



Columba Hall

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January 14, 2019

Dear Colleen and Brother George,

Here is the hymn for Brother James that I promised to compose.

I wanted to capture two different moods in this hymn for him.

The first section is lively and happy with key changes that are not expected. This section reflects his youthfulness and enthusiasm. Each of the four verses are biographical, beginning with his origins and leading up to his death.

The second section (the refrain) is quiet and reflective, prayerful, as the singers invoke Brother James. There is a hint of sadness in the 5th last bar, but that is resolved to a major chord in the second last bar. There is no rhyme in this section to detract from the simple invocation—the words carry the gentle wish that he remember us in his new life.

Sincerely yours,

Brother George Klawitter, CSC

Good Brother James

Music: George Klawitter, CSC

Lyrics: George Klawitter, CSC

1. Wis - con - sin gave us James from off a farm. He came with faith, good
2. In Gua - ta - ma - la where the jun - gle rings with fea - thered co - lors

5

hu - mor, and sweet charm. As Bro - ther Le - o Will - iam, formed with
and the sun - shine sings, its li - tan - ies of mu - sic found his

9

care, he fol - lowed de la Salle in faith and prayer.
ears, re - laxed his soul from un - re - demp - tive tears.

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Good Bro - ther James, San - ti - a - go, pray for us, pray for us.

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3. When Santiago climbed his final wall,
the dark of evil waited for his fall.
Their bullets riddled through his holiness
and claimed our saintly one for emptiness.

4. Our brother has escaped a world of pain
where power robs the innocent to gain
control of governments. He thrills in joy
with God. He prays for us, our man from boy.