Cardinal Shan Honored
At Commencement

At its annual commencement on May 10, Saint Vincent Seminary conferred on His Eminence Paul Cardinal Shan, Bishop of Kaohsiung, the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. Cardinal Shan is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Fu Jen Catholic University in Taiwan.

Cardinal Shan is a member of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, the Pontifical Council for Inter-Religious Dialogue, the Postynodal Council for Asia (Synod of Bishops), and the Central Committee of the Federation of Asian Bishops’ Conferences. He is the President of the Chinese Regional Bishops’ Conference, serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Fu Jen Catholic University and is a member of the Consultation Committee on Human Rights, Presidential Office, Republic of China.

Born on December 2, 1923 in Puyang, Hopeh, China, he entered the Society of Jesus on September 11, 1946 in Beijing, where, on September 12, 1948, he took his first vows. He studied philosophy in the Regional Seminary of St. Joseph in Chiughsien (1944-46) and in the Jesuit Philosophical Institute in Manila (1941-51). He completed his theological studies at Bellarmine College in Baguio in the Philippines (1952-56). Cardinal Shan was ordained to the priesthood on March 18, 1955 in Baguio, and completed the final stage of his formation in 1956-57 at Araneta Farm, Novaliches, in the Philippines. From 1959-61 he attended the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, receiving his S.T.D. degree in Theology in 1961.

After a series of assignments, he was appointed Bishop of Hualien Diocese on November 15, 1979, where he served for 11 years. On March 4, 1991, he was transferred to Kaohsiung Diocese. On January 18, 1998, Cardinal Shan Honored At Commencement (Continued on Page 2)

Deacons Prepare For Ministry

By Kim Metzgar

Fourth-year theology students at Saint Vincent Seminary spend their final year in formation working in a variety of ministries. A sampling of their experiences follows.

In Pittsburgh...

Deacon David Medina is a people person. That’s evident in the way he relates to his classmates in the Seminary and, in his parish practicum, in how he relates to the parishioners. His pastor at St. Benedict the Moor Parish, Rev. Carmen D’Amico, joked that now that Deacon Medina is preparing for his priesthood ordination in the Diocese of Tulsa this May, the St. Benedict parishioners were hoping that the diocese might disappear, so he could stay in Pittsburgh.

“He’s really adapted to the community quite well,” Father D’Amico said, noting David seemed to jump right in. “I don’t sense any reluctance or reticence, which is what I really like about him, because I think that’s what we really need in ministry.”

That involvement is wrought out of a need to know, Deacon Medina explains, noting that: “I could not just live in a community. I need to know the community in order to live there.”

By the time Deacon Medina started his (Continued on Page 3)
Seminary Featured On Cover Of Atlanta Newspaper

Saint Vincent Seminary was pictured on the cover of the October 25, 2001, edition of The Georgia Bulletin, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The aerial view depicting the campus was the cover for a series of articles about the seminaries where the archdiocese trains its future priests. There are currently seven Atlanta seminarians at Saint Vincent.

Staff writer Erika Anderson interviewed recent seminary graduates Father Kevin Hargaden, Father Eric Hill and Father Michael Heninger about their time at Saint Vincent in an article entitled “Saint Vincent Seminary is Steeped in Benedictine Spirituality.”

Father Hargaden is now a parochial vicar at Saint Joseph Church in Marietta, while Father Heninger is parochial vicar at Saint Pius X Church in Conyers. They were in the first class of seminarians the Atlanta archdiocese sent to Saint Vincent in 1994. Father Hill is parochial vicar at Transfiguration Church in Marietta.

Msgr. David Talley, vocations director for the archdiocese until June, told Anderson that the archdiocese began hearing many positive comments about the Seminary’s rector at the time, Father Thomas P. Acklin, O.S.B.

Father Hargaden said the four years he spent at Saint Vincent forced him to learn a new way of thinking.

“Becoming a liberal arts student was difficult,” he said. “Studying philosophy ... that was a pretty tough transition for me. It took me the first year to get used to it.”

“The community was great and very welcoming,” Father Hill commented.

Father Serge Ward, the recent vocations director for the archdiocese, remembered his experiences at Saint Vincent and its seminarians, although he went to a different seminary for his priestly formation.

“You could just see how strong the Benedictine tradition was in the formation of the men,” he told the newspaper. He recalled walking through the cemetery where the Benedictines are buried. “The spiritual effect on the place itself is in its history and the number of nurtured vocations that had lived, worked and even died there.”

“It was very helpful to me, just out of college. Having the standard coed college campus there helped remind me where I came from and created a sense of normalcy amidst all the new things that seminary life was challenging me with,” Father Hargaden said. “At the same time, at the monastery, I was able to witness the stages of religious life and get a glimpse of the beauty of the priesthood.”

Seminarian John Matejek, who was ordained to the transitional diaconate in March, noted that “the focus here is on spirituality. We learn to pray first. For me (Saint Vincent) has been a fantastic experience. If I know how to pray and I have a good relationship with the Lord and his people who I am going to serve, then everything else will come easily.”

Honorary Degree Conferred Upon His Eminence Paul Cardinal Shan, S.J.

(Continued from Page 1)

he was named a Cardinal by Pope John Paul II, Taiwan’s first Cardinal since the death of Paul Cardinal Yu-pin in 1978.

In his service of the Church, he has focused his energies on the formation in Taiwan of a well-prepared laity. He has also established a new seminary to form priests for the Church. Despite his many commitments, he has found time to translate two books into Chinese: How To Be a Guide and Commitment and Leadership, published by Kuangchi Press. Both have become best-sellers, and the second is used to train government leaders.

Cardinal Shan is very involved in charitable works. In his Diocese he established the Catholic Charitable Foundation for Social Welfare, and at the national level he has promoted the creation of a Catholic Mission Foundation in Taiwan to evangelize and meet the needs of Taiwanese society. Due in large part to the efforts of Cardinal Shan, the Catholic Church in Taiwan is regarded as a great benefactor of the poor, the sick, the elderly, and as a great defender of exploited women, of those who are forced to work overseas, of the marginalized, of prisoners and of the cause of human life.

Fu Jen University was founded by the Benedictines of Saint Vincent Archabbey in 1924 in Peking, China. The University was later reestablished in Taiwan in 1960. Saint Vincent Benedictines returned to China in 1964 with the establishment of Wimmer Priory in Taipei.
Deacons Prepare For Ministry
(Continued on Page 2)

second two-week practicum during the Easter season, he was really starting to feel comfortable. He spent the first two-week practicum in the fall getting to know the people in the parish and its pastor. He has assisted at the parish on weekends since that time, but got another full two weeks there leading up to and including Holy Week.

His work ranged from getting involved with helping recent immigrants fit into the parish by making sure they got to Mass, to giving them instruction for confirmation and other sacraments. During the second two-week period, Father D’Amico noted, the adjustment was much easier: “He’s more well known. He’s part of the fabric of the parish. They trust him, they recognize him, so I just think it’s much easier.”

He said that, like all professions, the schooling prepares a person with the knowledge to handle a job. However, “you can have the theory and all that kind of stuff, but until you see it in action, it’s not going to prepare you well.”

For instance, Father D’Amico said, the deacons learn how to be flexible.

“On an average day you could have somebody come in the door that needs assistance. Maybe someone in their family has died or is sick or they need some kind of personal outreach. You can’t just say this is your day. You have to start rearranging things.”

A priest’s week is quite busy, he said, with communion calls, hospital calls, meetings, and even happenings outside the parish, if the priest becomes involved in the community as well.

“It depends on the priest,” Father D’Amico said. “The more you stretch yourself and get involved, the more opportunities there will be for positive things, but there will also be more demands on your time.”

One of Deacon Medina’s strong points is his desire to learn the culture of the parishioners. Part of that comes from his background. He was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, and joined a religious missionary community at age 21. He completed four years of schooling, obtaining a degree, then had two years of practical experience, much of it spent working with indigenous people.

He had a friend in the Diocese of Tulsa who told him of the need for priests to serve the Hispanic community, but it was several years before he made the decision to go to Oklahoma. His friend talked about the needs of Hispanics in the diocese, how the community was struggling to keep its faith alive, how important it was to keep them coming to open book and the people started to write in the pages. If we got to a parish with the mindset that we will teach them then we will not learn.”

One of his frustrations thus far is knowing that “I’m not capable of hearing all of the people. I have limitations.” But knowing the people and their culture gives him a chance to “see the beauty of humanity and to see the face of God in them.”

