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June 2010

Newsletter of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross

message from... the Provincial

Dear Friend of Holy Cross,

At this time last year I was one of the members featured in this publication, celebrating my 40th anniversary of first profession of vows. In addition, this June I complete the first year of serving as the Provincial of the Midwest Province. Needless to say, it has been a very busy year, probably more from learning the ropes of being provincial than the celebration of a jubilarian. The year has simultaneously been one of appreciating the value of past ministries, friends, and challenges, and an opportunity to reflect on the future, and to where God is calling me now.



**Brother Chester Freel,
C.S.C. Provincial Superior**

I suspect the Jubilarian brothers highlighted in this edition of *Brothers* are considering similar reflections: To what have I been called thus far? And where am I now being called? If, like my experience, the answer is identical for both questions, that is, a vowed commitment to Holy Cross, religious life, and the Church. As you read the life stories of this year's Jubilarians, see if the dominant theme is not one of commitment, dedication, and love for what each brother holds nearest.

The world, and life in it since profession of first vows for these men, has changed dramatically over the last 50, 60, 70 years. Religious life is lived far differently now. We are fewer, older, and more diverse in ministry. Religion and the Church itself, in many quarters are now viewed by some with mistrust and/or doubting their relevance.

However, through all of these changes and challenges, one factor has clearly remained constant: the *faithful commitment* of these seventeen men to their God, service to their fellow man, and living their vows as Brothers of Holy Cross. We thank God for them, extend our congratulations to the Jubilarians, and look forward to many more years of their being *Men with Hope to Bring*. For this reason, it is their commitment, both courageous and constant, that we celebrate in this issue of *Brothers*.

May St. Joseph, Patron of the Brothers, pray for you and us.

In Holy Cross,

Brother Chester Freel, C. S. C.
Provincial Superior

Work begins on
renovating 10 rooms
at Columba Hall.

Brothers

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Brothers to Celebrate 930 Years of Religious Vows at Jubilee Ceremony

The Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross will honor 17 brothers who are celebrating a jubilee of religious vows on Saturday, June 19. The group celebrating include a former provincial, university provost, five were or are now college and university teachers, three former and two present missionaries, high school teachers, a nurse's aide, a librarian, lawyer, artist, parent of adopted son, psychologist, former archdiocesan pastoral council member, poet and writer of 13 books, typesetter,

local superiors, formation house directors, maintenance men and many volunteers.

Joining the jubilarians will be Brothers of Holy Cross from the province and around the world along with friends and relatives. The Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Basilica on the campus of the University of Notre Dame at 2:00 p.m. Following the Mass there will be a dinner for invited guests in the North Dining Hall.

Holy Cross Rev. David Tyson, C.S.C., Provincial of the Indiana Priests' Province will be the celebrant and homilist. Brother Chester Freel, C.S.C., Provincial of the Midwest Brothers' Province, will accept the brothers' renewal of vows. Music for the celebration will be arranged and directed by Brother Daniel Kane, C.S.C. of Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio. Brother Joseph Fox, C.S.C. of Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame, Indiana, is coordinating the event.

70 year Jubilarian



Brother Wilbert Leveling, C.S.C.

Wilbert Leveling was born in St. Paul, Iowa. As a child his family moved to Fort Madison, Iowa, where he attended St. Joseph High School. After high school Wilbert worked at the W.A. Schaeffer Pen Company and then for the United States Post Office.

His introduction to the brothers came by way of a Holy Cross Brothers' ad in *Sign Magazine*. Wilbert then took the path of candidates by entering the Sacred Heart Postulate in Watertown, Wisconsin and then St. Joseph Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Indiana.

Following his novitiate year, Brother Wilbert took first vows and entered the University of Notre Dame for studies. After graduation his first assignment was Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. Brother Wilbert returned to Notre Dame for his Master's in History and post graduate studies at

the Catholic University of America. He also received a grant to study at Loretta Heights College in Denver, Colorado.

Over the years Brother Wilbert has taught at St. Joseph High School, Vincentian Institute, Holy Trinity High School and his last 35 year at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Illinois. Over the years he was called on to teach 11 different courses.

