



# *Saints today. Saints for all eternity.*

## From the desk of Dr. Marco Clark

*"With eyes of faith consider the greatness of your mission and the wonderful amount of good which you can accomplish."*

*~ Blessed Basil Moreau, Christian Education (1856)*

Dear Holy Cross Family and Friends,

On January 20, 2023, the Congregation of Holy Cross marked the 150th Anniversary of the entry of its founder, Blessed Basile Moreau, into eternal life. To commemorate this important anniversary, the 2022 General Chapter of the Congregation of Holy Cross declared "a celebration to honor our founder, Blessed Basile Moreau, beginning on January 20, 2023, and ending on June 7, 2024, the Feast of the Sacred Heart" (Decree 20).

In addition to many local celebrations that took place here in South Bend, the Congregation united across the globe for 40 hours of Eucharistic Adoration, including here at Holy Cross College, to initiate this year of grace, which is dedicated to promoting the spirituality and charism that Blessed Moreau gave to Holy Cross. It is also a time to deepen devotion to this holy religious and priest and to pray for his canonization, so that, along with the Congregation of Holy Cross, the Universal Church can find inspiration in his holiness, consolation in his intercession, and strength in his fidelity to the Cross.

In the wake of the bloody and chaotic French Revolution, Moreau gathered men and women, brothers, religious sisters, and priests, and sent them into the countryside of France as disciples of hope. He believed that the only way of bringing hope to people was evangelization through education. He thought of education based on five pillars: the development of the mind, cultivation of the heart, enkindling zeal for service, encouraging hope in the cross, and uniting with others as a family. He insisted that the goal of education of the mind and heart calls for zeal within recipients to be able to set the world on fire. This zeal must be born out of love for God and neighbor.

Throughout this year as we celebrate the life and legacy of Blessed Basil Moreau, we are reminded that Holy Cross College exists in a network of "educators in the faith" around the world in 21 countries. During a recent trip I took to Washington DC, I was able to meet and share a meal with our brothers and sisters in Holy Cross higher education in the United States. There were representatives from coast to coast, north and south, including from Stonehill College in North Easton, MA, King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA, the University of Portland in Portland, OR, the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans LA, and Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame from here in South Bend. We were able to discuss our common heritage, celebrate our founder and his legacy, and to dream about the future of our growing and evolving Congregation.

As you walk on the campus of Holy Cross College, may you be reminded of the special and distinctive heritage that we are a part of. Just as Father Moreau sent his group of brothers, sisters, and priests into the world as disciples of hope, may we too be witnesses to this life-affirming and life-giving mission. As Saints today, let's double down on our own efforts to cultivate our hearts and minds, enkindle zeal for service, and unite with others in solidarity as family. As Saints for all eternity, may we continue to bear witness to Christ's love and the promise of resurrection as disciples with hope to bring.

Saints today, Saints for all eternity!

Ave Crux, Spes Unica,

Marco J. Clark, Ed.D.