“I think he’ll make an excellent priest,” Father D’Amico said. “He loves Jesus, he loves people and he lets people know that he respects who they are.”

In Altoona...

When Deacon Matthew Reese arrived for duty last year at Holy Rosary Parish, Altoona, the pastor, Father Carl Spishak, had a long list of things he wanted to cover.

“I had heard in advance that sometimes seminarians felt there was not much to do when they got to the parish,” Father Spishak said with a smile. “So I prepared a long list of things that involved liturgy preparation, teaching of CCD, visiting the sick, a youth project, a volunteer project and a number of events involving our...”

(Continued on Page 4)
Deacon Matthew Reese goes over parish activities with Father Carl Spishak, pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Altoona, in the parish office.

Deacons Prepare For Ministry

(Continued from Page 3)

parish’s one-hundredth anniversary.

“We had an event every month,” for the anniversary, Father Spishak said, “and Matt took part in all of the events. Some were picnics, one was a mystery bus trip, one was a banquet, one was a special liturgy which included Bishop Joseph Adamec. He did everything on the list.”

Father Spishak has been pastor of Holy Rosary for the past seven years, noting that the parish “is part of a community that grew up with the Pennsylvania Railroad. At the turn of the century all of the people in the neighborhood worked at the railroad. No one had a driveway — they all walked to work.”

The present-day parish community is comprised of many of these railroad retirees, current railroad employees and their families. These hard-working people “appreciated seeing Matt work with the parish,” Father Spishak said. His arrival was fortuitous for Father Spishak, who had received an appointment as Catholic chaplain at the VA Hospital in Altoona, which has two other hospitals. “So Matt was able to help me a lot by visiting our parishioners at the two Altoona hospitals. We worked well together and I have grown to appreciate his interest in the Church and in people. He does exceptionally well at liturgies and at preaching. It gives me joy to be able to say to him ‘You’ve done a good job, kid.’”

A particularly outstanding example of Matt’s work with the parish, according to Father Spishak, was when the local television station wanted to do a series on vocations, which included Bishop Adamec and Deacon John Nesbella, C88, S00, Matthew’s classmate for priesthood ordination. “They asked to come to one of our Masses to film, so they came in January. Matt was going to give the homily. I was nervous because of the cameras and the occasion but I experienced Matt rising to the occasion and giving one of the finest homilies I have ever heard in spite of the distractions and the pressure.”

Deacon Reese has been involved with several parishes during his summer breaks from Seminary studies, so he had some parish experience leading up to his full-year practicum at Holy Rosary. As he prepares for his ordination to the priesthood in May, he notes that the parish experience has helped him to apply all the things he has learned in the classroom.

One of the things he has enjoyed the most has been teaching CCD to eleventh grade students in the parish who were also preparing for confirmation. While he has done a little teaching in the past, the ability to teach the class for a full year allowed him to develop some

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Deacons Prepare For Ministry
(Continued from Page 4)

continuity and rapport with the students. His call to the priesthood began when he was young, Deacon Reese said, noting that the Mass has always held a unique place in his life. When he was in high school discerning what career he might want to pursue, someone had reminded him of his childhood appreciation for the priesthood. He began contemplating priesthood, contacted some of the priests in his diocese, and following high school graduation, entered the Pontifical College Josephinum in Ohio. Following graduation there he entered Saint Vincent Seminary.

In Greensburg...

For Deacon Douglas Dorula, a Greensburg diocesan seminarian, his time at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral has been a "wonderful blessing." Prior to his fourth-year practicum, he had already spent his pastoral year in the parish. But the highlight was after his diaconate ordination, when he was finally able to celebrate the sacraments of baptism and matrimony and to assist the pastor at Mass. His practicum has helped prepare him for the many issues a pastor faces in the daily operation of the parish. Deacon Dorula says the attitude of the whole parish staff stems from the pastor, Father Michael J. Begolly's "loving and caring response to every person he comes in contact with. He has taught me to look at the big picture in locating the resources to help those in need. If it's not available in the parish, then we look to the diocese or to Catholic Charities, or to local government. We must be open to whatever God sends to us."

"I came into this with an open mind and an open heart. I felt that if this was God's will for me it would happen. The people I have met have all helped shape who I am today. All of these people and their prayers have not only helped me through the tough times but have me rejoicing in the many wonderful times I've experienced."

The Seminary and even the Church has changed since Deacon Dorula began his priesthood studies in 1995. The Greensburg Diocese has instituted a regionalization plan in order to help parishes plan for the time when there might not be enough priests to cover the current number of parishes. That plan may see parishes eventually sharing clergy, staff and programs. During Deacon Dorula's tenure at Blessed Sacrament, he has been able to work with the regional council in Region 12 and see it grow and begin to face the challenges in today's church. "The challenge facing those of us going out into God's vineyard is to be flexible, faithful and to be a servant forever," he said.

Rev. Michael Begolly, pastor of Blessed Sacrament, noted that Deacon Dorula had also served his pastoral year at the parish, in addition to his fourth year practicum. "He was able to get to know everybody and they all were able to get to know him. It worked out very well. His presence here, over the course of two years, was very pastoral and he fit in well with the team. He really had a chance to minister to the people here and he was able to learn a lot from them."

Deacon Dorula's degree and professional experience in communications has been a good keystone in the formation process. He notes that the skills and experiences he brought to the Seminary have helped him grow as a person and as a minister to God's people. But while the world of corporate communications is ever-changing, with flashy new slogans and logos, he takes to heart the eternal message of God's salvation, a "message of love, hope and compassion that is eternal and will never end. The Gospel message will remain the same, forever."

Deacon Douglas Dorula (left) and Father Michael Begolly go over some paperwork at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish in Greensburg.
Three Ordained
To Diaconate

Three seminarians attending Saint Vincent Seminary were ordained to the Diaconate by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, Bishop of Youngstown, Ohio, on April 20 in the Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Leo B. Fowler of the Diocese of Charlotte is the son of the late Deena J. Fowler of Mullins, South Carolina. He is a 1965 graduate of Holy Savior in Lockport, Louisiana. He graduated from Francis Marion University, Florence, South Carolina in 1989 with a degree in history, and studied philosophy at Belmont Abbey from 1991 to 1993. He received a master's degree in library science from the University of South Carolina in 1996.

James A. Caldwell, Jr. of the Diocese of Tulsa is the son of Judith Ann Caldwell of Erie and the late James A. Caldwell, Sr. He received a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and theology from St. Bonaventure University, New York. He is previously from Erie.

G. David Weikart of the Diocese of Youngstown is the son of Gene B. Weikart of Leetonia, Ohio and the late Lena A. Weikart. He is a 1981 graduate of Leetonia High School, Leetonia, Ohio. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in biology and secondary education in 1986 from Kent State University. He earned a master of religious education degree from Loyola University in 1996.

Ordained to the diaconate on April 20 by Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, Bishop of Youngstown (photo at left), were (above, from left) G. David Weikart, Diocese of Youngstown; Leo B. Fowler, Diocese of Charlotte and James A. Caldwell, Jr., Diocese of Tulsa.

Board Member Remembered for Humanitarian Efforts

Dr. Rizal Valencia Pangilinan, 66, chairman of the Wheeling Clinic Eye Institute, died Thursday, May 2, 2002, in Wheeling Hospital after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage. Dr. Pangilinan was a faithful and active member of the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents from 1992 until February of 2001, when he concluded his third three-year term of office.

He was a widely respected ophthalmologist in the Ohio Valley. He established his practice in Wheeling in 1970. His hospital affiliations were with the Wheeling Hospital, the Ohio Valley Medical Center and East Ohio Regional Hospital. He held positions in numerous charitable, professional, religious and social organizations.

He was born in the Philippines on August 28, 1935, in the capital city of Manila.

Dr. Pangilinan’s priorities in life were his love for God, his love for his wife, his love for his family and then his work and charity. For many years he joined contingents of other professionals on medical missions to rural areas of the Philippines to treat the poor. He already had started arrangements for his part in the 2003 medical mission.

Dr. Pangilinan held medical licenses in three states, North Dakota, Ohio and West Virginia. He earned a doctor of optometry degree, magna cum laude, from Centro Escolar University in Manila and a doctor of medicine degree from Manila Central University. He served residencies in ophthalmology, general practice and general surgery in Chicago and Peoria, Illinois. He completed rotating internships in general practice and surgery at Methodist Hospital of Central Illinois in Peoria and the United States Naval Hospital at Subic Bay, Philippines.

