

FOLLOWING THE XAVERIAN WAY

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XAVERIAN BROTHERS GENERAL CHAPTER: *Establishing a Vision for the Future*

FROM JULY 21ST TO AUGUST 1ST, THE XAVERIAN BROTHERS convened their General Chapter in the timeless city of Rome. This gathering brought together delegates from around the world for a time of prayer, profound reflection, and inspired vision-setting for the Congregation’s bright future. Guided by the insightful Dr. Carolyn Herman from Xaverian Brothers High School, Westwood, MA, the Chapter unfolded under three powerful themes: A Call to Celebrate, A Call to Conversion, and A Call to Create.

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The initial week was a vibrant tapestry of deeply spiritual conversations, thought provoking regional reports, and heartfelt testimonies that resonated with grace. Delegates joyfully affirmed the enduring vitality of the Xaverian charism, witnessing its vibrant presence in community life, cherished lay partnerships, and ministries blossoming even in the most challenging settings.

With open hearts, they also engaged in honest and hopeful dialogue about current realities and the boundless possibilities that lie ahead. In the closing days, after the joyful election of a new General Superior and Council, the delegates embraced the exhilarating task of charting how they, hand-in-hand with their new leadership team, will bring to fruition the inspiring general directions set forth by the Chapter, illuminating the Congregation's path for years to come.

A truly memorable moment of the Chapter was the private Audience with His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV, on July 24th. In his moving address, Pope Leo XIV tenderly encouraged the Brothers to embrace the glorious challenges of evangelization, emphasizing the paramount importance of deep spiritual and human formation:

“We are called to enter into the dynamism of mission and to face the challenges of evangelization. This call requires of us all, ordained ministers and lay faithful alike, a solid and integral formation... so that we have ‘the same mind’ as Christ Jesus (cf. Phil 2:5).”

Following his inspiring words, the Holy Father, with warmth and personal grace, greeted each Brother and staff member individually, culminating in a beautiful group photograph—a powerful and poignant symbol of the profound unity and shared, uplifting mission that defined those unforgettable days in Rome.

Top to Bottom:

- Brother Daniel Skala, former General Superior, with the Holy Father.
- Executive Director of Xaverian Brothers Sponsored Schools Dr. Patrick Slattery and his wife Beth speak with Pope Leo XIV.
- Brother John Hamilton, newly elected General Superior, with the Holy Father.



INTRODUCING OUR NEWLY ELECTED LEADERSHIP TEAM!

A WAVE OF RENEWED ENERGY and inspired direction is sweeping through the Xaverian Brothers! On July 30th, during our General Chapter, a pivotal moment unfolded as Brother John Hamilton was prayerfully elected as the next General Superior of the Xaverian Brothers. Alongside him, a dynamic new General Council was appointed, poised to lead our Congregation into a vibrant future.

Brother John D. Hamilton, CFX: General Superior

Brother John Hamilton steps into the role of General Superior with a profound legacy of leadership and a heart dedicated to formation. His journey includes serving as Vicar to Brother Edward Driscoll from 2013-2019 and contributing significantly as a member of the General Council in previous years. With his extensive experience as a novice master and director of formation, Brother John brings a unique wisdom to guide our Brothers. An esteemed alumnus of St. John's Preparatory School, Danvers, Brother John answered the call to enter the Congregation in 1964. Before dedicating himself to formation, he enriched countless lives as a beloved teacher, a guiding retreat leader, and a respected religion department chair at Xavier High School, Middletown, CT.

Brother Lawrence Harvey, CFX: Vicar

A true pillar of our community, Brother Lawrence Harvey, a proud graduate of Malden Catholic High School, embraced his vocation with the Xaverian Brothers in 1979. His remarkable career has been marked by diverse educational leadership roles within our schools and distinguished congregational positions, including Director of XBSS (1997-2007) and General Superior (2007-2013). We are blessed to have Brother Lawrence currently serving on the leadership team at the Generalate in Baltimore, continuing his unwavering commitment to our mission.

