



CONGREGATION OF  
**HOLY CROSS**  
EDUCATION · PARISH · MISSION

*Holy Cross Community at King's College  
United States Province of Priests and Brothers*

July 30, 2018

To the Communities of Gate of Heaven and Our Lady of Victory,

The saying goes that time passes quickly when one is having fun. This statement could not be truer to the time I have spent with you at Harvey's Lake and the in the Back Mountain. Time HAS gone way too quickly.

I think that by now all of you have heard that I will be leaving the area on August 20<sup>th</sup>, headed for New Orleans, LA. I will be splitting my time between the University of Holy Cross, founded, in 1916 by the Marianite Sisters of Holy Cross and Holy Cross School, a Holy Cross Brothers institution, who founded the school in 1849. The school was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and later rebuilt in a new location as a K-12 boys school in 2010.

Very different institutions, the University has 1,200 students most of whom are non- traditional, 80% female and 20% male. Until this year the University has been totally commuter. They are opening their first residence hall this fall, focusing on first year students. A strictly academic institution, the University has no sports programs but is looking to expand. At this point they have no religious presence on campus.

Holy Cross School, on the other hand, has a full component of academic programs. They have a solid reputation of academics, extracurricular activities and, of course, sports. They do have a chaplain, a diocesan priest, but are looking for a Holy Cross presence.

It all sounds very exciting and I look forward to being part of both institutions, as well as working my way into one of the local parishes.

As I mentioned in Church the last few weeks, I do not do transitions well and each time I move, I realize the difficulty of the emotional and spiritual price I pay. On this count, I commend myself to your prayers, if you would be so kind.

My ministry and experience both on the Back Mountain and at the Lake have enriched me. You have taught me well. Your commitment to your church and to your community, your energy, direction provided, have made me a better priest and renews my vocation. Thank you.

Of course, a special thanks to Fr. Toomey and to the staffs of both OLV and GOH.

Please know that you will forever be rooted firmly in my thoughts, in my prayers and in my heart. Wishing you only good things, me despido con un fuerte abrazo y con carino. (I leave you with a strong hug and with affection.)

I ask of your prayers and please know that you will have mine.

*(Rev.) Genaro P. Aguilar C.S.C.*

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King's College.