



The Missionary Minute



Mission Trip to Jamaica planned for May 2009. [E-mail](#) your interest and questions!

[Provincial, Fr. Mark Weber, SVD,](#) speaks about our charism.

Listen to Seminarian [Nathaniel Nguyen](#) talk about his call to Brotherhood.

The Vocation of a Religious Brother

Bro. Jim Zabransky, SVD

My Vocation as a Religious Brother

As a boy growing up in Elmhurst, Illinois, my family and I were very involved in our local church. We went to mass together every Sunday. My father, who had his own business as a butcher, belonged to the Holy Name Society. A homemaker, my mother helped wash the church linens and was also involved in Bible study. Each day before school, she took my younger sister and me to daily mass.



I graduated from Visitation Grade School in Elmhurst. While I was a student there, I joined the Future Priests' Club of the SVD. Back then, they held 8th grade weekend retreats at Techny. My friend and I attended one. All the priests and Brothers we met were friendly, and we had a great time! I decided to study for the priesthood for the diocese of Joliet. So off I went to St. Charles Borromeo diocesan high school seminary in Lockport. As a student there, I had several Christian Brothers as teachers. They were some of the best teachers that I ever had.

[Click here for complete story](#)

Bro. Steve Pardy, SVD

My Reflection on 50 Years in Vows

Part of the Jewish Passover Haggadah includes a wonderful text entitled Dayenu! It translates to "It would have been enough" and has numerous verses all relating to the goodness of God. "If God had only taken us out of Egypt, Dayenu! If God had only given us the Torah, Dayenu. If God had only given us the Sabbath, Dayenu, etc." "It would have been enough."



This year marks my 50 years in vows, my "Golden Jubilee" as a member of the SVD. In thinking back on these decades "Dayenu" comes to mind. God has been so good to me and has led me to so many places and provided me with so many opportunities and I am very grateful. Permit me to illustrate.

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