For the past 29 years he has worked in the Holy Cross Brothers Archives. His interests are reading history, cycling around the University of Notre Dame Campus and listening to classical music. Brother Wilbert spent 11 summers giving guided tours at the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, Canada. On October 17 Blessed Brother Andre, who is buried in the Oratory of St. Joseph, will be canonized a saint by his Holiness Benedict XVI in Rome.

60 year Jubilarians



Brother John J. Benesh, C.S.C.

When I was in the seventh grade, I decided that I would be a teaching brother. Much later, while I was a freshman at Marquette University, I visited the Watertown Postulate. The people there were friendly and the food was good, so I joined Holy Cross.

I thought I would be a high school teacher in the Midwest of the USA for the rest of my life. Most of my years have been spent in high school classrooms, but I also have experienced high school administration, college teaching, formation work, retreat directing, and being a Notre Dame residence-hall rector.

I have lived in community groups as large at seventy and as small as two.

I took no foreign language classes in high school. I began to study Spanish while at Holy Trinity High School, expecting to remain in Chicago. Instead

I went to Peru for a three-year trial period in 1985, and now I am up to twenty-five years and still counting.

These years in Peru have included high school teaching and administration and more formation work in our Latin American Novitiate.

Now even without a formal job title, I hope to contribute what I can during my remaining years.



Brother Ronald L. Christianson, C.S.C.

In eighth grade at St Mary's School in Racine, Wisconsin, a Holy Cross Brother gave us a talk. I saw the ad in *Our Sunday Visitor* for the Brothers. I met Brother Thomas More Beere at his home in Racine, just before he left for East Pakistan.

In high school I wrote to the Brothers and received some literature. Later, I visited Watertown, Wisconsin, and was impressed. The Brothers invited me to come the following February, and I stayed.

I have taught in Brooklyn, New York, Indianapolis, Indiana, and summers in boys homes in Terre Haute, Indiana, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After receiving a favorable impression of mission work, I was asked to obtain a passport with a visa for East Pakistan.

I left the States in March, 1960, and taught grade school, high school, and ran a house of studies for college-age men who wanted to join Holy Cross. I turned that work over to a Bangladeshi Brother in 1988.

In 1991 I returned to the States for good, and started chaplain work in hospitals until 1998, when I retired to Columba Hall at Notre Dame.

All my assignments prepared me well for the life of a Brother, and I would not change it for any other vocation.



Brother Joseph J. Chvala, C.S.C.

Brother Joseph hails from the quaint little city, ten thousand inhabitants, of Ludington, on the east coast of Lake Michigan, the death site of the Jesuit Missionary, Father Jacques Marquette. After attending local schools he worked in a local office as a secretary.

He was drafted for three years into the Navy, as a hospital corpsman. He became an undergraduate at the University of Michigan after which Joseph returned to Ludington. When he told his pastor that he did not want to become a priest but a teaching Brother, his pastor said, "Become a Brother of Holy Cross at Notre Dame." He entered the novitiate in August 1949.

In Holy Cross he has taught at Cathedral High School, Gilmour Academy, Archbishop Hoban and Father Gibault School for Boys, all for one year, Holy Trinity for nine years and St. Edward for forty years.

Presently Brother Joseph is a resident of Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, where he enjoys visits with many past students.



Brother Frederick J. McGlynn, C.S.C.

Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, I was educated in a public grade school, a Catholic high school, and then college studying pre-med. After two years I became dissatisfied with pre-med, left college and worked for 1½ years. It was then the idea of religious life came to me. After talking with a parish priest, I was directed to contact Brother Eymard Salzman, CSC. After a whirlwind of letters, I was signed up to enter the postulate at Watertown, Wisconsin, on June 20, 1949.

After only six weeks at the postulate, I entered the novitiate at Rolling Prairie, Indiana, where one year later I made my first vows as a Holy Cross Brother. I then completed in two years my bachelor's degree in science and math at Notre Dame. My teaching career then began.