Dr. Pangilinan’s board certifications include diplomate status in the American Board of Ophthalmology, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Board of Eye Surgeons, the last of which he was only one of two ophthalmologists in West Virginia with the status of diplomate.

Devout in his religion, Dr. Pangilinan was international president of Serra International, 1988-1989. He also served as vice president of the Diocesan Seminary Board of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Surviving is his wife, Nelly H. Torres Pangilinan, two sons Jose Rizal T. “Joe” and his wife Mary Caroline “Carol” Pangilinan of Wheeling, and Dr. Rey T. and his wife Daisy V. Pangilinan of Glendale, California; a daughter Nina P. and her husband Kyle W. Rosenthal of Chicago, Illinois; two sisters, Filipinas “Pearly” Santillan and her husband Dennis of Farmington Hills, Michigan and Luzviminda “Linda” Marquez and her husband Narciso of Manila, Philippines; and a granddaughter, Maria Christina “Maricris” Pangilinan of Wheeling.

Dr. Rizal V. Pangilinan
To give a tribute or memorial gift, please make a donation to Saint Vincent Seminary in honor of or in memory of a friend, colleague or family member. Donations should be mailed to Mr. William P. Malloy in the Seminary Development Office, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa., 15650-2690, 724-532-6740.

Donors from October 1, 2001, to April 15, 2002, include:

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**New Faculty Member**

Dr. Kathleen Contini Borres has joined the faculty of Saint Vincent Seminary as a lecturer.

Dr. Borres earned her doctorate in systematic theology from Duquesne University, *magna cum laude*, in 2000, and a master of arts degree in religious studies from Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio, *cum laude*, in 1993. She earned a master of business administration degree from Plymouth State College, New Hampshire, in 1987, and a bachelor of arts degree in 1980 in communication studies from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

She has served as an adjunct lecturer at Duquesne University (1999-2000); a lecturer/graduate assistant at Duquesne (1995-1998); and was an instructor at Mount Aloysius College in the fall of 2001.

Dr. Borres is a member of the RCIA team at St. John Neumann Parish, Pittsburgh, where she also serves as a Eucharistic minister.

Her professional affiliations include the College Theology Society, American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature.
Twenty-eight degrees were awarded at Saint Vincent Seminary’s 156th annual commencement ceremony held Friday, May 10, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Paul Cardinal Shan, S.J., Bishop of Kaohsiung, Republic of China, presided at the Solemn Vespers.

THE PITTSBURGH ORATORY

Michael J. Darcy, C.O., is the son of Thomas J. and Kathleen M. Darcy of Middletown, New York. He is a 1991 graduate of Minisink Valley Central School, Slate Hill, New York. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in history in 1995 from the State University of New York at Binghamton. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

Terence A. Crone is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harrel Crone of Memphis, Tennessee. He earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. In 2001 he earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honors. In 2002 he earned the master of divinity degree, with high honors.

John M. Matejek, Jr., of Acworth, Georgia, Archdiocese of Atlanta, Georgia, is the son of Helena V. Matejek of Chicago Heights, Illinois, and the late John M. Matejek. He is a 1966 graduate of Marian Catholic High School, Chicago Heights. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in history in 1971 from the University of Tampa, Florida. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002.

Bryan D. Small is the son of Ken Small and the late Bobbie Small. He has a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Saint Meinrad College, Saint Meinrad, Indiana (1997), and also attended West Georgia College. He is a 1992 graduate of St. Pius X High School. In 2001 he earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary. In 2002 he earned the master of divinity degree.

DIOCESE OF ERIE

Matthew J. Kujawinski is the son of Arthur and Nancy Kujawinski of Erie. He is a 1995 graduate of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, and received a bachelor of arts degree in liberal arts from Gannon University, Erie, in 1999. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002.

David A. Shaffer is the son of David D. Shaffer and Jean M. Shaffer of Harborcreek. He is a 1994 graduate of Harbor Senior High School, Erie. He earned a degree in arts and humanities from Gannon University in 1998. In 2001 he earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honors. In 2002 he earned the master of arts degree, with honors.

DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

Michael Kennedy Pecosh is the son of Dr. Joseph E. and Patricia A. Pecosh of Brownsville. He is a 1993 graduate of Brownsville Area High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from California University of Pennsylvania in 1997. In 2002 he earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with high honors, and received the Sacred Scripture Award, chosen by the Sacred Scripture faculty.

DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

Paul Michael Clark is the son of Charles J. and Josephine G. Clark of Hanover. He is a 1993 graduate of New Oxford Senior High School. In 1997 he earned a bachelor of arts degree in Spanish and religious studies from Western Maryland College, Westminster, Maryland. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors.

Steven W. Fauser is the son of William D. and Geraldine Fauser of Turbotville. He is a 1994 graduate of Warrior Run High School, Turbotville. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in French and German from Millersville University in 1998. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors.

Mark Weiss is the son of Edward and Kathy Weiss of Hershey. He is a 1992 graduate of Lower Dauphin High School and received a bachelor of science degree in human development and family studies from Penn State University in 1996. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with honors.

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

Daniel E. Beaumont is the son of William H. and Bernadette M. Beaumont of Oakdale. He is a 1988 graduate of West Allegheny High School, Imperial. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 1999. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with honors.

Shawn O. Malarkey is the son of Thomas...
A Message from the Chairman

Focus on Pastoral Stewardship

It is my great pleasure to report on the progress and activities of Saint Vincent Seminary. Once again, we can point to a number of significant accomplishments.

First of all, Saint Vincent Seminary continues to provide a world-class, Total Quality educational experience for its seminarians. With a renowned faculty trained at the most prestigious universities in the world, we have established a core curriculum that thoroughly prepares our graduates to return to their dioceses and make an immediate positive impact in their parishes.

Secondly, our Total Quality program has again resulted in near-record enrollment. This year’s enrollment of 106 students has once again placed Saint Vincent among the ten largest seminaries in the United States.

Thirdly, as we achieve these exceptional results, it is important to point out that the seminary remains a model of efficiency and fiscal management. This year, the seminary administration has again prudently managed its resources while coming in under the financial budgets that have been established, thereby helping to protect and grow the precious financial assets that our generous supporters have donated.

Fourthly, we have made marked progress in our capital campaign -- Expanding the Vision. As I detailed in the last annual report, the Board of Regents conducted a comprehensive strategic planning process to identify those areas which required our immediate commitment. We felt that, with improvements to the seminary living and learning quarters, and with enhancements to our scholarship funding, library, and Homiletics and Hispanic Ministries program offerings, we could provide our seminarians with the tools and experience to best serve the People of God.

Over the past year, we have received generous financial commitments from our Board and our constituent bishops toward our efforts. We are truly grateful for their commitment to the priesthood as witnessed by their willingness to help us prepare these courageous and holy young men. As you review our progress in this report, please take a few moments to remember the important roles that priests have played in your life. Providing the priests of tomorrow with a Total Quality formation program is one of the most worthy causes you could ever support.

Lastly, I am pleased to announce the establishment of a Pastoral Stewardship Program at Saint Vincent Seminary. After much discussion with our constituent bishops regarding the preparation of seminarians for their duties in the parish, we recognized the need for increased training in the leadership and management skills necessary to function as the CEO of a parish. With the input of these bishops and their representative pastors who have successfully operated in the parish environment for years, we have established a four year course cycle that will provide our graduates with the skills to successfully manage the human, physical and financial resources entrusted to their care.

On behalf of the board of Regents, I thank all who, through their prayers and support, make these achievements possible.

Dr. John C. Marous, Jr.
Chairman of the Board of Regents
A Message from the Chancellor

"We Belong to the World"

During 2001, Saint Vincent Seminary continued to exhibit exceptional growth and vitality due to the collaborative efforts of Chairman John C. Marous, Jr., the Board of Regents, Fr. Kurt Belsole, the Rector, along with the administration, faculty, staff and students. The enrollment in the seminary remains at near-record levels, and, with its international student body will allow the influence of Saint Vincent Seminary to spread throughout the world.

Soon after arriving in the United States in 1846, our founder, Archabbot Boniface Wimmer, in true missionary spirit, reminded his monks that every Christian is called to be a missionary and that the Saint Vincent Community therefore belonged “to the world.” He dreamed of a seminary whose graduates would exert influence in the Church and in society through their faith and preaching, but most of all through their service in parishes and missions throughout the world. Today, his dream is a reality!

Not only are we blessed to have seminarians from dioceses and religious communities from across the United States, we now have the most international student body in the history of Saint Vincent Seminary. This year, in addition to students from 17 dioceses and ten abbeys and religious communities from across the United States, we have students from Canada, Mexico, Panama, India, Korea, Nigeria, Slovakia, Samoa, Vietnam, and the Republic of China.