Brother Dominique Olondo, CFX: Councilor for Africa

From the vibrant heart of Congo, Brother Dominique Olondo brings a global perspective and deep spiritual insight as our Councilor for Africa. Since joining the Xaverian Brothers in 2003, Brother Dominique has dedicated himself to education, teaching at the Brothers' mission in Kasenga, Congo. His calling then led him to serve on the Formation Team in Kenya,



Newly elected General Superior and Council. Left to right: Brothers Dominique Olondo, Lawrence Harvey, Ghislain Mukonkole Lembe, John Hamilton, Patrick Fumbisha and Bernard Wandera Jumah.

ultimately becoming the Director for the international postulancy program in Nairobi. A scholar and a man of faith, Brother Dominique holds an MA in Theology from Boston College and has served diligently on the General Council for the past six years.

Ghislain Mukonkole Lembe, CFX: Councilor for Mission

Brother Ghislain Mukonkole Lembe, who joined the Xaverian Brothers in 2000, is a testament to the diverse talents within our Congregation. Beyond his religious studies, he is a skilled engineer in Industrial Chemistry. Brother Ghislain is a truly gifted educator and administrator, having passionately led schools in Kasenga and Likasi. His joy lies in educating young people, and in addition to his teaching and administration duties, he actively ignites faith through youth ministry at both the parish and archdiocesan levels.

Brother Patrick Fumbisha, CFX: Councilor for Formation

Brother Patrick Fumbisha, who entered the Xaverian Brothers in 1999 while teaching mathematics at the College Tutazamie, Likasi, Congo, embodies the spirit of formation. His dedication to nurturing future Brothers has seen him serve as Assistant Novice Master in Kenya and Congo, and

as the Director of Novices in Congo. Brother Patrick further deepened his commitment by earning an MA at the Institute of Religious Formation at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, IL. For the past six years, he has faithfully served on the General Council as the Vicar, a true testament to his leadership and wisdom.

Brother Bernard Wandera Jumah, CFX: Councilor at Large

Joining the Xaverian Brothers in 2008, Brother Bernard Wandera Jumah is a trained teacher by profession, currently enriching his knowledge as a master's student in Kiswahili and Communication. His impactful journey includes teaching and serving as assistant rector at St. James Minor Seminary in Lodwar, Kenya. Today, Brother Bernard is the Regional Coordinator of the Brothers in Kenya, playing a vital role in initial formation, guiding and mentoring the future members of our beloved Congregation.

Together, this remarkable leadership team embodies the spirit of the Xaverian charism, ready to inspire, guide, and serve with unwavering faith and profound dedication. We are excited for the journey ahead under their compassionate and visionary leadership!

LIGHTING THE FLAME: *The XBSS New Faculty and Staff Retreat*

From August 8th to 10th, 2025, a vibrant group of sixty-two passionate educators and dedicated staff members from across the Xaverian Brothers Sponsored Schools (XBSS) Network converged for the annual New Faculty and Staff Retreat. Held over three inspiring days in the greater Boston area, this immersive experience was more than just an introduction; it was a powerful embrace of the enduring Xaverian tradition and a bold call to shape its future. A portion of the retreat took place at Malden Catholic, offering attendees a tangible connection to another cherished Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School.

The heart of the retreat resonated with a profound truth: for over a century, the Xaverian Brothers have poured their hearts into forming young people in schools across America, imbuing them with a distinct charism and an unwavering mission. Their transformative impact is woven into the very fabric of countless lives. Now, with the Brothers' numbers gracefully diminishing, the sacred torch of this mission is being lovingly passed to their lay partners—the devoted educators, visionary administrators, and dedicated board members who have been deeply inspired and profoundly mentored by the Brothers' extraordinary example.

