-Depressant! Satisfaction Guaranteed!



News from the Passionist Alumni Council



Mike Owens

The Alumni Council Members

Ray Alonzo: Chair, Spiritual Formation
Mark Brockman: Co-Chair, Lay Association; Technology
Carl DeLage: Chair, Family Events
Jack Dermody: Chair, Communications: Website and Newsletter
Phil Jackson: Spiritual Formation
Carl Middleton: Co-Chair, Lay Association
Don Noltemeyer: Co-Chair, Alumni Profile and Recruitment
Mike Owens: Coordinator
Richard Padilla: Co-Chair, Administration/Province Liaison
Paul Schulte: Co-Chair, Alumni Profile and Recruitment
John Schork, CP: Province Liaison
Claire Smith: Communications

Our mission to feed the hungry in Haiti. A resounding ***Thank You*** to **Jack Dermody** and **Mike Kruger** for creating the Passionist Family Fun Food Challenge and to all the participants and fans who virtually toured Haiti!!! Because of Jack's and Mike's leadership, **Fr. Hugo, CP**, will be able to continue his mission to feed the hungry in Haiti. Be sure to read their article in this issue for all the details.

Alumni Council membership rotations. We have finalized our membership and succession planning policy. Later this year, two current Council members will end their terms and two new Council members will be selected from the registered alumni. This is the beginning of annual membership rotations. The policy is posted on the alumni council page of the province website (<https://passionist.org/alumni/alumni-council/>)

“Coffee at the Passionist Monastery.” **Phil Jackson and Bro. John Monzyk, CP**, are hosting “Coffee at the Passionist Monastery” every other Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. (ET) on Zoom. Please contact Phil (pjackson@passionist.org) if you would like to be added to the meeting invitation.

Good wishes to Terry McDevitt. Terry McDevitt has resigned from the Alumni Council. He has served on the Council since our beginning in 2017. Thanks, Terry, for your many contributions to the alumni. We will miss your insights, contributions and delightful humor. We wish you good health and God's blessings.

Contacting me. As always, if you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please email me at: [**mtowens2368@icloud.com**](mailto:mtowens2368@icloud.com).

We Remember Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld...

WE REMEMBER FR. CARL TENHUNDFELD...DO WE EVER!

By Bill Berger



For most who met **Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld**, he was larger than life. He was athletic, smart, provocative, and witty.

For the thousands who knew him through the Holy Name Retreat Center 12-step programs, he was their savior. For the additional thousands who knew him as Pastor at All Saints Catholic Church, he was the “Father”, the head of a vast family network that he had assembled during his lengthy ministry in Houston: once a member, always a member of the Father Carl community. He was passionately ecumenical and saw Christ in every person, irrespective of their religious affiliation or stature in life. To his closest friends he railed against the ill effects of clericalism in the Church, especially the materialism, the abuses of power and the frequent coverups: “this isn’t the Church that Christ wanted to build”. He was a 21st century priest born early in the 20th century.

Elmer Tenhundfeld was the second of nine children born to Edward and Otillia (Wullner) Tenhundfeld on December 17, 1928. His siblings included four sisters and four brothers, one of whom died at birth. His father, nicknamed “Hat”, by his siblings played baseball in the semi-pro leagues in Cincinnati and then in the minor leagues, earning a 1975 induction into the Price Hill Old Timer’s Baseball Hall of Fame. His mother, Otillia, “Tillie” was the youngest daughter in her dairy farmer family. The family came to America in the 1880’s and settled in Lower Price Hill. They ultimately moved to Price Hill and lived on the same street as the Tenhundfeld’s.

Elmer attended Catholic schools in Cincinnati: St. William’s and Holy Family elementary schools, then Elder high school. He left Elder early to join the Passionist Seminary in Normandy, Missouri. He was proud that his Elder high school classmates always considered him a member of their class even though he did not graduate with them. He enjoyed visiting with those classmates throughout his life. Elder’s motto was and is: “Altiora – Strive for the Higher Things”. Elmer took that motto to heart.