On May 10, 2002, we were honored to welcome His Eminence Paul Cardinal Shan to Saint Vincent. Cardinal Shan, Bishop of Kaohsiung, Republic of China, served as the commencement speaker of the 156th graduation of Saint Vincent Seminary, where he was also awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. Cardinal Shan is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Fu Jen Catholic University in Taiwan. The Benedictines of Saint Vincent Archabbey established the original Fu Jen Catholic University in Beijing in 1925 under the capable leadership of our beloved Archabbot Aurelius Stehle. Under Communist rule, the University in Beijing was eventually annexed to the Beijing Normal University. In the 1960s, Fu Jen Catholic University was re-established in Taipei by the diocesan clergy and several religious communities. Today the Saint Vincent Benedictines continue a presence through Brother Nicholas Koss, who serves as the Dean of the School of Foreign Languages.

As you can see by the activities of this past year, we continue to be inspired by the words of Archabbot Boniface Wimmer: “We belong to the world!”

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B.
Chancellor

Saint Vincent Seminary Mission Statement

Saint Vincent Seminary is a Roman Catholic Seminary grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the living tradition of the Church in accord with the Magisterium, and shaped by the Benedictine heritage of liturgical prayer, study, hospitality and community. As such, the Seminary is a center for the spiritual formation, human development, and academic and pastoral preparation of candidates for the priesthood. Consistent with this primary mission and responsible to the contemporary needs of the Church, the Seminary provides programs for permanent diaconate candidates and offers its degree programs to qualified men and women seeking a theological education.
A Message from the Rector

“Making Things Possible”

The academic year and graduation are over, the seminarians are back in their home dioceses either on assignment or on vacation, and the members of the faculty are giving retreats, summer courses, and enjoying some well deserved time off.

This gives me a chance to look back over the year and look at what, by the grace of God, and with your help, our Seminary has accomplished. But to consider what has been possible means that we should first of all look ahead at ordinations this summer. These include the diaconate ordinations of Paul Clark and Steven Fauser for the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA and Matthew Kujawinski for the Diocese of Erie, PA; John Rice for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV; Martin Celuch for Kosice, Slovakia/Youngstown, OH, Michael Darcy, C.O. for the Pittsburgh Oratory and Brothers Brian Boosel, Thomas Curry, and Cajetan Hornick, O.S.B. for Saint Vincent Archabbey. Those being ordained to the priesthood include John Nesbella and Matthew Reese for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, PA; William Berkey and Douglas Dorula for the Diocese of Greensburg, PA; Gary Krummert, Shawn Malarkey, and Matthew McClain for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA; Robert Miller for the Diocese of Youngstown, OH; Thomas Dagle for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV; Terence Cran and Bryan Small for the Archdiocese of Atlanta, GA; Peter Haladej for the Archdiocese of Kosice, Slovakia/Youngstown, OH, Carl Kerkemeyer and David Medina for the Diocese of Tulsa, OK; Br. Michael Calhoun, O.S.B. for Saint Bede Abbey, Peru, IL; and Br. Anthony Sargent, O.S.B. for Saint Mary’s Abbey, Morristown, NJ.

As you just read this list of twenty-four seminarians who are about to be ordained you might have found your attention waning-not unlike when we hear the 42 names of the ancestors of Christ when the genealogy from the Gospel of Matthew is read each year at Mass on December 17th. But what is true of the genealogy is likewise true of these men. Behind each name is a person with only one life to live and whose life in this world makes a difference in passing down the life of faith and building up the Body of Christ which is the Church. Each of them is choosing to dedicate his life to Christ and the Church after a long process of discernment and formation—a formation which includes prayer and asceticism, regular spiritual direction and sacramental life, perseverance in a challenging program, and service to the poor and vulnerable in our society.

Beyond their academic formation, these men have been presented with a human and spiritual formation program which is designed to form them into happy, healthy, and holy priests. Your prayers and contributions to the Seminary help make this human and spiritual formation program possible, and in looking back over the year, I would like to review with you some of that program.

The first semester began with a Day of Recollection by Msgr. William Biebel, Rector of Saint Peter Cathedral in Erie. On November 2-3, Mr. Robert Martin, Director of Education for GuestHouse, presented a formation weekend on “Ministering to the Minister.” The following weekend, Father John Cody, C.Ss.R., Director of the Pre-Theology Program at Franciscan University, gave the seminarians a Day of Recollection.

At the beginning of January, before classes began, the seminarians spent five days on retreat, the theologians with Bishop Timothy Dolan, Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Louis, former Rector of the North American College in Rome, and author of Priests for the Third Millennium, the Pre-Theologians with Father Joseph Mele, Pastor of Saint Sebastian Parish in Pittsburgh.

On January 22nd, the majority of students and a number of the faculty took part in the March for Life in Washington. Dr. Erasmo Leiva, author of Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word: Meditations on the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, at the Day of Recollection in March, spoke on how to enter into a prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture. Finally, in April, Professor Philip Jenkins of Penn State spoke to the seminarians on current issues facing the Church.

In addition to the above “special events,” each Monday there is a formation conference for the diocesan seminarians and every Thursday an optional shared reflection on the scripture readings for the coming Sunday. Social outreach, an important part of seminary formation, under the direction of Fr. Justin Matro, O.S.B., includes assisting with a homeless shelter, a food bank, and pro-life activity.

The ordinations of the twenty-four men whom I named above and the formation program that trained them for diaconate and priesthood are possible only because of your interest, your prayers, and your many contributions to Saint Vincent. All of the people whom they will serve throughout their lives will be ministered to as a result of your generosity.

In the name of the entire seminary community at Saint Vincent, I would like to express to you our most sincere gratitude for making these things possible and assure you of a remembrance in our prayers. Again, I close with a prayer from the monastic breviary: Reward with eternal life, O Lord, all those who for your sake do good to us. God bless you.

Very Reverend Kurt Belsole, O.S.B.
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Saint Vincent Seminary

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The Planned Giving Associates are loyal alumni and friends who have remembered Saint Vincent Seminary in their estate planning through bequests, insurance policies, trusts, or annuities. Their stewardship guarantees a quality education to the future spiritual leaders of the Church.

If you have included Saint Vincent Seminary in your estate planning, or need information on becoming a Planned Giving Associate, please contact Bill Malloy at (724) 532-6740.

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+Rev. Msgr. Andrew J. Balok
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+Mr. John A. Daum
+Rev. Ettore J. DeNapoli
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+Rev. Benedict W. Erks
+Rev. Edward R. Farina
+Rev. Charles M. Fink
+Rev. John T. Flaherty
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+Rev. Msgr. Augustine Marzhauser
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+Rev. John H. Reilly
+Rev. Thomas M. Rodgers
+Rev. Julius Stelkurosky
+Rev. Msgr. Joseph L. Weidmann
+Rev. Msgr. Aloysius L. Zolinski

+Requiescat in Pace
Businesses
and Corporations

Saint Vincent Seminary

Annual Report 2001

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Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rullo
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Mr. and Mrs. James Sackett
Mr. and Mrs. George Safire
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sargent
Mr. John J. Schaming
Mr. Urban C. Schendel
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Schneider
Rev. John A. Sedlak
Ms. Mary Ann Seeman
Mr. Robert F. Seiler
Mr. Leo H. Selle
Mrs. Rita Selle
Mr. and Mrs. Julian J. Senko
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence B. Shafer, Jr.
Churches
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, PA
Diocese of Charleston, SC
Diocese of Erie, PA
Diocese of Greensburg, PA
Diocese of Harrisburg, PA
Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA
Diocese of Savannah, GA
Diocese of Steubenville, OH
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV
Diocese of Youngstown, OH
St. Bernard Church, Pittsburgh, PA
St. John Capistran Church, Pittsburgh, PA
St. Gregory the Great Church, Virginia Beach, VA
St. Mary’s Church, Clinton, MD
St. Mary’s Church of East Vineland, NJ
St. Rose of Lima Church, Darlington, PA
St. Susanna Church, Penn Hills, PA

Foundations
Donahue Family Foundation Inc.
Hoehn Scholarship Trust Fund
Kate M. Kelley Foundation
The Pittsburgh Foundation
Thomas Reynolds Charitable Trust