In a truly historic and uplifting moment, the retreat welcomed, for only the second time, educators from the St. Francis Xavier Institute (SFX) in Bruges, Belgium—the very first school founded by the Brothers in 1844, affectionately known as “De Frères.” This year, Ernest Van Mullem (foreign language) and Annelien Van Den Berghe (history) shared captivating images and heartwarming stories of the school today, beautifully juxtaposed with evocative archival photos from decades past, when the Brothers walked its hallowed halls. These cross-continental connections served as a powerful affirmation that the Xaverian spirit glows ever brighter—even in places where the Brothers themselves are no longer physically present, their legacy continues to thrive.

The retreat's impassioned call to intentional mission was underscored in an unexpected and deeply poignant way. Just hours after a moving presentation on the Brothers' aging membership and the beautiful transition of leadership to their lay partners, the community received news of the peaceful passing of Brother Thomas Fahey. His death became both a sacred occasion for prayer and a tender remembrance of a life magnificently lived, and a living reminder that the vital work of carrying forward



► Annelien Van Den Berghe shares archival photos from decades ago when the Brothers were present at De Frères.



◀ Left to right: Brothers Richard Cook, Tim Hoey, Edward Rice, Joseph Pawlika, David Mahoney, Richard Lunny (XBSS Staff), Robert Green and Bob Arrowsmith.

the Xaverian legacy is urgent, real, and now firmly, lovingly, in the hands of all those gathered.

For countless attendees, the weekend transcended a mere orientation; it became a personal and professional turning point—a soul-stirring moment to connect with a tradition far grander than themselves, and to truly see their indispensable role in ensuring its vibrant vitality for generations yet to come.

“The best thing about this retreat is that it offered a dramatically different vision for education than I’m accustomed to. I felt challenged and empowered professionally and personally,” shared one inspired participant, echoing the profound impact of this unforgettable gathering.

When Worlds Meet: A Louisville Heart in Bungoma Soil

PREPARE TO BE INSPIRED by a journey that transcends continents and celebrates the boundless spirit of the Xaverian family. Rosanna C. Vessels, a dedicated Xaverian Associate and teacher from Saint Xavier High School in Louisville, Kentucky, recently embarked on a life-changing pilgrimage to our vibrant missions in Bungoma, Kenya. Accompanied by the generous and frequently visiting, Deacon Scott and JoAnn Haner, Rosanna experienced firsthand the profound connection and shared charism that links our communities across the globe. Her reflections offer a heartfelt and uplifting testament to brotherhood, faith, and the universal language of joy. Join us as Rosanna shares her unforgettable encounters, proving that the Xaverian bond beats strong wherever our mission takes root.



I had the incredible opportunity to visit Saint Xavier High School in Bungoma, Kenya — an experience that will stay with me forever. I was lucky to travel with two wonderful companions: Deacon Scott Haner (St. X '76) and his wife, JoAnn Haner. Their presence made the journey even richer, and I couldn't have asked for better company.

From the moment I stepped onto the campus, I was welcomed like family. The warmth of the students, staff, and community was immediate and genuine — it felt like coming home to people I didn't know I was missing.

One of the most moving moments was celebrating Mass with the students. Watching these young men sing, dance, respond with energy, and engage fully in the liturgy was deeply inspiring. Their faith was alive and contagious!

Another highlight was stepping into the classroom to teach. I led a session on the Xaverian Values, where students reflected on which value they saw most in themselves and how those values show up in their school life. We ended the lesson with a personal challenge: choose one value to live out more intentionally in the week ahead. Their reflections were thoughtful, honest, and inspiring.

Brotherhood was more than a theme — it was everywhere. Students received shirts, wristbands, and pencils from their brothers at Saint Xavier in Louisville. They faced off against a rival school in soccer, volleyball, and basketball. They put together skits and dances just for us — and let me tell you, these students know how to perform! Deacon Scott and JoAnn even led high-stakes tournaments of Rock, Paper, Scissors and Flip the Cup, complete with laughter and plenty of cheering. We capped it all off with a joyful feast — meat, fruit, soda, and lots of smiles.

As I returned home my heart was overflowing. What I experienced in Bungoma wasn't just a visit. It was a glimpse into a shared spirit that stretches far beyond borders — one of brotherhood, faith, joy, and purpose.

