

## Brother Edward “Bosco” Wakham, CFC

### Bio:

Brother Edward “Bosco” Wakeham, CFC, is a member of the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers community in St. John’s Newfoundland, Canada. An educator having had an outstanding career as teacher, administrator, and missionary, resides today at St. Patrick’s Home, where he continues to joyfully share in poetic form the journey and dreams of his more than 90 years as a Christian Brother.

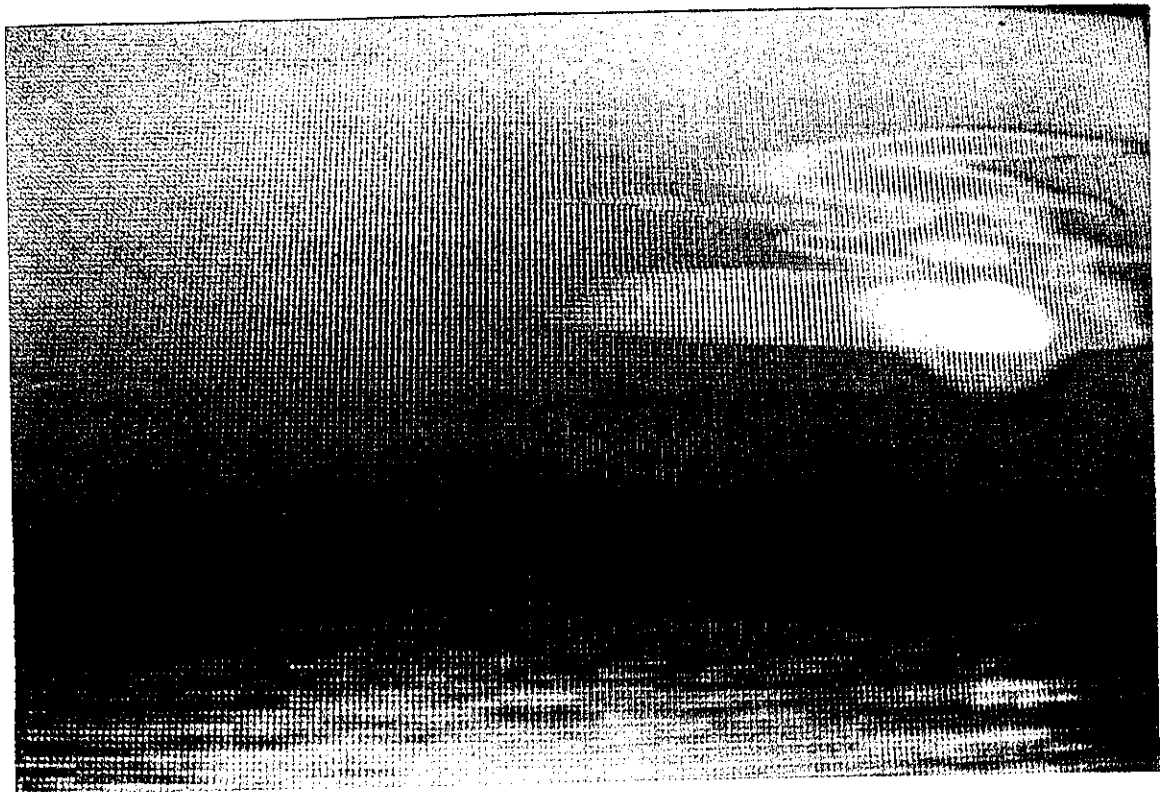
Poetry selected for this website from his extensive collections:

1. Eternal Dawn
2. When I Get Old
3. Presence
4. The Prodigal
5. What is a Brother
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## ETERNAL DAWN

The sun, blood-red in the evening dawning,  
Sank slowly in the dark silhouette of sea,  
Only to appear with bright beams gleaming  
The other side of earth away from me.  
Tomorrow the reverse will be enacted.,  
And I, who saw her go, will see her rise.  
It seems to me that this is what will happen  
When our sun of life sinks into Paradise.  
It will arise again in greater splendour  
When life gives way to an eternity,  
And death will open up a new day dawning  
And everlasting life begin for me.  
And death will open up a new day dawning  
And everlasting life begin for me.