Organizations
Catholic Daughters of America, Court 1853
Catholic Daughters of America, Court Stella Maris 1881
Chautauqua Auxiliary 2145, Fraternal Order of Eagles
Elk Towers Memorial Fund
Fire Chiefs Association of Westmoreland County, Inc.
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Okres
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 11
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 13
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 44
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 88
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Jr. Branch 112
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 126
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 233
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 262
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 404
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 424
Friends of Bob O’Connor
Holy Cross Women’s Guild
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Saint Vincent Seminary

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Mr. and Mrs. Victor E. Ballash
Monsignor Andrew J. Balok Seminary Fund
Rev. Fabian G. Oris
Benedictine Pastors Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Victor G. Jevsevar
Sacred Heart Church Holy Name Society
Frank J. and Joan Hoover Bonanno Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Victor E. Ballash
The Paul and Rosemary Breindel Fund
Mrs. Rosemary Breindel

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Alcoa Foundation
AT&T Bank of America Foundation
Lucent Technologies
Metropolitan Life Foundation
Nationwide Insurance Enterprise Foundation
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program
PNC Foundation
PPG Industries Foundation
The BOC Group
Verizon Foundation

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Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bodziak
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Butchko
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Carasella
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dominick
The Family of Terry Eidemiller
Mr. John V. Graziano
Dr. and Mrs. Philip X. Masciananto
Bishop William G. Connare Scholarship
Rev. Gilbert J. Burke, O.S.B.
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Cronin
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Munsch, Jr.
Mr. Salvatore Rotolo

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Colella
Rev. Roy H. Conley
Rev. Wilfred M. Dumm, O.S.B.
Ms. Doris E. Krumenacker
Mr. Jerome F. Kurland
Ms. M. Elizabeth Ludwig
Mr. William L. Nist
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Reidy, Jr.
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Todd
Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Weaver

Immaculate Heart of Mary Scholarship
Anonymous

Andrew and Amelia Kirsch Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Clair J. Kirsch

Stephen P. Kosmo Scholarship
Mrs. Angeline Kosmo

Theresa C. Kosmo and Pearl Szczygiel Scholarship
Mrs. Angeline Kosmo

Rev. Thomas J. Kram Scholarship
Mrs. Patricia M. Coghlan
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald P. Comber
Mr. and Mrs. Wilson J. Farmerie
Very Rev. William P. Feeney
Mr. James J. Ferry, II
Mr. James R. Ferry
Miss Sylvia Francis
Mr. and Mrs. Clement F. Gross, III

Rev. John R. Haney
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Hess
Mrs. Mary Jane Huber
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Mr. Paul L. Kram, Jr.
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lewandowski
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Mrs. Jean Mayer
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Maziarz
Mr. and Mrs. George Pesch
Ms. Ermalyn M. Roos
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Roos
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Vita

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Mrs. Gertrude Loe Tai

Thomas J. and Margaret McKeon Munsch Scholarship
+Ethel C. Harvey

The Rachel Pevarnik Scholarship
Sister Elizabeth Ann, S.S.C.
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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Pevarnik
Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Pevarnik
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew A. Pevarnik

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Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Myron C. Lyon
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Mr. James R. Perkins
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Mrs. Mary Louise Redding

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Anonymous
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Ms. Aida F. Fanugao
St. Gregory the Great Church
Ms. Roberta Smith
Ms. Claudette Vulcain

Honorable Bernard F. Scherer Scholarship
Mrs. Norma Scherer

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Mr. and Mrs. Shaun B. Carson
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher B. Casey
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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Mr. and Mrs. Alvin B. Coppolo
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Mr. and Mrs. Mark Frey
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome E. Gerg
Miss Julia Griska
Mrs. Fidelis M. Hasselman
Heaven Sent Child Development Center
Ms. Janet Herzing
Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Herzing
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hillebrand
Miss Martha A. Kneidel
Mrs. Betty Kuntz
Ms. Dorothy B. Langel
Ms. Edna M. Leithner
Mr. Melvin J. Matty
Ms. Marcella Michael
Mr. William Parson
Pistner Brothers
Mrs. Ruth J. Rupprecht
Mr. Leo H. Selle
Ms. Marilyn L. Selle
Mr. William J. Selle
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Todd
Mr. and Mrs. Mark R. Townsend
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Wehler
Ms. Rika Anne Wiesner
Mr. and Mrs. Gene R. Yanity
Mrs. Helen Zurfluh

Seminary Scholarship Fund
Rev. Charles R. Griffin
+Dr. Joseph F. Heisel, Jr.
Mr. Vincent C. Kadubek

The Sväté Pïsmo I Katolïcka Viera Education Fund
Mr. Clement A. Jurica

Grace and Anthony Trancone Scholarship
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony M. Corbo
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Deo
Rev. Gerard A. Trancone
Miss Mary Lou M. Trancone
Saint Vincent Seminary Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2001

Revenues, Gains, and Other Support:

- Tuition and Fees: 905,716
- Contributions: 498,018
- Investment Income: 142,731
- Net Realized Gains on Long-Term Investments: 167,640
- Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation): (830,487)
- Auxiliary Enterprises (including Room and Board): 451,118

Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support: 1,334,736

Expenditures:

- Instruction: 408,167
- Library: 55,000
- Academic Support: 122,031
- Student Services: 112,640
- Admissions and Institutional Support: 448,844
- Operation and Plant Maintenance: 175,850
- Auxiliary Enterprises: 351,715

Total Expenditures: 1,674,247

Change in Net Assets: (339,511)

Net Assets, Beginning of Year: 5,600,962
Net Assets, End of Year: 5,261,451

The information presented in this report has been derived from the consolidated financial statements audited by an independent accounting firm and published separately. Copies of audited financials are available upon request.

Help Wanted!

In order to meet the needs produced by a decade of increasing enrollment, Saint Vincent Seminary has embarked upon the second capital campaign in its 155-year history. Included in the $6.15 million four-year "Expanding the Vision Capital Campaign" are:

- 25 additional rooms for Seminary housing,
- Seminary Fitness Center, including an exercise room and commons area,
- Seminary Classroom upgrades and technological enhancements,
- Chair in Homiletics, to ensure effective preaching of the Word of God,
- Hispanic Ministries program enhancements,
- Scholarship assistance for seminarians with financial need, and
- Library improvements, including scriptural and theological Internet access.

Through the generosity of our Board of Regents, constituent bishops and dioceses, and a limited number of leadership gifts, we have made marked progress. In order to ensure success, we need participation from all of our alumni and friends. Please contact Bill Malloy at (724)532-6740 to find out how you can assist in the formation of future priests...a role that Pope John Paul II calls "one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of the evangelization of humanity."
Leaven Spring 2002

Graduates

(Continued from page 8)

J. and Lesley E. Malarkey of West Sunbury. He is a 1992 graduate of Moniteau High School, West Sunbury. He earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary and kindergarten education from Pennsylvania State University in 1996 and a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 1998. In 2001 he earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with highest honors. He also received the Sacred Scripture Award, chosen by the Sacred Scripture faculty. In 2002 he earned the master of divinity degree from the Seminary, with high honors, and the Omer U. Kline, O.S.B., Homiletics Award.

Matthew R. McClain is the son of Dr. Edward J. McClain, Jr., and Nancy M. McClain of Pittsburgh. He is a 1989 graduate of Mount Lebanon High School, Pittsburgh. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Colgate University, Hamilton, New York, in 1993. In 2001 he received the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honors. In 2002 he earned the master of divinity degree from the Seminary, with honors.

Kevin G. Poecking is the son of Gordon Poecking of Hamburg, New York, and Carol Poecking of Williamsville, New York. He is a 1986 graduate of Hamburg High School, Hamburg. He earned a bachelor of science degree in math and industrial management from Carnegie Mellon University in 1990, a master of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 1999. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors.

DIOCESE OF TULSA

James A. Caldwell Jr. is the son of Judith Ann Caldwell of Erie and the late James A. Caldwell, Sr. He received a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and theology from St. Bonaventure University, New York. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002.

Carl A. Kerkemeyer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kerkemeyer of Collinsville, Illinois. He received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois. In 2001 he received a master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, and in 2002 the master of divinity degree, with honors.

David Medina Raygoza is the son of Candelario Medina and Gregoria Medina of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. He is a 1989 graduate of Preparatory School Number 5, Guadalajara. He graduated from Intercontinental University, Mexico, in 1995. In 2001 he earned the master of art degree from Saint Vincent Seminary. In 2002 he received the master of divinity degree and the Honorable Judge Bernard F. Scherer Award.

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

John A. Rice is the son of Donald R. and Carol A. Rice of Parkersburg, West Virginia. He is a 1980 graduate of St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary, Vienna, West Virginia. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Wheeling Jesuit University in 1984. He also attended St. Mary’s Seminary and University. He earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with honors.

DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

Martin Celuch of the Diocese of Youngstown is the son of Agnesa Celuchova of Kosice, Slovakia and the late Cyril Celuch. He is a 1994 graduate of Jiraskova Street 12 High School of Slovakia. He studied theology from 1994-1999 at Knazsky Seminár, Hlavná, Kosice, Slovakia. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors.

G. David Weikart is the son of Gene B. Weikart of Leetonia, Ohio, and the late Lena A. Weikart. He is a 1981 graduate of Leetonia High School, Leetonia. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in biology and secondary education in 1986 from Kent State University. He earned a master of religious education degree from Loyola University in 1996. He earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002 and received the Diakonia Award.

SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE

Sr. Shanti Mary Tete, S.M.I., of Krishnagar, India, earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with honors. She received a bachelor of arts degree in English from Bhawanipur Education Society College, Calcutta, India, in 1997.

MAESTER OF ARTS

F. Daniel Frescura earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2002, with high honors. He is the husband of Deborah, father of Christina and Daniel. He earned his bachelor’s degree in education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1971. He has been a teacher in the Penn-Trafford School District for 31 years.
Seminary Guest Speakers

Saint Vincent Seminary played host to a number of excellent speakers during the past two semesters, including, in the photos to the left, Robert Mendler of Latrobe, a Holocaust survivor, who talked about his experiences in the concentration camps. In the two photos at the right, Professor Erasmo Leiva talks about the prayerful reading of scripture during the Day of Recollection in March. A lively discussion with both students and faculty followed the first conference.

(Photos by Mark Van Alstine)

Robert Mendler

Robert Mendler of Latrobe, a Holocaust survivor who has spent his life educating people about the horrors of the concentration camps, spoke about his experiences March 25 as part of Saint Vincent Seminary’s Speakers Forum.

Born in the town of Nowy-Targ, Poland, Mr. Mendler was 13 when he was taken to the first of ten concentration camps and imprisoned for six years. After surviving camps including Auschwitz, Birkenau, Buna and Flossenburg, he managed to escape from Paking barely avoiding execution by guards who were busy destroying the camp in the face of the advancing United States infantry. Aided by a compassionate German farmer and his wife, Mr. Mendler was rescued from a barn by U.S. soldiers of the 83rd Division. At the time he was seriously ill with typhus and weighed only 75 pounds. Mr. Mendler eventually lost 72 members of his family who were executed, gassed or who died in various concentration camps from hard labor, starvation or disease during the Holocaust.

His move to the United States came about when he discovered the name of an uncle in a Manhattan phone book which was distributed by the U.S. Army to displaced persons. Settling in Latrobe where his uncle had come to start a shoe store, Mr. Mendler later assumed ownership of the business — Mendler’s Shoes on Main Street in Latrobe — which he sold before retiring. During the past twenty years, Mr. Mendler has generously given of his time to talk about his experiences during the Holocaust to college and school groups, as well as to a wide variety of community groups. Though it is painful to share his memories, he admits, “people must remember.” Self-educated, he knows eight languages and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Saint Vincent College in 2000.

He has been awarded certificates by such groups as the Speakers Bureau of the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Lions Club. In 1993 he became a Fellow of the Saint Vincent College Center for Northern Appalachian Studies for his participation in the preparation and publication of the Center’s book, Listen to Our Words: The Oral Histories of the Jewish Community of Westmoreland County. In 1997 he added his taped memories to those being assembled by Steven Spielberg’s “Survivors of the Shoah” Visual History Foundation. These videotaped oral histories of the wartime experiences of Holocaust survivors can be seen in the Holocaust Museums in Washington and New York City, as well as at the Wisenthal Center in Los Angeles. In 1999, he was awarded the New Life Award (State of Israel bonds), and the Elie Wiesel Commemorative Medal, presented to survivors for their presentation in Holocaust remembrance.

Dr. Erasmo Leiva

Dr. Erasmo Leiva, Professor of Literature and Theology at the University of San Francisco, gave the Day of Recollection in March. Dr. Leiva is currently in the process of completing his three volume commentary on the Gospel of Matthew, *Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word: Meditations on the Gospel according to Saint Matthew*. At the Day of Recollection in March he spoke on how to engage in *lectio divina*, a prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture. Dr. Leiva received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Theology from Emory University and has translated into English several theological works of Hans Urs von Balthasar.

In his presentations, Dr. Leiva spoke of how spiritual exegesis is first of all an act of love and adoration, which always needs to precede reflection on a text, just as faith precedes theology. He also mentioned that the text must govern and shape one’s meditation and that this requires humility and docility on the part of the reader. Finally, he emphasized that spiritual exegesis is an activity of the heart and that it will arouse acts of wonderment, surrender, and love — and the certainly the hope that the text will do something with me, the reader.
‘Truth’ Topic of Gospel Presentation

The key to understanding the Gospel of John is “truth,” noted Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B., during a recent day of recollection held for priests in the Diocese of Youngstown recently. Father Demetrius, who has been teaching courses on the Gospel for 50 years, recently published a book, A Mystical Portrait of Jesus: New Perspectives on John’s Gospel. Coverage of the day of recollection was included in The Catholic Exponent, the diocesan newspaper.

“In everything Jesus does, he is testifying and bearing witness to the truth,” said Father Demetrius. “Jesus says, ‘All those who belong to the truth listen to my voice.’ Everything in John’s Gospel revolves around the truth: the true meaning of human existence, the true meaning of why we are put on this earth.

“What is this truth? It comes from the Father. Jesus heard it in the bosom of the Father, from that intimate area where he could hear the very heartbeat of God, the most intimate secrets of the Father. Jesus has come to reveal what he heard in the bosom of the Father.” He added that the image of the “beloved disciple,” John, leaning against Jesus’ bosom at the Last Supper is an image of that same intimacy Jesus has with the Father.

During Jesus’ trial before Pilate, John draws a vivid picture of what the truth is, Father Demetrius said. “Pilate is dressed in expensive clothing, surrounded by servants and soldiers. He stands for everything that this world means by ‘power’—political, military and economic. Jesus stands before him bound, soon to be scourged and mocked, totally helpless. But all the power of this world will crumble and be gone. The power of Jesus, which seems so helpless, is the only invincible power there is. It is the power of unselfish love.”

When Pilate brought Jesus out to the crowd and said, “Behold the man,” John used that image to say, “Behold the most successful human being you could imagine. This is the ideal human being because he has given himself entirely to others,” Father Demetrius said. “Those who do what Jesus did are the ones who are going to change the world, not the people with political power and money, but simple people who learn to love and care for each other.”

Rev. Kris Stubna Keynotes Annual Scholarship Banquet

Rev. Kris D. Stubna, Secretary for Education in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, was the keynote speaker at the Seminary’s annual scholarship dinner, held April 25 at Churchhill Valley Country Club. Father Stubna studied at the North American College in Rome where he earned licentiate and doctoral degrees in fundamental theology from the Gregorian University. Ordained to the priesthood in 1985, Father Stubna served as parochial vicar and the Director for Catechesis and Secondary School Catechesis in the diocese. He has been Secretary for Education since 1994.

Father Stubna has edited The Catholic Vision of Love, a chastity education program, and co-authored What Catholics Believe: A Pocket Catechism, and What Catholics Believe: A Pocket Catechism for Youth, all published by Our Sunday Visitor. He has written extensively, given numerous retreats and talks, and is adjunct faculty member at LaRoche College and Saint Vincent Seminary. He is a member of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Catechesis.

The Seminary’s Annual Scholarship Banquet, which was well attended by supporters of the Seminary, featured Rev. Kris Stubna, Secretary for Education in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He discussed the responsibility of all of us to spread the faith.

Seminary Rector Quoted In N.Y. Times


The new review will focus on whether seminaries are teaching “Catholic moral doctrine in its integrity,” and “the need for a deeper study of the criteria of suitability of candidates to the priesthood.”

Father Kurt said he welcomed the visitation as an opportunity to demonstrate that seminaries had standards in place, noting that the issues in the current crisis involve a commitment to celibacy and fidelity to Church doctrine.