I came to teach, but I left having learned so much more.

Bungoma reminded me that the Xaverian family is wide and wonderfully woven — and I'm grateful to have stood on its red earth, looked into its bright eyes, and felt its heartbeat in rhythm with my own.

Left to right:

- Students outside St. X.
- Rosanna with students at St. Xavier, Bungoma.
- Rosanna Vessels teaches a class on Xaverian Values.
- While in Bungoma, the group also visited the Ryken Center for Hope, our rescue center for Street Children.



Left to Right: Guensley, Figaro, Kerson, Marcnor and Stanley

AMIDST THE CHALLENGING LANDSCAPE OF HAITI, THE UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF THE XAVERIAN FAMILY IS CHANGING COUNTLESS LIVES! WE ARE THRILLED TO SHARE UPLIFTING NEWS OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND PROFOUND GRATITUDE FROM OUR BELOVED STUDENTS.



Marcnor Antenor and Stanley Louissaint have joyfully completed their academic programs, reaching milestones that once seemed like distant dreams! Their journeys are powerful testaments to perseverance and the transformative power of your generosity. Meanwhile, Figaro, Kerson, and Guensley continue to thrive in their studies, their paths made possible by your continuous prayers and support. May God’s blessings abound for your incredible kindness!

MARCNOR ANTENOR SHARES HIS HEARTFELT GRATITUDE:

“Words cannot express how deeply grateful I am for this life-changing experience. Studying at the university was a dream I held close throughout high school, a dream that seemed impossible given the challenges many young people face in Haiti.



In July 2021, the Brothers welcomed me into the Sant Community, and under the guidance of Brothers Adolph and Vincent, I learned invaluable lessons in responsibility and community living. Even when they could no longer be physically present, their unwavering support and guidance propelled me forward.

I am overjoyed to announce that I have completed my studies in Humanities at the University of Haiti. This experience will forever be etched in my heart.”

STANLEY LOUISSAINT REFLECTS ON THE PROFOUND IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT:

“In a uniquely difficult time, as Haiti faces increasing challenges, this support was nothing short of essential for me to continue my education. It provided the stability I desperately needed to focus on my studies, leading to significant academic improvement and even an internship at a renowned institution in Haiti!



Beyond my academic achievements, the Brothers’ support allowed me to embrace community life, navigate its complexities, and cultivate a deeper sense of responsibility and acceptance of others.

My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the Xaverian Brothers and their benefactors for making my educational journey possible. May God protect and bless each one of you.”

THESE INSPIRING TESTIMONIALS UNDERSCORE THE PROFOUND DIFFERENCE YOUR COMPASSION MAKES, TRANSFORMING LIVES AND FOSTERING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF HAITI. THANK YOU FOR BEING A VITAL PART OF THIS INCREDIBLE MISSION!

WISDOM AND WIT: Our Retired Brothers Inspire at Treyton Oak Towers!

Our beloved retired Brothers in Louisville are truly shining examples of vibrant community life! On Friday, May 9th, Brothers Mike Foley and Kenney Gorman brought their inspiring stories and infectious spirit to the “Stretch Your Mind” program at Treyton Oak Towers.

Brother Kenney Gorman captivated the audience with a fascinating journey through the Xaverian Brothers’ history, beautifully weaving in the rich tapestry of local Brothers’ lives. Then, Brother Mike Foley transported everyone to Kenya and South Sudan, sharing unforgettable experiences from his and Brother Louis Calmel’s impactful time abroad. A heartwarming photo of Brother Mike as a novice on the big screen added a delightful touch!

With 46 residents enthusiastically attending, it was a beautiful testament to the Brothers’ enduring wisdom, wit, and unwavering connection to our Xaverian family. Their active participation in gatherings, theme parties, and educational sessions at Treyton Oak Towers continues to uplift and inspire us all!



RIJKEN SCHOOL’S OPEN DAY: Transforming Lives in Kipushi, Congo!