Elmer was ordained to the priesthood as a Passionist priest on March 26, 1955, assuming his professed name of Carl Anthony. In addition to his philosophical and theological studies he obtained a degree in history at St. Louis University. His first ministerial assignment in 1956 was to be an instructor of civics and history, as well as the student athletic director at the newly opened Passionist preparatory seminary on an 800-acre tract of land just outside of Warrenton, Missouri. He was tireless, and seemingly invincible, as a baseball, basketball, and football player, coach, and referee. He was a dynamic civics and history instructor engaging his students frequently in open discussion and debates.

We Remember Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld...

During his tenure in Warrenton, he was also involved in parochial and retreat ministry on the seminary campus.



Fr. Herbert (English & Latin)
Fr. Claude (Music) Fr. Edgar (Latin)
Fr. Germain (English & Speech) Fr. Cyprian (Latin)
Fr. Emil (Greek & French) Fr. William (English)
Fr. John Francis (Latin & Greek) Fr. Leon (Science & Math)
Fr. Carl Anthony (Social Studies & Physical Ed.) Fr. Albert (Science & Math)



Fr. Carl as inspirer-in-chief: energetic coach, referee, teacher, facilitator of open discussion



High school line up: (Left to right) front row kneeling, Dave Sullivan, Vincent Westhoven, Bernard Boward, Joe O'Donnell, George Steinmiller, Rich Villarreal; second row, Arnold Montanez, Dave Dannegger, Fr. Carl, George Cousino, Felix Barron, Jim Winters; back row, Dick Rose, Larry Kazmerski, Randy Hoffman, Mike Koch, Paul O'Neil, Mike Higgins, Minchin Lewis, Ed Schum.



On August 5, 1965, Father Carl was transferred to Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center in Houston, Texas where he began nineteen years of ministry as the Local Superior and Retreat Center Director.

Father Carl frequently told the story of an early experience at the Retreat Center that would underpin his ministry for the rest of his life. One Sunday evening, shortly after arriving, he happened upon a small group of men meeting in the gazebo on the property. Gracious but curious, he inquired from his fellow priests what the purpose of their meetings were.

He learned that they were a small AA group. They timidly requested his permission to continue their Sunday evening meetings. He cordially agreed and, in fact, soon joined them for fellowship and dialogue. It wasn't long before Father Carl was seconded as the spiritual director of the group. Soon there were other AA groups having meetings at the Retreat Center whereupon Father invited them to use a Retreat Center meeting room for their meetings.

We Remember Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld...

After a few years Father Carl encouraged the expanded 12-Step groups to begin having periodic retreats at the Center. He offered to conduct the retreats. They hesitantly agreed. Father Carl says that the initial two retreats were “less than successful”. When asked why, he was told that he needed to do three things for more successful 12-step retreats:

1. He needed to conduct the retreats in secular clothing rather than his priestly habit to better align himself with the group.
2. He needed to move the retreats out of the Chapel and lose the Catholic identity of the retreats. Many of the 12-Step members were not Catholic or even necessarily religious at all, even though trusting in a higher being is an intrinsic step of the 12-step program itself.
3. He needed to serve a bedtime snack on Saturday evenings.... preferably “Blue Bell Ice Cream”. Of course, he quickly complied with all three requests.

During the next seventeen years, Father Carl participated in more than 120 12-Step Retreats and participated in 5th step service to thousands of 12-step members. To the present day, twenty various 12-Step meetings are held each week at Holy Name Retreat Center, involving up to 1,000 people annually. There are also 5 scheduled 12-Step Retreats on the Retreat Center Calendar each year.

During Father Carl’s long tenure as Local Superior and Retreat Center Director he, along with many dedicated laymen, witnessed the doubling of the retreat center capacity. In 1984, when he was asked by the Passionists to move on to his next assignment at the Provincial House in Chicago, he politely but firmly declined. He had become a fixture in the Houston community, especially with the growing 12-Step recovery program at Holy Name.

With permission from the Provincial of Holy Cross Province and Bishop Morkovsky, Father Carl joined the Diocesan clergy of Galveston-Houston. In 1984, Bishop Morkovsky invited Father Carl to lead the newly adapted Renew Program for the Diocese. He was simultaneously appointed Pastor of All Saints Parish, one of the oldest parishes in the Diocese, where he resided for the next fifteen years.