Above, Rev. Kris Stubna, Secretary for Education in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, during the Seminary’s Annual Scholarship Banquet.
Most Rev. Nicholas C. Dattilo, C'54, S'58, Bishop of Harrisburg, who is Vice Chairman of the Seminary Board of Regents, was recently elected to a national post. During the fall meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, D.C., Bishop Dattilo was elected to the bishops’ Administrative Committee of the Conference. The committee, which meets quarterly, receives proposed documents from various committees and, if it approves a document, forwards it to the whole body of the bishops. The committee also prepares the program and the agenda for the general meetings of the USCCB, moderates the work of the general secretariat and reviews the actions taken by the executive committee.

Sr. Cecilia Murphy, R.S.M., academic dean of the seminary, was a member of an accreditation team for the Association of Theological Schools. The team visited St. John’s Seminary, Camarillo, California, March 17-20, along with representatives of the Western Association’s Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities.

Msgr. David L. Fisher, C'48, S'56, has retired as pastor of Saint Boniface Parish in Penn, director of the Diocese of Greensburg’s Mission Office, and as diocesan director of The Catholic Daughters of the Americas. “He has a great devotion to the missions,” Bina Guerrieri, his former secretary, told Melissa Williams Schofield, feature editor for The Catholic Accent. “That was evinced in his everyday work. In every parish where he was assigned, it seemed the people became mission-minded due to his teachings. Wherever he has gone, he shared his love of the missions with the parishioners and they in turn responded. He was also very proud of the way they supported the missions.” Msgr. Fisher served as director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the diocese for 35 years. He was a classmate of Msgr. John L. Conway, S'56, at Saint Vincent Seminary.

“He is gifted with the ability to throw out one-liners that are very dry and often very funny,” Msgr. Conway said of him. “Any priest who has ever met him remembers the one liners forever.” In a recent interview with the Accent, Schofield writes, “Msgr. Fisher said ‘being a priest is never boring. Three bishops, changes in confirmation and being a mission director for the diocese for more than 30 years are all changes I have been a part of. Regionalization is also becoming positive and necessary for some parish communities.’”

The January 17, 2002, edition of The Catholic Accent, Greensburg diocesan newspaper, introduced 20 members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Among its members are several with ties to Saint Vincent Seminary:

* Father Joseph E. Bonafed, S'92, representing Region 2. He is pastor of Christ the King Parish in Leechburg.
* Father Larry J. Kulick, C'88, S'92, representing Region 5. He is pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent, and is a Seminary graduate.
* Father Martin R. Bartel, O.S.B., S'84, representing Region 9. He is pastor of Saint Martin Parish, New Derry, and former President of Saint Vincent College.

* Father Paul A. Lisik, S'81, who is moderator of Region 15. He is pastor of The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish, Monessen.

* Father Earl J. Henry, O.S.B., P'55, C'60, S'64, Prior of Saint Vincent Arch-abbey, representing the Saint Vincent Bene-dictine community. He is a former Dean of Students and Dean of Admission and Financial Aid at Saint Vincent College.

Br. Anthony Sargent, O.S.B., a 2001 graduate of Saint Vincent Seminary, was ordained to the diaconate on December 11, 2001 by Most Rev. Frank Rodimer, Bishop of Paterson, New Jersey. Br. Anthony, a monk of Saint Mary’s Abbey, Morristown, New Jersey, has both the master of arts and master of divinity degrees from Saint Vincent. He also received a bachelor of arts degree in humanities from Thomas Edison State College. He is currently teaching religious studies and working in campus ministry at Delbarton School in Morristown. Several days prior to his ordination, on December 7, he professed solemn vows at Saint Mary’s Abbey. He will be ordained to the priesthood on September 14, 2002 by Most Rev. Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Alan Polczynski, a seminarian from the Diocese of Greensburg, represented the diocese in Montreal, Canada, during the Third Continental Congress on Vocations to Ordained Ministry and Consecrated Life, April 18-21.

The September 14 edition of the Pitts-burgh Catholic quoted Saint Vincent Seminary graduate Father Thomas Burke, S'00, in an article on the affiliate program of the Pittsburgh Diocese’s Saint Paul Seminary. The article by staff writer Chuck Moody explained that the Seminary’s program has two components — junior and senior — which are under the direction of Rector Father David Bonnar, director of the diocesan Office for Vocations. High school students considering a vocation to the priesthood are in the junior program, while the senior program is for men between 18 and 40. They have brunch at the seminary once a month on Sundays, then view a presentation. They also have a discernment weekend.

Father Burke’s road to the priesthood went through the affiliate program. He is now parochial vicar at Saint Alphonsus Parish in Wexford. “This was really the first encounter that I had with the seminary, to really just take a look at it,” he said. “There was no... (Continued on Page 29)
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pressure. The purpose was just to get comfortable with the seminary setting, to take a look around. There was even an opportunity to sit in on some night classes. It’s kind of like you’re on the outside looking in, but you can come and go and there’s really no pressure. It’s kind of like test-driving a car before you buy it.”

“Irwin Pastor Enjoys Challenges of Priesthood after 45 Years,” was a headline in The Catholic Accent’s article featuring Msgr. John L. Conway, S’56, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin. He graduated from Saint Vincent Seminary and was ordained in 1956.

The article by Angela J. Burrows noted that Msgr. Conway has always had a high energy level. In addition to handling his current pastoral duties, he also serves as one of six deans in the Diocese of Greensburg, and is a member of the council for Gaudium et Spes, the proposed pastoral center complex which will eventually serve Irwin and North Huntingdon parishes. He graduated from high school at 16 and was working for a bank when two friends who were enrolled in minor seminary at Saint Vincent asked him to drive them back to school. (One of those friends is Msgr. David L. Fisher, also a Greensburg diocesan priest.) That trip changed his life.

“I decided to do the same thing (enter the seminary),” Msgr. Conway recalled. “I quit my job the following Monday and went to Saint Vincent Tuesday, landing at the door of the admissions office with no transcripts.” It was a month into the semester.

“Looking back, I have no doubt it was part of God’s plan (for me to enter the seminary) and he kept me where he wanted me.”

He noted the changes in the priesthood, particularly a reliance on working with the laity, what he termed a necessity in today’s world. His first assignment was at St. Leonard Parish, Monessen. Later he was named assistant director and then director of the diocesan Catholic Charities organization, where he worked for 17 years. He has held various positions in administration and has continued to serve in parish roles throughout his tenure as a priest.

“I’ve always felt my parish is an extension of my family,” he commented. “The pastoral side has satisfied many human needs to share fears, joys, suffering and growth. I find that to be very rewarding.”

His Name is John is the title of the latest book by retired Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh John B. McDowell, S’45. Bishop McDowell is working on a series of books on Pittsburgh’s bishops, and this one profiles His Eminence John Cardinal Dearden, S.T.D., who was bishop of the diocese from 1950 to 1958. Bishop McDowell told Pittsburgh Catholic staff writer John Franko that Cardinal Dearden was known as a strict disciplinarian, but was also warm and loving, and that he would be remembered as one of the greatest Catholic prelates of the 20th century. While Cardinal Dearden was Bishop of Pittsburgh 21 new parishes were opened and 31 new elementary schools established, in addition to six new high schools.

“He was a man for all seasons, so to speak,” Bishop McDowell told Franko. “He related well to our diocese. You could count on him to get things done.”

Bishop McDowell’s other books are about Bishops Vincent Leonard, Regis Canevin and Hugh Boyle. He has also written a book on the relationship between public and Catholic schools in U.S. culture.

While on the topic of writers from the Pittsburgh area, the March 8, 2002 Pittsburgh Catholic carried the “swan song” of columnist Msgr. Charles Owen Rice, C’30, S’34, D’80.

Msgr. Rice writes that “at a mere 93, I may do occasional pieces, but I’m not ready to hang it up completely.” He noted his involvement with journalism began while in high school, and continued on in college where he was a writer and editor for the Duquesne student newspaper, and continued on through a series of editors. Msgr. Rice concludes with “you may see my column appear here again but not weekly. As they say in neighboring West Virginia: ‘If the good Lord is willing and the creek don’t rise.’ This is au revoir, not good-bye.”


The book is available from Emmaus Road Publishing at 1-800-398-5470, or via the Internet at www.emmausroad.org.

Tulsa seminarian Carl A. Kerkemeyer contributed to a section on vocations in the (Continued on Page 30)
Five seminarians at Saint Vincent Seminary were admitted to candidacy for the priesthood on Monday, November 19, by Most Rev. Bernard W. Schmitt, Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia. Admitted were Br. Brian Boosel, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey; Martin Celuch, Archdiocese of Kosice, Slovakia; John Rice, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia; David Weikart, Diocese of Youngstown and John Matejek, Archdiocese of Atlanta.