On Thursday, May 15th, the Rijken School Complex in Kipushi, Congo, buzzed with an electrifying energy as it proudly hosted its annual Open Day! This year, the campus transformed into a vibrant showcase of innovation, creativity, and the boundless potential of its students.

From the General Electricity department, young minds demonstrated their mastery by showcasing diverse electrical installations for modern homes. The Commercial and Management students impressed attendees with their sharp administrative skills, confidently navigating financial and commercial management tasks. In the Cutting and Sewing Techniques program, talented young women unveiled stunning clothing designs, a testament to their dedication and artistry.

Beyond their academic achievements, the students delighted visitors with their entrepreneurial spirit, offering homemade soap, refreshing hand sanitizer, and delicious yogurt—all met with enthusiastic approval!

The day was graced by a distinguished assembly of guests, including proud parents, revered priests (among them the Bishop of the Diocese), influential civil authorities like the Mayor of Kipushi, and esteemed officials from neighboring schools. Their presence underscored the profound impact and growing recognition of Rijken School within the community.

Amidst daily challenges, the spirit of perseverance and faith shines brightly at Rijken School. The community joyfully acknowledges their continuous growth, a testament to divine guidance and unwavering dedication. Blessed be His Name for the remarkable work unfolding day by day!



Clockwise:

- Monsignor Gaston Ruvezi, Bishop of the Diocese of Sakania–Kipushi, sitting with 7th year students during a science presentation.
- A student in the general electricity program presenting.
- Girls in the sewing and cutting techniques program sharing the clothing they made.

Call Fulfilled

This past season, we bid farewell to four remarkable Xaverian Brothers, each leaving a profound legacy of faith, dedication, and service. We celebrate their lives, their commitment to the Xaverian charism, and the countless lives they touched.

BROTHER JOHAN VANHOVE, CFX

1940-2025

Born in Bruges on 6 April 1940, **Brother Johan** entered the Novitiate of the Xaverian Brothers in Torhout on August 15, 1960. Upon finishing his initial formation, Brother Johan continued his education at University of Leuven. On August 15, 1967, he professed his perpetual vows and began teaching at Saint Francis Xavier Institute, De Frères, in Bruges. Brother Johan taught religion and French and was a member of the pastoral team at the Institute.

Brother Johan was the youngest member of the Belgian Region. He was always supportive of his Brothers. Our Fundamental Principles ask us to "...be compassionate with (your Brothers) in their difficulties, bear with them in their weaknesses, encourage, support and affirm them..." Brother Johan ministered Christ's love to them. He also served the wider Congregation in the 1990's as a member of the Life and Mission Committee preparing for a General Chapter of 1995-1997.

Brother Johan would organize hiking retreats for youth in the



Brother Johan would organize hiking retreats for youth in the Alps. He was involved regularly in personal retreats at Taizé, France. He embraced the spirituality of Taizé and was a leader of a Taizé prayer group at a local Benedictine convent that met every Friday evening in Bruges.

Alps. He was involved regularly in personal retreats at Taizé, France. He embraced the spirituality of Taizé and was a leader of a Taizé prayer group at a local Benedictine convent that met every Friday evening in Bruges. Brother Johan would always invite visiting Brothers to those sessions. They were serene yet powerful. He was greatly admired by the Taizé community. Brother Johan was also a member of a number of parish choirs.

After retirement, which for teachers in Belgium is mandatory at age 60, Brother Johan continued to share his love of God by offering his gifts as a language teacher in a program called "Integraal" which is dedicated to welcoming newcomers with guidance and language instruction for non-speakers of Dutch. Brother Johan was truly dedicated to helping the newcomer feel welcome in Flanders.

Confident that Brother Johan now experiences the full love and peace of Christ whom he made known to many through his life as a Xaverian Brother, we now pray in gratitude for his life.