From 1952 until 1965 I taught at Boyssville, Macon, Michigan, Catholic Central High School, Monroe, Michigan, and Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills, Ohio. In 1965 I was assigned to teach at St. Augustine's College in Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa. Originally I was assigned to Ghana for only three years—I ended up remaining there for thirty-two years until my retirement in 1998.

Since my retirement I have lived four years at Columba Hall, then at Schubert Villa, Holy Cross Village, from 2002 until the present. It's been a happy retirement for me. I've spent my time learning as much as I can about computers and helping where I can to improve life here at Schubert Villa.



Brother James P. Sullivan, C.S.C.

I am one of six children born to Martin and Jane Sullivan, Irish immigrants who met on the boat coming from Ireland in 1920. They married and settled in Chicago. I attended St. Theodore's School, taught by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. When I was in eighth grade I told my parents I wanted to become a Holy Cross brother. My dad said I was too young to make such a decision, but my mom prevailed and so at the ripe old age of 13, in September of 1946, I boarded a train for Watertown, Wisconsin, to begin my life in Holy Cross.

After high school, the novitiate and study at Notre Dame, I was assigned to teach at St. Anthony's High School in Long Beach, California. I have been in education ever since as a high school teacher, administrator, counselor, university assistant professor and school psychologist.

Now in retirement, I tutor Hispanics trying to learn English. I have served on the Pastoral Council of the Archdiocese of Chicago, taught several semesters at a local community college and completed the Master of Divinity degree. I continue to be interested in Vocational Choice Theory and the intersection of theology and psychology.



Brother Edward W. Wauchter, C.S.C.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, after high school Edward served in the United States Navy before joining the community in September of 1948. This was an interesting period in the history of the community since the priests and brothers formed separate societies in 1946. There was but one U.S. Brothers Province.

Brother Edward, in his first six years as a teacher went to New York, Texas, Louisiana, back to New York and finally to St. Joseph High School in South Bend for a year. Brother Edward spent the next nine years at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, Illinois. After Trinity he taught at Gilmour Academy, LeMans Academy, Holy Cross High School River Grove and then at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, where he worked for the next twenty-six years as librarian.

Brother Edward retired to Columba Hall, Notre Dame, Indiana, in 2002 where he currently lives. From January–April between 2002–2006 he lived at the Eastern Priests' Province Christopher Lodge in Coca Beach, Florida. He would then spend the summers at Columba Hall. In 2007 Christopher Lodge decided to limit the time winter visitors could stay. In retirement Brother Edward loves to take long walks on the Notre Dame campus and throughout the South Bend area.

