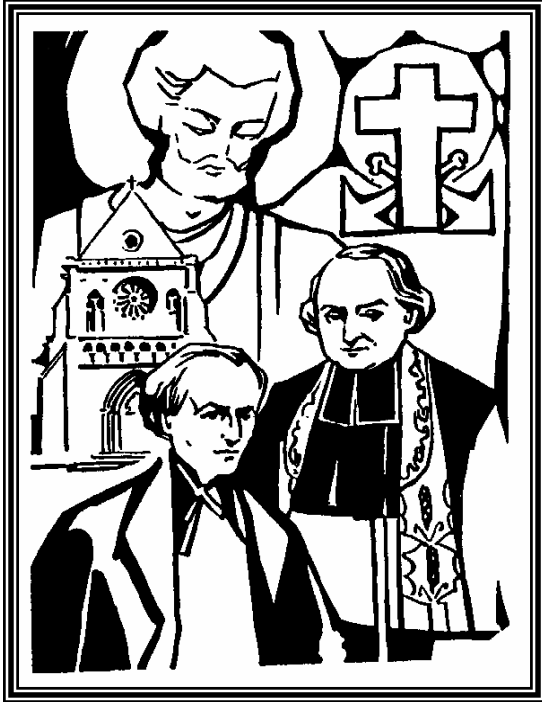


Prayer of Gratitude



Cross educators.

Leader: May the grace of our Lord, the blessing of His Mother conceived without sin, and the protection of St. Joseph be ever with us!

All: Amen.

Reader 1: “We asked how we might follow, and we found many footprints on the road. A great band of men had passed this way, men who had made and lived by their vows, men who had walked side by side in their following of the Lord. They beckoned us to fall in step with them. We wanted to be part of the family they formed in order to share in their life and work.” (Constitution 1:5)

Reader 2: And from the very beginning, we invited others – women and men-- to join with us as part of our family in living the mission of Jesus, in educating hearts and minds to serve the world. They may not have made the same vows as the religious of Holy Cross, but the mission of Holy Cross was taken to heart, implanted, nurtured and revered there. We are all educators in the faith, Holy

*All: We give you thanks, O loving and Provident God!!
In your great love, you have called us to teach
and so educate minds and heart;
You have called us to see in all children your image
Imprinted within them like a sacred seal.
In your loving providence, help us to preserve that
Sacred seal at all cost.
May we be bearers of hope as we pray,
“Ave Crux, Spes Unica.”
Amen.*

Reader 3: “Where then shall we find intelligent, devoted and zealous teachers for the poor? Only in the inspiration of religion. For religion not only promises that those who have taught justice to their brothers and sisters “shall shine as stars in the firmament,” but likewise ranks among the proofs of the divinity of Christ’s mission the fact that “the poor have the gospel preached to them.”” (Basil Moreau)

Let us reflect on the men and women, Holy Cross brothers and priests, women and men, religious and lay, who have inspired us in educating the minds and hearts of thousands of young people.

(At this point, participants may speak aloud the names of those Holy Cross educators whose legacy we share and live out today.)

Reader 4: In gratitude, let us pray Psalm 150 together:

*Alleluia!
Praise God in his holy sanctuary;*

*give praise in the mighty dome of heaven.
Give praise for his mighty deeds,
praise him for his great majesty.
Give praise with blasts upon the horn,
praise him with harp and lyre.
Give praise with tambourines and dance,
praise him with flutes and strings.
Give praise with crashing cymbals,
praise him with sounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath
give praise to the LORD!
Alleluia!*

Reader 5: Let us continue to thank our Loving God,

*For all teachers of religion, theology and
philosophy, for all campus ministers, who teach
young people about you and the way to you,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all teachers of language and history, who help
young people to express their love and wonder for
you and to see your hand in creation and in our
lives,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all scientists and mathematicians, who help our
students to appreciate the beautiful complexity of
creation,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all artists and musicians, who teach young
people to express the beauty and harmony of all
that you have given us,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

Father Dujarie,

Venerable Basil Moreau,

Blessed Brother André,

St. Joseph,

Our Lady of Holy Cross,

Sacred Heart of Jesus,

*For all who teach skills and sports, who teach
appreciation and respect for your most wondrous
creation,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all who offer hospitality and service, in offices
and kitchens, who clean and repair, and teach us
respect and regard for all you have given us,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all our students and alumni, their parents, our
benefactors, in gratitude for them,*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

*For all who share their wisdom, their expertise,
their skills to enhance your mission, and for all who
teach us hospitality and generosity, signs of your
Providence.*

All: We thank you, Loving God.

All: Pray for us.

All: Pray for us.

All: Pray for us.

All: Pray for us.

All: Pray for us.

All: Live in our hearts forever. Amen.