During his four years as Director of the Renew Program, he was instrumental in spreading this newly adapted program of adult faith renewal and ecumenical outreach throughout the Diocese. Upon completion of his assignment with the Renew program, Father Carl was appointed Director for Evangelization for the Diocese, while still serving as Pastor of All Saints. He was ultimately elected President of the National Council for Catholic Evangelization (NCCE), serving in that capacity for five years. In subsequent years he was also the Chaplain of the Northwest Serra Club and was instrumental in helping initiate the religious life vocation movement called Life Awareness.

In 1997, Sonny Lovoi, a former Holy Name Retreat Center captain, invited Fr. Carl to participate in a newly founded ecumenical retreat experience called the Journey to Damascus (JTD). He was well suited in this capacity based on his years of experience as Director for Evangelization for the Diocese. Ultimately, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo appointed Father Carl Spiritual Director for JTD where he led ecumenical retreats four times yearly until shortly before his death.

Father Carl retired from Diocesan administrative duties in 1999. However, he continued to enjoy an active ministry in parishes through weekend assistance at Masses and other Sacramental services. He remained a frequent weekend visitor to Holy Name Retreat Center, hearing confessions and renewing acquaintances on weekend retreats...while still occasionally enjoying a dish of “Blue Bell Ice Cream” on Saturday evenings.

We Remember Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld...

Even during his active and taxing ministerial life, Father Carl never tired of visiting his growing family in Cincinnati. He would be sure to visit at least four to five times each year, including his last visit home subsequent to the 2017 Passionist Alumni reunion in Louisville. While at home he would celebrate family Masses, weddings, baptisms and sometimes an occasional funeral. He was Godfather to numerous nieces and nephews.

One nephew remarked that Sunday Masses with Uncle Carl were always great because he celebrated them a lot faster than their local parish priests did.

Last fall, while my wife, Linda, and I were traveling through Michigan on a secluded family vacation, we received a call from Father Carl. After exchanging the usual pleasantries, he told us that he had visited a doctor on the previous day because he had noticed blood in his urine. Upon subsequent testing, the specialists discovered a massive tumor on one of his kidneys. He never did admit to me or my wife that he had been diagnosed with kidney cancer. We learned that later from a mutual friend. Once we chatted with him about his life-threatening condition, he told us that he was not going to undertake treatment of any kind. "I'm going to let the good Lord take care of me.... He always has." I was personally privileged to have been able to spend two of the last three nights of Father Carl's life caring for him at his condo in Houston, together with his hospice nurse. He passed away peacefully at his home of 20 years on October 14, 2020, surrounded by his closest friends and caregivers. His funeral Mass was celebrated at his long-term parish of All Saints in Houston. His Eminence Cardinal Daniel DiNardo was the principal celebrant. I was also honored to have been asked by the family to be a pallbearer, a privilege I will always cherish. Father Carl will long be remembered by the large fraternal and spiritual families that he nurtured throughout his 91 years of life. God bless you Father Carl. We will see you soon.



About The Author: Bill Berger

Bill attended the Prep school in Warrenton from 1959 through his senior year in 1963. Through his father's close association with the Passionists at the Detroit Monastery, he was acquainted with Passionist priests and brothers from the time he was born.

Like each of us in the Prep, Bill's talents were put to good use. He remembers being elected class President in his junior year, running the facility's large laundry complex in his senior year, '62-'63, winning the school-wide handball tournament in his senior year, and having a bit-part in one of the school's plays in his junior or senior year (he has no earthly memory of what the name or plot of the play was).

Bill and his wife, Linda, continue to be actively involved with the Passionist community through their engagement with Holy Name Retreat Center in Houston. Bill was a member of the formative Governance Board from 2008 – 2015. Linda has served as chair of the Retreat Center's Women's Procom Committee for the past four years. They are both actively engaged with the local chapter of the Community of Passionist Partners (CPP) and are on the Retreat Center's "A-Team" promotions committee.

Bill's favorite story about Father Carl involved a nickname that he was given early in his tenure that has stuck with family and friends throughout his life: "I was a farm boy, not very athletic, with the happenstance name of "Berger". After a clear demonstration of my clumsiness on the football field, I was christened by Father Carl one day with the nickname of "Beefy Berger". Many of you have probably heard it or remember it from the days at the Prep. Every call I subsequently received from Father Carl began: "Hey Beefy.... what's going on?"