50 year Jubilarians

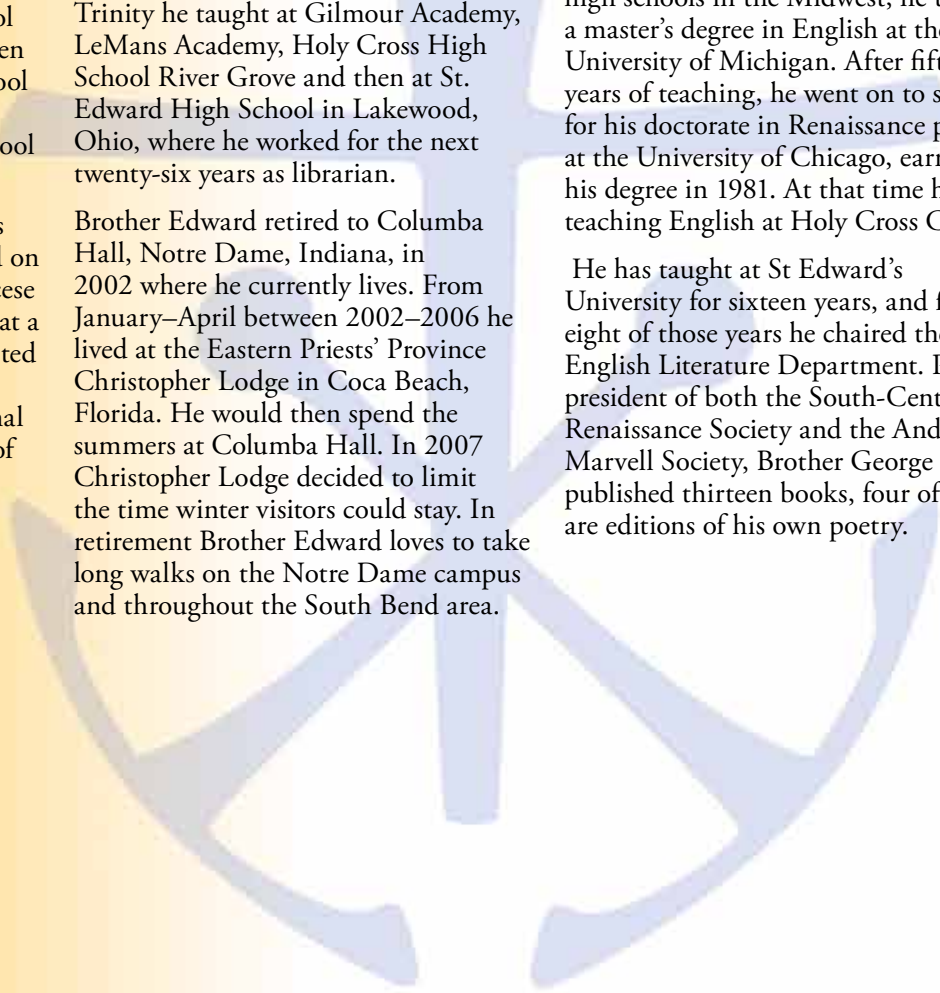


Brother George A. Klawitter, C.S.C.

Brother George Klawitter was raised in Steger, Illinois, and attended St. Liborius Grade School in that town near Chicago. He left for the Brothers of Holy Cross candidate program when he was 13, spending his freshman year in Watertown, Wisconsin, and his final years of high school at the Brothers' school in New Orleans. He professed first vows as a Brother in 1960 and took his college degree in English and French at the University of Notre Dame.

While teaching at the Brothers' high schools in the Midwest, he took a master's degree in English at the University of Michigan. After fifteen years of teaching, he went on to study for his doctorate in Renaissance poetry at the University of Chicago, earning his degree in 1981. At that time he was teaching English at Holy Cross College.

He has taught at St Edward's University for sixteen years, and for eight of those years he chaired the English Literature Department. Past president of both the South-Central Renaissance Society and the Andrew Marvell Society, Brother George has published thirteen books, four of which are editions of his own poetry.





Brother Donald E. Kuchenmeister, C.S.C.

Brother Donald grew up in a small town in Wisconsin. After graduation from high school, he worked in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for four years before entering Holy Cross. It was only after graduation when a person from his home town entered Holy Cross that he knew about the vocation of a religious Brother. He had only heard of religious Sisters and priests. He decided to give religious life a try to see what it was all about. From his first day he felt at home in the Congregation.

After profession as a Brother, he worked as secretary for the vocation director. Then he went to Boyssville of Michigan which was a boarding school for youth who were victims of family disorders; he later taught at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago. In 1983 he asked to go to Chile to work with the Congregation in a home for abandoned children. When he was sixty five, he retired from his work with children, studied cooking, and cooked meals that were delivered to the elderly poor in one of the parishes.

He is currently living in the house of formation in Santiago, Chile where he performs various supportive tasks. He also organizes workshops for adults in the local parish.



Brother James J. Kumba, C.S.C.

James Kumba was born in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and after high school went on to become a plumber. James became interested in the brothers at the age of 30. He envisioned the life of a brother as a way of serving the Lord with other men who were following the same path. James was the oldest of 25 young men who entered St. Joseph Novitiate in January of 1959. To Brother James the novitiate was much like a retreat he had made with his father, Joseph.

After the novitiate Brother James spent a year at Dujarie Hall at Notre Dame where, besides maintenance, he delivered eggs to the Main Building at Notre Dame and the Ave Maria Press for employees to buy. Proceeds from the eggs helped raise money for a new stove to bake bread at Dujarie Hall.

