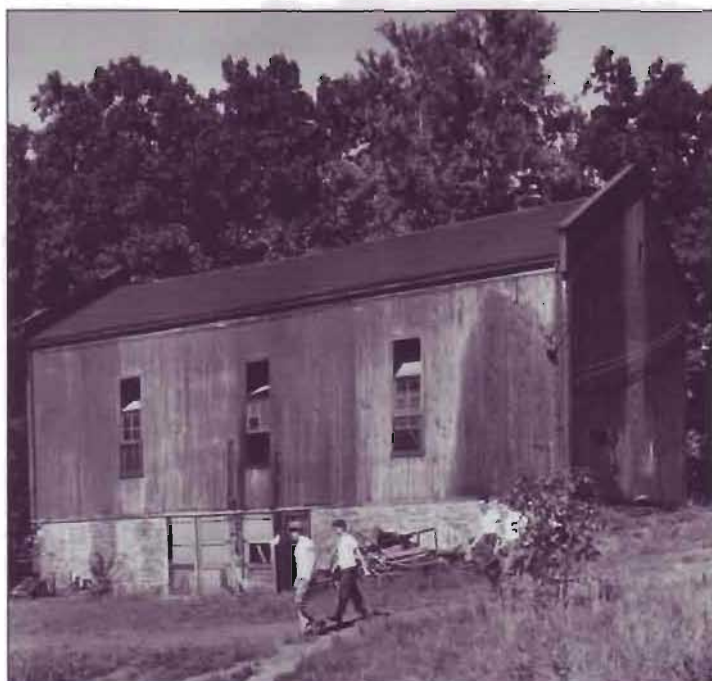




Folk group "The Newports?" comprised of John Sennott, Pat Gaffney, William Moore (sitting), Thomas White and Charles Perrin in 1964.



Sisters from various communities gather on the front lawn during a summer school hootenany in 1964.



The old barn served as a gym upstairs and chicken coop below.



Don Fetters
1966



Herb Yost
1966

in the front of the main building became study halls. The old barn that had served for years as a combination gym and chicken coop was torn down.

Now known as Holy Cross Annex, the building still stands and is used by community members as an arts center, wood working shop, and production center for audio-visual programs. (See Annex photos on pages 19-20.)

Fr. Michael Early, superior from 1925-'31, succinctly expressed the reasons for the existence of Holy Cross Seminary. He contended it had a three-fold purpose: first, the training of Holy Cross priests; second, the nourishing of vocations in those who would become diocesan priests or priests in other religious communities and third, the character training of Catholic laymen for life in the secular world.

Holy Cross Seminary fulfilled this and more in its years of existence. Among its many distinguished alumni were seven bishops: Timothy Crowley (Dhaka), George Finnegan (Helena, MT), Lawrence Graner (Dhaka), Edward Heston (Titular Archbishop), Vincent McCauley (Fort Portal, Uganda), Alfred Mendez (Arecibo, Puerto Rico) and Paul Waldschmidt (Auxiliary of Portland, OR).

Three superiors general of Holy Cross were also graduates: J. Wesley Donohue, Christopher J. O'Toole, and Thomas O. Barrosse. Four Notre Dame presidents were also alumni of "The Angel's Dorm"



Freshmen and Sophomore dorms.



David Tushar
1967

as Notre Dame students referred to the school on the hill across the lake: Frs. John W. Cavanaugh, Matthew Walsh, Charles O'Donnell, and Theodore Hesburgh. Twenty-four other men also served as president of other colleges and universities. Ten were president at Portland: Joseph Gallagher, Louis Kelly, Eugene Burke, Joseph Boyle, Charles Milner, Joseph Donahue, Michael Early, Howard Kenna, Robert Sweeney, and J. Michael Gavin.

In 1931 there were 175 students enrolled at Holy Cross Seminary, the largest in its history. The number of aspirants in the register recorded from 1885 through 1966 totaled more than 3,588. Those who ultimately became priests in Holy Cross numbered 588, nearly 15 percent.

During the 43 years from 1885-1928 the percentage of aspirants who entered Holy Cross Seminary and were ordained for the community averaged about 28 percent. The percentage of those ordained during the next 37 years, 1927 to its closing in 1967, fell to nine percent. Broken down further from 1959 to 1967, only three percent of those who entered were ordained.

With those statistics, the Province Chapter of 1967 did not take long to decide that the time had come for Holy Cross Seminary to close. As early as 1935, provincial superior, Fr. James Burns, commenting on the high attrition, wrote in his report, "It is largely and principally due, in my judgment, to the fact that boys of fourteen and fifteen are induced to come to Notre Dame not to the Congregation of Holy Cross." It was a sad but necessary act that needed to be done.

The men who lived in "The Angel's Dorm" remember with great fondness the time spent there: Their classmates, the way of life and most importantly the wonderful example of the Holy Cross priests and brothers who made up the faculty and staff. Their kind will not be known again.



Fr. Bill Simmons presides at Mass in Holy Cross Chapel.

Where are they now?

In the South Bend area are a few middle-aged sorts who spent a year or two at Holy Cross Seminary before it closed. They recently gathered at the Louvered Door eatery on Western Avenue to reminisce about that last year, 1966-67.

Paul (P.J.) Vandewalle, Larry Defreeuw and Bill Seetch were in the last freshman class. Paul is the owner of South Bend Monument and Larry is in the credit sales business. Bill Seetch is a priest living and working at Notre Dame. Paul's older brother Mark, who was a sophomore that year, is an engineer.

All the Holy Cross religious on the faculty that year and who are still alive were at that dinner as well, with the exception of Bro. Ron Whelan who lives in Phoenix.

Frs. Bill Melody and Jim Blaes reside at Holy Cross House. Fr. Bill Simmons and Bro. Louis Hurcik live at Corby Hall. Fr. Jerry Knoll lives at Moreau and Fr. Dave Verhalen hangs his hat at Fatima Center.

Stu Snow was, at that time, a professed seminarian and one of our basketball coaches. Stu lives in town and works for McDonald Physical Therapy.



FACULTY MEMBERS FROM 1966-67 in the South Bend area: First row from right: Frs. Bill Melody, Bill Simmons, Bill Brinker and Dave Verhalen. Top row: Stu Snow, Fr. Jerry Knoll, Bro. Louis Hurcik and Fr. Jim Blaes.



Larry Defreeuw, Bill Seetch, P.J. Vandewalle and Mark Vandewalle were students at Holy Cross its final year.

A Look at the Annex . . .

*Then
and
Now*



Front and side in late '50s.



Front and side today.



Front entrance in late '50s.



Front entrance today.



Lakeside back entrance then.



Lakeside back entrance now.

(continued next page)



South side then.



Locker room looking north then.



South side today.



Now a dining room.



Shower room looking south then.



More of the kitchen.



Now a kitchen.