E.B. Wakeham, CFC





## WHEN I GET OLD

When I get old

And someone has  
to take me  
by the hand

And gently lead me  
down  
the last few  
avenues of time

May I accept  
with grace  
and gratitude  
the help thus offered

And clasp the  
kindly hand  
that leads me  
home

When I get old.

Edward Wakeham

## PRESENCE

Sometimes  
When I enter  
My room  
I genuflect  
To adore the God  
I know  
Is present there.  
Though I'm aware  
He's present everywhere,  
Yet somehow  
Close to me  
He seems to be  
When I'm alone,  
Yet not alone ,  
In my own room.

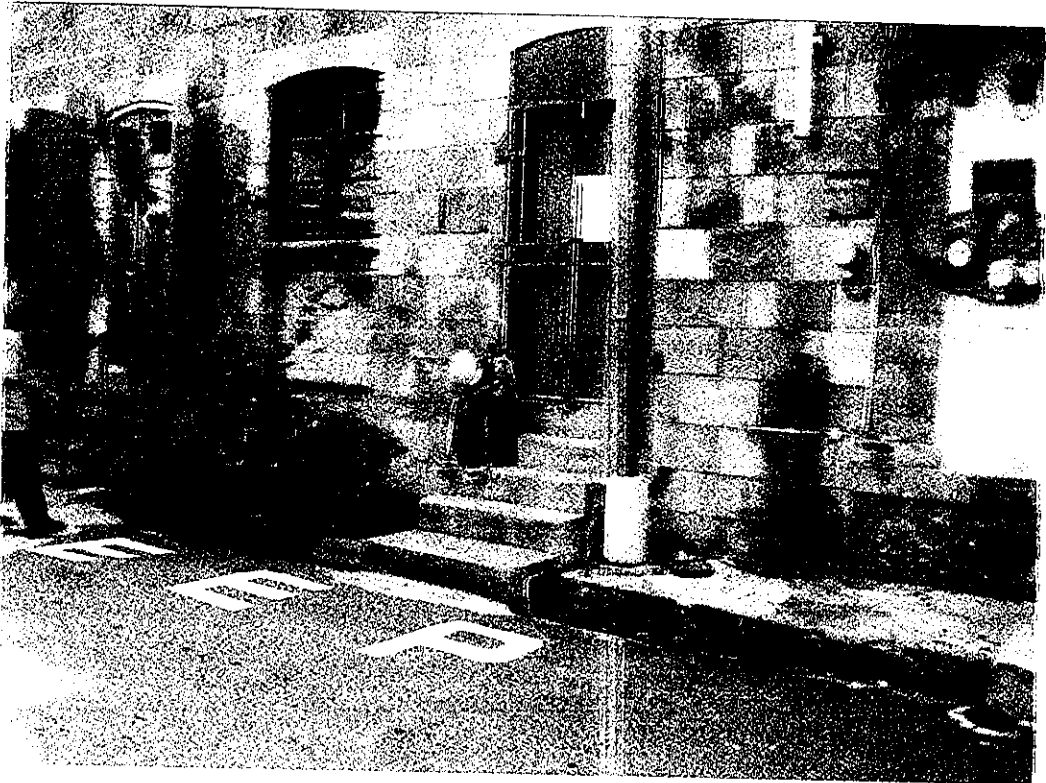
E.B. Wakeham, CFC



## THE PRODIGAL

Drugs and drink,  
they took their toll,  
and life no longer  
had a goal.  
His body spent,  
his mind astray,  
he died:  
a broken body  
on a broken bed.  
And no one wept  
except  
his father.