BROTHER PAUL J. FEENEY, CFX (Brother Antoninus) 1933-2025

Brother Paul Feeney was born in Dorchester, MA on February 9, 1933. Paul attended Boston College High School. The first Xaverian he met was Brother Ramon (Peter Kelly) who was stationed at Mission High School at the time. They both shared our Founder's love for the poor and commitment to gospel justice. Peter in his ministry to immigrants. Paul through his commitment to Pax Christi USA and other such ministries.

Paul entered Sacred Heart Novitiate in 1950 receiving his cherished Xaverian habit and the religious name 'Antoninus.' Brother Paul earned his undergraduate degree in History in 1956 and his master's degree in biblical studies in 1970, both from Catholic University of America. He did post graduate studies in theology and spirituality at Fairfield University, Graduate Theological Union in Berkley, CA, and King's College, London, England.

From 1961 to 1989, Brother Paul's attention and energy were directed to teaching in our New England high schools. He was stationed at Saint John's, Shrewsbury, Keith Academy, Lowell, and Xaverian Brothers High School, Westwood where he was also Assistant Principal. Brother Paul also taught at Xaverian College in Manchester, England. He was an enthusiastic and masterful teacher. Brother Paul also served in the formation programs for our young Brothers. He was Assistant Novice Master at Saint Joseph's

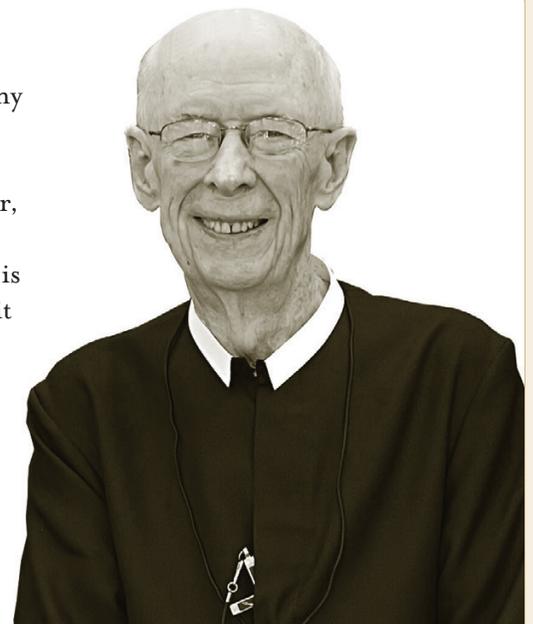
Joy was Brother Paul's attitude and approach to life. The essence of his spirituality. Brother Paul's joy touched our spirit and will continue to touch it. His love of Christ is the source of his joy. Prayer led Paul to 'the communion with the living God.'

Novitiate in Newton, MA and at our college in Maryland. In 1989 Brother Paul was also elected to serve the Brothers of the former Saint Joseph's Province as Vicar-provincial and then Provincial. In 1998 he served as Director of Religious Education for Secondary Schools in the Archdiocese of Boston. He taught Old Testament to those in the permanent diaconate program also in Boston. Brother Paul also taught at Emmanuel College in Boston. He spent fifteen years directing the Cursillo Program in Boston. Most recently Brother Paul served on the formation team for our Congolese and Kenyan Brothers.

A number of years ago, Brother Paul was invited to give a retreat day to the faculties of St. Xavier High School and Nativity Academy on our Founder's charism and how it speaks to today's world. Brother Paul, a complete stranger, spoke to one hundred and sixty teachers and staff all morning. His enthusiasm was contagious, and it kept them engaged. When Paul was sharing about Ryken's love of God, his love of the poor and oppressed and what he did to establish our work as educators, he came alive. At the end nearly all went up to the podium to

express their gratitude to him. His effect on them was life-giving. Paul did not just know about Ryken's charism. He knew the charism because he consciously lived and prayed it.

Joy was Brother Paul's attitude and approach to life. The essence of his spirituality. Brother Paul's joy touched our spirit and will continue to touch it. His love of Christ is the source of his joy. Prayer led Paul to 'the communion with the living God.' He knew this communion is at 'the heart of our life'(FP). For that lesson about our charism, we thank him. May Brother Paul enjoy the eternal peace and love of God.



