

Constitution 4

Brotherhood

Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. What paragraphs or statements in this constitution struck or moved you in particular? Why?
2. This constitution describes the effects of community in a variety of ways. Which of these describe or reflect your own experience of community as an Associate of Holy Cross of the Midwest Province? What experiences--other than those cited--would you use to characterize your own experience as an associate?
3. What do you see as the most important elements of community for the Associates?
4. This constitution opens by recognizing the communal nature of our mission and closes by recognizing the apostolic nature of Holy Cross. As an apostolic community, Holy Cross strives to maintain a close relationship between ministry and community. How would you describe the relationship between community and ministry in your own experience? In which ways do community and ministry support one another in your experience? What influence does your ministry have upon your life in your divers communities (Holy Cross, parish, ministry site, family, circle of friends, etc.)?
5. As reflected in this constitution, community involves coming to know our brothers and sisters, growing close to, and learning from, one another. What are some of the things you have learned from your sisters and brothers? How have we fortified one another? How can we grow in our mutual support for one another?
6. Paragraph 41 recognizes that "faults and shortcomings will make us each a trial to others from time to time. "This is simply a reality in community; the concern is that this "can and occasionally will unravel the peace in our community." What means do we use or have we used, to foster Christian "correction and apology to one another?"
7. How have we experienced our failures being "transformed by God's grace into closer comradeship?"