His first assignment after formation was for 11 years at St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio, where he tended the boilers along with building security and direction of the student workers. Other assignments included Boyssville of Michigan, Gilmour Academy, Cherry Creek Indian Reservation in South Dakota and 16 years at the Holy Cross Brothers' Center.

In 2001 Brother James retired to Columba Hall and in 2009 he became a resident of Schubert Villa, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.



Brother James P. Newberry, C.S.C.

Choosing the Brothers of Holy Cross was easy, once I allowed the Lord's call to register. Brothers were teachers and I already held a bachelor's degree and was teaching in a junior high school in my hometown of Downers Grove, Illinois.

My vocation in Holy Cross has placed me in a wide variety of ministries: teaching grades 5 through 12, in classrooms of Native Americans, Liberians, in a junior military academy and high school. I have mentored at risk youngsters and recovering alcoholics, interviewed senior adults interested in Holy Cross Village and served the community as a local superior. All this in the name and company of my Brothers in Holy Cross without whose support I could have not persevered.

I have never regretted my answer to His call and daily thank God and our Lady.

Being a consecrated religious with a daily prayer regime also provides me many opportunities to prayerfully remember you, my family and friends. A Brother's vocation is special for the relationships we form with others as "your brothers." Pray *with* us.



Brother Thomas F. Moser, C.S.C.

I come from a family of religious—

five, to be exact—so when God came calling, I knew how to answer. With seventy-five brothers' vocation ads in *Our Sunday Visitor*, everything from missionary work to cloistered stability were available. I finally settled on the Brothers of Holy Cross because, among many choice offerings, they included two weeks paid vacation. I have been on vacation ever since.

Even as I teach, I'm always a student. My "professional interests" include: history, biology, and community; Analytic Psychology; theology and spirituality. For me, it all points to *formation and transformation*. After four years in pre-novitiate and post-novitiate work, two terms as provincial, and twenty-two years on the novitiate staff, I think I'm beginning to appreciate how all this fits together (The Monk Within). I now have an increasing sense of how my call worked itself out.

I will soon set upon a new road on the journey of my call; where that road leads, I leave for others to decide. Wherever I end up, I hope that I might continue the story of the monk within and develop the monk without.

Thanks be to God for these fifty wonderful years.



Brother Charles T. Smith, C.S.C.

Charles Smith grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and took the path to Holy Cross that many graduates of St. Edward High School, Lakewood, Ohio, did, he joined Holy Cross shortly after graduating high school in 1959. After taking first vows at St. Joseph Novitiate in August, 1960, he went on to earn a degree in English from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas.

Brother Charles, in his first ten years taught at four different Midwest

Province schools: Holy Trinity High School twice, St. Edward High School and Holy Cross High School. Brother then taught for five years at the Prologue Alternative High School in Chicago and for the City Colleges of Chicago.

After a renewal program at Sangre de Cristo in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1985 for a year he became the Midwest Province Director of the Office of Life Development at Notre Dame. For the next nine years he would serve the province as the Provincial Personnel Director.

Brother Charles was again drawn to Chicago this time as Associate Director of the People's Music School from 1994–1995.

The past sixteen years Brother Charles has ministered at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio. There he served three years as assistant to the headmaster, two years as the Director of Student Residences and the past eleven years as the Coordinator of the Physical Plant.



Brother Donald J. Stabrowski, C.S.C.

Brother Donald was born in Mishawaka, Indiana, the fourth of six children of Walter and Josephine Stabrowski. He attended St. Joseph Grade School in Mishawaka and St. Joseph High School in South Bend. He entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in June, 1959, received the habit on August 15, 1959, and made his first profession on August 16, 1960

Following first profession, he attended St. Edward's University where he graduated in May, 1963. He spent the summer of 1963 teaching at Father Gibault School for Boys in Terre Haute,

Indiana, and on August 16, 1963 he made his final profession of vows at Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, Indiana.