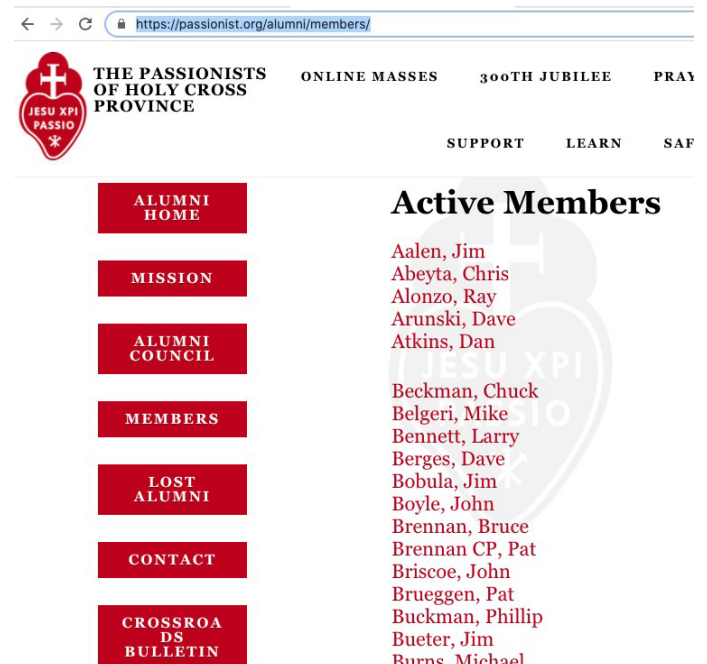
Help Us Keep Our Bios Current

The online biographies have been up and available since the middle of last year. We keep adding to it. This is a living, organic project. We depend on you for editing, additions, and deletions.

As an alumnus, you have several options:

- Enjoy the posted bios for a walk down memory lane
- Submit a new biography for inclusion – there is no set format. Provide name, Prep (or other formation) graduation year, and whatever you would like to share). Suggested topics to consider: schools attended, employment info, relationships, and memories of being in Passionist formation
- Update/revise your posted biography
- Or request to have yours removed

Bob Duffield (class of 1971) is the web administrator and his email is bdlinwood1@cox.net. If you have been thinking about checking out the online biographies – here are a few enticements.



Did you know?

- Pat Brennan submitted his updated bio last August
- Fr. Carl Schmitz, Passionist missionary assigned to China, Alabama, Japan and the Philippines was Jerry, Jim & Bill Crimmins' uncle and their mother's twin?
- Mike Kruger, Bill Toffenetti, and Mike Mahoney play chess online at chess.com? Join 'em!
- Al Maryan lives in Wright City, MO – only 4 miles (as the crow flies) to the Prep
- Fr. Peter Berendt passed away September 9, 2020
- We've made an effort to include deceased Passionist biographies. Can you think of additional names to add?
- How many Passionist Brothers can you name who were assigned to the Prep?
- Several uncles/nephews were at the Prep: Newbold, Duffield, Womack – can you think of others?
- Consider all the brothers who followed their brothers to the Prep: Clark, Crimmins, Kimmel, Luebbert, Moons, O'Malley, Ormechea, Reese, and Williams. Can you think of others?

SignPosts

In SignPosts we welcome our newest members and report the passing of all those who at some time participated in Passionist formation.

Welcome New Members!

New members added in 2020 and 2021 to date: **Vincent Foley, Dan Geiger, Gene O'Neill, Mike Roark, and Mike Urhahn.**

Those we mourn...

...may they rest in peace and reside in our hearts forever, and may we emulate the special strengths of theirs that blessed us.

Alumni who passed away in 2020 and 2021 to date:

Fr. Peter Berendt, C.P. and his classmate John "Jack" Chandler,
Fr. Simon Herbers, C.P., John R Hollon, Fr. Sebastian MacDonald, C.P.,
John Prunty (see article in this bulletin) Dennis Sullivan, and
Fr. Carl Tenhundfeld (see article in this bulletin).