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Eastern Oklahoma Catholic, the newspaper of that diocese, Kerckemeyer writes that “the whole people of God — families, parishes, teachers, associations, priests, and especially bishops — have a role to play in the work of encouraging vocations. ... The greatest influence leading to my application to be a seminarian was the example of holy priests. They possess a deep relationship with God and others that I find attractive. ... Priestly formation as a seminarian has been a humbling, demanding, and rewarding experience.”

Matthew LaChance, who began his studies at Saint Vincent and is completing them at the North American College in Rome, wrote about his vocation story in the same issue, noting his vocation developed “slowly but surely.” While completing studies as an architect at a Catholic university, he began considering the priesthood. He worked for ten years as an architect before he began realizing that “what I was doing didn’t completely recognize who God created me to be; what I was doing wasn’t fully connected to who I am.” As his involvement with his parish in Tulsa continued the associate pastor asked him if he had ever considered the priesthood. A year later he decided, and since he has become a seminarian, he writes, “I have come to love the work that we do here as the Church, I really look forward to serving the Church ... and am thankful to God for all the gifts He has given me.”

Father Wayne Morris, parochial vicar to Saint Joseph and Saint Lawrence churches, Ironton, in the Steubenville Diocese, was pictured in the Steubenville Record explaining the sacrament of Baptism to kindergarten students from Saint Lawrence Central School.

Rev. Zygmun V. Szarnicki, S’45, retired priest of the Pittsburgh Diocese, has published a compilation of articles on spiritual topics he has written over many years.

Rev. Gerald J. Lutz, STL, C’53, S 57, has recently won the annual Pilgrimage of Faith Award presented by the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. This Foundation aids more than 208,000 children and aged through sponsorship in 25 developing countries.

Rev. Ronald P. Lengwin, C’62, S’66, Pittsburgh diocesan secretary for pastoral life, was recently appointed new diocesan director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He will continue as chief spokesman for the diocese and its director of public affairs.

Timothy T. McTaggart, Ed.D., C’71, S’75, was appointed High School Tech Coordinator at Columbia Junior/Senior High School.

Rev. Isaac J. Camacho, O.S.B., S’01, was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Robert N. Lynch, Diocese of St. Petersburg, on December 22, 2001, in the Abbey Church at Saint Leo Abbey, St. Leo, Florida.

Father William M. Calabrese, S’98, has been appointed chaplain of Saint Mary’s Home at Asbury Ridge, Erie, while continuing in residence at Blessed Sacrament Parish rectory, Erie.

Father V. Paul Fitzmaurice, C’68, S’73, pastor of Saint Barbara’s Parish, Harri-son City, in the Greensburg Diocese, is now planning for completion of an extensive renovation at the church. Bishop Anthony Bosco will preside at a special Mass on June 2 which will begin a season of festivities. One of the highlights of the renovation was installation of a hand-carved lindenwood figure of Christ which was shipped from Italy. The renovations increased seating capacity at the church from 600 to 900. Parochial vicar at the parish is Father Robert T. Lubic, S’95.

Christ the King Parish in Leechburg is making plans for construction of a new church and parish hall. The pastor is Father Joseph E. Bonafed, S’92.

Three seminarians from the Diocese of Pittsburgh were ordained to the transitional diaconate on December 15 by Auxiliary Bishop William Winter, S’56. Ordained were Gary Krummert, Shawn Malarkey and Matthew McClain. They will be ordained to the priesthood on June 22, 2002 at St. Paul Cathedral in Oakland.

Gary W. Krummert is a 1983 graduate of Montour High School, McKees Rocks. He earned a bachelor of science degree in information systems from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh in 1987, and completed a pre-theology program at Duquesne University. In 2001 he earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honors, and the master of arts degree, with honors. He also received the Diakonia Award, a service award given by the Seminary faculty.

Matthew R. McClain is a 1989 graduate of Mount Lebanon High School, Pittsburgh. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Colgate University, Hamilton, New York, in 1993. In 2001 he received the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honors.

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Shawn O. Malarkey is a 1992 gradu-ate of Montiteau High School, West Sunbury. He earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary and kindergarten education from Pennsylvania State University in 1996 and a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 1998. In 2001 he earned the master of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with highest honors. He also received the Sacred Scripture Award, chosen by the Sacred Scripture faculty.

Christopher Roux, a seminarian from the Diocese of Charlotte, was ordained to the priesthood on December 15 at St. Patrick Cathedral by Bishop William G. Curlin. Concelebrating was Father Mauricio W. West, Chancellor and Vicar General of the diocese, S’79, and other priests of the dio-cese. Father Roux is now serving as parochial vicar at St. Leo Parish in Winston-Salem. Father Roux is a 1981 graduate of Camden High School, Camden, South Carolina. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from the College of Charleston, South Caro-lina, in 1988. In 2001 he earned the master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with honor.

 Brother Benedict F. Janecko, O.S.B., P’56, C’61, S’65, has an article in the January 2002 issue of The Bible Today, entitled “Forgiveness and Reconcilability in Genesis.” The article looks at sibling rivalries in Genesis along with opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation. The article has implications for reconciliation among families, nations, and religions today. In the same issue, there was also an article by Father Demetrius Dumm, O.S.B., entitled “Jerusalem: Political Idol or Sacred Place?”

Br. Benedict F. Janecko, O.S.B., P’56, C’61, S’65, and his Seminary Hebrew class visited Temple Emmanuel in Greensburg in November. Rabbi Sara Perman welcomed the group during the Sabbath service. Later she gave members of the group a tour of the synagogue, showing them several different copies of the Torah.

Br. Elliott C. Maloney, O.S.B., C’68, S’72, gave a presentation of his work on “The Gospels in a Latin American Perspective” at the Sonrise Church near Latrobe in December. He was introduced by the pastor, the Rev. Don Walczak, Jr., C’94, S’99.

Rev. Vernon A. Holtz, O.S.B., C 58, S’62, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of Charles J. Dougherty, Ph.D., as 13th president of Duquesne University on October 13, 2001.

Rev. Donald B. Conroy, Ph.D., STL, C’61, S 64, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of John Joseph DeGioia as 48th president of Georgetown University on October 13, 2001.

Very Rev. James G. Young, S’69, was recently named secretary for clergy and religious in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Joseph G. Ciocca, M.D., S’89, opened a new obstetrician/gynecologist practice in Ellwood City.

Rev. John Detisch (S’87) has been appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Erie. He will continue to serve as Lt. Chaplain of the Erie Police Department.

The Seminary community would like to express its condolences to:


Rev. Francis M. Rodgers, S’41, on

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To Whom Will the Next Generation Belong?

In 1846 Saint Vincent founder Boniface Wimmer asked, “To whom will the next generation belong?” Since that time Saint Vincent Seminary has been working to ensure that the future belongs to Jesus Christ. For over 150 years, the formation of future priests has been our mission at Saint Vincent Seminary. In that time we have been blessed to prepare 2,400 men to serve the people of God.

Our blessings continue to grow. At a time when other seminaries in this country suffer from declining enrollment, Saint Vincent Seminary is preparing record numbers of future priests to lead the Church in the new millennium.

As seminarians exhibit the courage and faith to accept the call to priesthood, we must educate and prepare them. As Our Holy Father tells us, the formation of future priests is “one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of the evangelization of humanity.” We cannot allow the challenges of a growing enrollment and rising educational costs to impede our mission.

Please consider a gift to help support the priestly formation program at Saint Vincent Seminary. You can ensure the continued availability of financial aid for Seminary students in need.

Yes, Fr. Kurt, I support Saint Vincent Seminary’s mission and the formation of future priests.

Here is my tax-deductible gift of:

☐ $20  ☐ $50
☐ $100  ☐ $500

Name __________________________
Address _________________________
City _____________________________
State _____________________________
Postal Code ______________________
Phone ____________________________

For more information contact:
Mr. William P. Malloy, Seminary Development Office, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa., 15650-2690, 724-532-6740, bill.malloy@email.stvincent.edu.
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the death of his sister Margaret M. Rodgers on January 7, 2002.


Rev. John P. Sweeney, S’73, on the death of his brother Frank Sweeney on March 25, 2002.


Rev. William A. Beaver, O.S.B., S’85, on the death of his sister Margaret Spratt on February 10, 2002.


* * * * *

The Seminary community would like to express its profound sympathy to the family and friends of:


Rev. Americo L. DiNorcia, S’59, on December 13.


Rev. Msgr. George F. Higgins, D’95, on May 1, 2002.

Sister M. Ancilla Brunner, O.S.B., on April 17, 2002.