BROTHER JEAN DE LA CROIX KALUMBA YENA, CFX

1957-2025

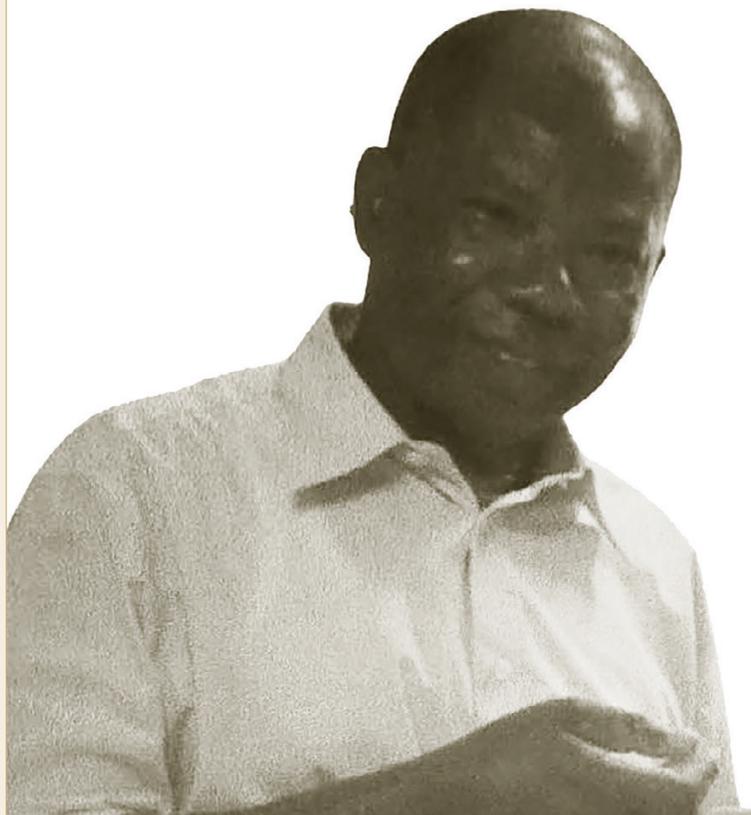
Brother Jean de la Croix Kalumba Yena was born on November 24, 1957, in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo, into a family of 11 children. He attended primary school at St. Mary Basilica in Kenya, then secondary school at the Vyombo Technical Institute in Likasi, Congo before joining the Congregation of the Xaverian Brothers in 1977. As a young Xaverian, Brother Jean de la Croix received his religious habit in 1979 and entered the Canonical Novitiate. In 1980, he took his first vows and in 1984, his final vows. He then pursued higher education at Institut Supérieur Pédagogique Et Technique, Likasi,

where he obtained a diploma in electromechanical engineering.

After several years of apostolic work at the college and at the technical school, he was sent to Switzerland to the School of Faith in Fribourg to prepare him for formation work. Two years later he returned to Congo to work at our formation house. He carried out his work as a formator for many years, first as the Director of Formation in Likasi (1997-1999), and the Director of Novices in Lubumbashi (2001-2003). His ministry in formation also took him to Kenya. In 2003, he spent the year in intense coursework in Waltham, MA, USA. Upon his return to Congo in 2004, he

worked at Bon Berger, our center for homeless children and served as a teacher at Institut Tutazamie until 2008. At this time, health issues created limitations and required that he take more time to rest. He joined the formation team in Bungoma, Kenya until his poor health required his return to Congo.

Brother Jean de la Croix had a remarkable love of history, the environment and reading. His passion for formation of young people was demonstrated in his work as a formator over the years. He cared deeply for his religious and biological family. May his soul rest in peace and eternal bliss.



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His passion for formation of young people was demonstrated in his work as a formator over the years. He cared deeply for his religious and biological family.