His first teaching assignment was at Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, Indiana for six years. During his Cathedral years, he earned two masters degrees from Indiana University. The summer of 1969 he was assigned to Archbishop Hoban High School as the assistant principal. In 1970, he was named principal of Holy Trinity High School in Chicago where he served four years. In 1974 he began teaching at Holy Cross Junior College at Notre Dame where he would spend the next fourteen years teaching American history and political science.

In the summer of 1988, Brother Donald was assigned to the University of Portland History and Political Science Department. In 1991 he was named the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and in 1996, named Academic Vice President which is today the Office of the Provost. In addition to administration, he teaches a course in political science each semester and still manages to present and publish papers on Oregon's Budgetary Process.



Brother Gregory Teodecki, C.S.C.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Gregory joined the community in January 1958 after graduating from St. Gertrude High School in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Following his novitiate year he spent a year at Dujarie Hall, Notre Dame, Indiana, where he served as a maintenance man. It was the policy for those brothers not attending college to spend a year in a community formation house before being assigned to a ministry. After Dujarie Hall, Brother Gregory spent his first six months at

Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio.

On three different occasions he would serve at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio, for a total of 18 years. Brother Gregory spent one year at Holy Trinity High School, Chicago, Illinois and then on two occasions served another 18 years at St. Joseph Farm in Granger, Indiana. At St. Joseph Farm his talents as an electrician were put to good use.

From 1998–2005 Brother Gregory was on the maintenance staff of Holy Cross Village. Even in retirement he is a frequent visitor to the Village to point out the location of certain utilities. In 2005 Brother Gregory retired to Columba Hall where he continues to volunteer his talents in maintenance.



**Brother Raymond Trottmann,
C.S.C.**

Brother Raymond, a Chicago native, attended St. Michael's Central Catholic High School in Chicago. After a stint in the U.S. Navy, Raymond became a member of the Chicago Typographical Union serving a six-year apprenticeship and later worked in the city as a typesetter for six years.

Answering a call to serve God while also having an opportunity to practice

his trade, Raymond joined Holy Cross and worked 36 years for the Ave Maria Press, an apostolate of the Indiana Province; first as a typesetter and later as a proofreader and tracker of jobs. Brother Raymond is fond of the Ave's Mission Statement: "...a Catholic publishing entity serving the spiritual and formative needs of Christian individuals, families, the Church and its ministers, and all others seeking Christ's message through books and other resources." Brother Raymond is proud to have been part of the Ave's mission for so many years.

Upon retiring Brother served for 10 years as sacristan at Columba Hall on the campus of the University of Notre Dame where he has lived the past 50 years. He is a lifetime Chicago White Sox fan, and a booster of the Amtrak Rail System which he has used to visit many regions of the United States. He also loves to read the daily news contained in the many papers the Columba Hall residents enjoy.



**Brother Lawrence J. Unfried,
C.S.C.**

By the time I was in the seventh grade, I had decided that I wanted to be a teacher. I was not yet certain about my areas of interest but after getting to

know the Brothers at Reitz Memorial High School, in Evansville, Indiana, I concluded that my vocation was to serve God as a teaching Brother. As a result of my friendship with Brother Charles Beck, I focused on biology as a primary area of academic interest

My first teaching assignment was Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron, Ohio, where I had the good fortune to work with and learn from Brother Marius Wittner. After 2 years at Hoban High School, I went to Bishop David High School, in Louisville, Kentucky. My experiences there were rewarding.

I had taught high school for 11 years and then came to Holy Cross College where I have been teaching biology ever since. As a result of living in the South Bend area for so long, I have had the privilege of not only getting to know many students, but eventually also some of their spouses' children.

My experiences in Holy Cross have been positive and spiritually fulfilling. I have good friends within the Community and outside the community and consider myself blessed. I look to the future with hope.

Brother James Giles Kinsella, C.S.C., 80
died May 18, 2010
53 years a vowed religious.

**Remembering our Deceased
Brother in Your Prayers**

*In Christ We Will
Come to Life Again*

1 Cor: 15:22

Brothers of Holy Cross

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