No, We are not the First Alumni Group



Standing with Fr. Francis, Fr. General, and Fr. John Mary, (left to right) are Thomas Ransdell, Patrick Flaherty, James Roche, Gary Gutchevski, George Crandon, and Raymond Montgomery.

*(From the **Passionist Prep News**, Autumn 1960)*

"The above picture was taken on the 4th day of the 1960 Prep Alumni Reunion. We were honored with a surprise visitor, the General of the Passionists himself, Most Rev. Malcolm LaValle, C.P. As events turned out the Alumni met the past Rectors of the Prep from 1920-1960, with the exception of Fr. Elmer, C.P.

At this reunion, a new organization of the Alumni Club was set up on a local level. Fuller information will be sent to each of the 8 regions through the local officers."

Nota bene, brothers, the "Club" was big enough to be operating IN 8 REGIONS!

John Prunty ('66), RIP

Obit by Martin Prunty



It is with great regret that I must share with you the passing of my older brother, and great friend, John. May he rest in peace. His obituary follows.

John J Prunty, Jr., lost his battle with cancer on January, 26, 2021. John was the oldest son of John and Marjorie Prunty of St Louis, both deceased. He is survived by his six (6) siblings: Janice Scott (St Charles, MO), Martin (Anthem, AZ), Kevin (Sullivan, MO), Eileen Bax (St Charles, MO), Tom (Wentzville, MO) and Brian (Wildwood, MO); and his son, John J Prunty, III (Chicago, IL). He also leaves behind his devoted girlfriend, Diane Andrews, who stood by his side both before and throughout his illness.

John was committed to his education, receiving his bachelor degree from the University of Missouri, and his Masters and PhD from Washington University in St Louis. He loved the outdoors, including hiking, fishing and occasional hunting. He was a beekeeper, managing bee hives and producing excellent honey for decades. He also owned a farm in northwestern Missouri, which he referred to as “his happy place.”

During his career, he spent time teaching in Australia on a fellowship, taught high school in the Hazelwood School District, worked as an Operations Manager for Maritz Corporation and as Sr Vice President and General Manager for Marine Audio. In both his career and personal life, he was known for his intellect and his wit.

John’s fondest memories were those of the times he spent with his son. They included hunting, fishing and road trips to most major league baseball team stadiums in the US and Canada. He was a dedicated parent who understood the meaning of unconditional love. John will be sorely-missed by both family and friends.

No service was planned.

Old-Time Monastery Recipes

Brother Jerome Milazzo, C.P., stationed today in Louisville, gifted us two recipes he learned from Brother Christopher Zeko, C.P. That would be around 1963 at the Novitiate in St. Paul, Kansas.

Brother Jerry charitably cut the servings down from 40 to 4.

SATURDAY NIGHT BEANS

1 lb great northern (large white) beans
1 oz molasses
1 cup minced onions
1 oz brown sugar
2 oz catsup
1 tsp dry mustard
1/2 stick margarine
Optional: ham pieces, pepper

Soak great northern beans in water overnight. Drain water and add fresh water and cook beans until tender (approx. 2-3 hours). Add other ingredients and simmer for 2 more hours. Add cornstarch if mixture is too thin.

SWEET RICE

Basic Rice
8 oz rice
• Boil for 15 mins
• Add 1/2 stick margarine

Raisins
1/2 cup raisins
• Boil for 10 mins
• Drain
• Add to rice

Preparing Dish for the Oven

Ingredients to add to rice:
• 2 eggs
• 1-1/2 cups milk
• Dash of salt
• 1/2 tsp vanilla
• Dash of nutmeg
• Dash of cinnamon
• 3 oz sugar

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Your Privacy

Confidentiality and Privacy—We, the Passionist Alumni Council, value the privacy and confidentiality of all Alumni personal contact information provided to the Passionist Alumni Association.

Your personal contact information will not be shared with any third parties outside of the Passionist Alumni Association. For the purposes of communicating with each Alumni member, the Passionist Alumni Council is utilizing a web-based communications platform called “Flocknote”. All Passionist Alumni personal contact information utilized by Flocknote to communicate with you is safeguarded using secure data practices and policies.

See <https://flocknote.com/privacy> for further information.