E.B. Wakeham, CFC (2413180)



## WHAT IS A BROTHER?

He is just that,  
a brother  
to everyone he meets  
and greets along  
Life's Highway.  
But he is especially concerned  
for those who need a brother's  
love and care.  
To the poor, the marginalized,  
and the young, he reaches out  
his hand to help  
and his heart to heal.  
He is just a brother.  
He is big-hearted,  
kind-hearted,  
warm-hearted.  
He is all heart,  
and he gives his all  
with Jesus,  
in Jesus,  
through Jesus,  
to the lonely,  
the joyless,  
the suffering,  
and all in need  
of a brother's love.

E.B. Wakeham, CFC (June 2007)

## EDMUND'S ADVICE

(Based on quotations in Blessed Edmund Rice's letters)

Be intent on prayer  
And do not fear.  
Into the arms of the Lord  
Place all your care:  
And Jesus will live in your hearts forever.

Reach out to the poor  
And sow good seed  
In the hearts of the young  
Fulfill their need  
And Jesus will live in your hearts forever.

Be in humility  
Do not swallow your pride  
Do the task assigned  
With this as guide:  
And Jesus will live in your hearts forever.

May the love of the Lord  
Be your guiding light  
In success or failure  
To do what is right  
And Jesus will live in your hearts forever.

E.B. Wakeham, cfc (26/6/96)

## VOCATION

Christ has no eyes on earth but yours,  
No eyes to see the suffering of the poor,  
No ears to hear their cries and groans,  
No tongue to word the love and kindness  
That they need.  
With your eyes Christ gazes on the world  
And weeps with your tears for all who are in pain;  
He sees the misery that abounds,  
But He cannot die again.  
He must, through you,  
Redeem new-fallen men,  
And when the resurrection dawns,  
All will be well.  
Peace and love will dwell in every heart,  
A new heaven and a new earth  
Will have a brand new start.

E.B. Wakeham, CFC (April 2008)



## DARE WE?

We have seen  
our visions  
Disappear before  
our eyes.  
We have seen  
our dreams  
Drift away  
like smoke.  
All seems lost  
and gone,  
The future grim.  
But dare we,  
should we,  
can we,  
Dream again?  
From smoldering ashes  
Can we rescue  
a new light,  
A burning flame  
to start a  
raging fire  
in our breasts,  
A consuming fire  
in our hearts?  
New hope,  
new life,  
new love?  
Why not?  
Dare we?  
Let's!

E.B. Wakeham, CFC (05/06/02)

## THE GREATEST CROSS

To do good,

yet be considered evil;

To speak the truth,

yet be misunderstood;

To offer help,

yet find you are rejected;

To lend a hand,

to those who are ungrateful;

To try to teach

those who do not want to learn;

To be patient

with those who are ill-mannered;

To give your love

to those who look on you with scorn;

This is your life,

to be like Jesus:

To live, to love, to serve,

and then to die.

E.B. Wakeham, cfc

## EASTER EYES

(Tuesday in Easter Week - 22/04/03)

Suddenly, to my surprise,  
I see things now  
With Easter Eyes.  
And suddenly, nothing's the same,  
I'm filled with joy  
Instead of shame.  
I see things now as ne'er before  
And love exudes  
From every pore.  
I want to shout, I want to sing,  
Glory to God,  
My Risen King.

E.B. Wakeham



ADVENT JOTTINGS 2018

It is time  
To clean up  
The stable  
Of my mind  
And the manger  
Of my heart  
For the coming  
Of Mary  
And Joseph  
And the Infant  
Jesus.  
Maybe the two sisters,  
Mary and Martha,  
Will help me  
To get rid of  
The clutter  
Of thoughts,  
Resentful  
And unkind,  
Of rash judgments  
And dislike;  
To brush around  
The manger  
Of my heart  
And fill it  
With love  
Overflowing

For others  
And fit  
For the  
New-born King.

E.B. Wakeham