BROTHER THOMAS M. FAHEY, CFX

(Brother Keric)
1936-2025

Brother Thomas Fahey was born in Somerville, Massachusetts and started his education at the Immaculate Conception School in Malden-Medford, before his parents, his sister Joanne and he moved to Melrose. Tom and Joanne transferred to St. Mary's School there and after he graduated from St. Mary's, he returned to Malden and Boys' Catholic High School where he met the Xaverian Brothers. Among Tom's extracurricular activities during high school, he eagerly became the enthusiastic disk jockey for the girls back at St. Mary's High School. Tom and several of his MC classmates traveled in July, 1954, to Brother Kevin's novitiate at Old Point Comfort in Virginia where they became novices on September 8, and Tom became known as Brother Keric. Brother Tom's first year as a Xaverian was marked by tragedy when his father, Thomas, a milkman in Melrose, was killed in a traffic accident.

After professing first vows in 1956, Keric and his classmates moved to Xaverian College in Silver Spring, Maryland to begin their college studies. In 1958, Brother Tom was assigned to teach at St. Teresa's Elementary School in Brooklyn for four years, and then he was transferred to St. Joseph's School in Oradell, New Jersey. In Oradell, he was able to continue college studies at Seton Hall University and later at St. John's University, where he was awarded a B.S. in Mathematics in 1963.



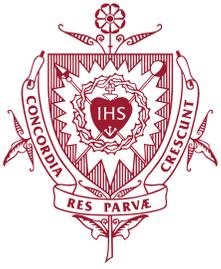
In 1966, Brother Tom was appointed Dean of Students at St. John's High School in Shrewsbury where he also taught mathematics and assisted with the aspirants at the Ryken Juniorate at St. John's. The twenty-seven years he served as Dean of Students were marked by a wide variety of activities, ranging from Director of Camp St. John's in the summer and assistant in the high school's broad athletic program, to good neighbor for families at St. John's, speaker at the Novena of Grace at St. John's Parish in Worcester, and Reserve Deputy Sheriff for the City and County of Worcester, with badge. Brother Tom was not a quiet, sedentary person, but spread his energy and generosity in many areas, often bursting into song! In 1992, he was recognized by St. John's High for his Outstanding Contribution to Pioneer Athletics.

Brother Tom moved to Xavier High School in Middletown, Connecticut in 1998, where he served as Director of Admissions

Brother Tom was not a quiet, sedentary person, but spread his energy and generosity in many areas, often bursting into song!

for sixteen years, bringing the Xavier story in person or on the radio to the boys and families of south central Connecticut and thus increasing the school's enrollment. His voice was also heard at a variety of Xavier sports events, and in 2011, Brother Tom was inducted into the Xavier High School Hall of Honors. Brother Tom's Irish ancestry was never a secret, and his years in Middletown allowed him to become a very active member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in nearby Meriden.

A serious fall in the Xavier gymnasium while announcing at a basketball game required him to retire to Xaverian House in Danvers in 2014. From 2015 to 2017, Brother Tom volunteered at his *alma mater*, Malden Catholic, enthusiastically assisting with campus ministry and cafeteria duty two days a week. In 2021, Brother Tom moved to Mary Immaculate Nursing Center in Lawrence where his booming singing voice delighted his fellow patients and the staff there. On August 10, the Xaverian choir in heaven received its newest member, praising God with his heart and his voice. As he did for almost 90 years.



XAVERIAN BROTHERS

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Faith in Bloom: Rijken School's New Catechism Program!

Last fall, the Rijken School in Kipushi, Congo, launched a new catechism program for young hearts eager to receive the sacraments of baptism and First Communion. On May 24th, during a Eucharistic celebration, twelve students received their First Communion, and among them, five were also baptized—a truly blessed occasion! Brother Joseph Mambungi, alongside dedicated lay teachers from the religious commission, lovingly guided these children through their instruction. It's a testament to unwavering faith and community spirit, bringing brighter futures to life!



XAVERIAN BROTHERS

IN HARMONY SMALL THINGS GROW

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