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Rector’s Column

Growth Abounds On Many Levels

Dear Friends,

The Fall semester is already nearing its end, reflecting the old adage “time flies when you are having fun.” But growth and change is always a part of the educational process. The Seminary’s growth is reflected in several ways. The Fall 2007 semester brought a significant enrollment increase. Twenty-two new seminarians entered our program, bringing enrollment up to sixty-seven priesthood candidates. We also had an increase of non-ordination students in degree programs for theology and Scripture, as well as others seeking personal growth by taking continuing education courses.

We have experienced growth on our Seminary Board of Regents as the Most Rev. David Zubik, the new Bishop of Pittsburgh, attended his first meeting as a member of this group on October 2. Furthermore, our Chairman, Mr. John C. Marous, Jr., has invited Mr. Richard Zappone of Greensburg, and Ms. Deborah Acklin of Pittsburgh to join our Board and contribute to its good and productive duties overseeing our seminary program.

We have also grown in the area of human resources, with additions to our faculty and staff, as indicated throughout this newsletter. Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B. and Brother Bruno Heisey, O.S.B. have both joined our faculty after having completed their studies. Father Edward earned STL degrees at both the Biblicum and Gregorian Pontifical Universities in Rome. He pursued doctoral studies at Oxford and will defend his dissertation in the summer of 2008. Brother Bruno completed a certificate program in history at Cambridge this past summer.

In addition to these two fine men, we have also been joined by a son of Saint Francis, Rev. Lester Knoll, O.F.M, Cap. Father Lester is our new Director of Spiritual Life and has been diligently meeting with students and overseeing all of the details of seminary spiritual formation. He replaces Rev. Charles Byrd who, after four years of dedicated service, has been recalled to the Archdiocese of Atlanta by Archbishop Wilton Gregory. We are profoundly grateful to Father Byrd for his fruitful time with us, and to both Archbishop Gregory and the Archdiocese of Atlanta for the gracious loan of such a fine priest.

As can be seen, we have so much to be thankful for in this month of Thanksgiving, and we gratefully acknowledged our indebtedness to you, our friends and alumni, for all of the many ways you share your gifts with us spiritually and physically. All of this positive growth is due to the prayers and support of all of you. Please know that we acknowledge our gratitude for you every day in our community prayers, and that you will be remembered throughout this upcoming holiday season, from Thanksgiving, through Christmas, and throughout the New Year!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Justin Matro, O.S.B.
Fall 2007 Board of Regents Meeting

Pictured above at the fall Board of Regents meeting were, front, from left, Bishop Roger J. Foys, Diocese of Covington; Bishop David A. Zubik, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Dr. John C. Marous, Jr., Chairman of the Board; Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Diocese of Harrisburg; Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt, Diocese of Greensburg; back, from left, Mr. George Dorman, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Msgr. Robert J. Siffrin, Diocese of Youngstown; Rev. Edward M. Lohse, Diocese of Erie; Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor; Very Rev. Justin M. Matro, O.S.B., Rector; Msgr. Paul A. Lenz, Postulator for Canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekawitha; Msgr. George R. Coyne, Diocese of Steubenville. Not pictured are members Archbishop Wilton Gregory, Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop Bernard W. Schmitt, Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl; Ms. Deborah L. Acklin, Mr. Frank V. Cahouet, Msgr. Raymond G. East, Hon. Maureen E. Lally-Green and Dr. James V. Maher.

The board met in the Maurus Conference Room, on the third floor of Maur Hall, which was renovated in 2007. The multi-purpose conference room honors the late Father Maurus W. Wallace O.S.B., a theology professor in the seminary who died suddenly in 1993. The Seminary Board of Regents, faculty, and staff utilizes the meeting room, which is now equipped for multimedia presentations.

Three new members have been named to the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents. They are Most Rev. David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh; Ms. Deborah L. Acklin, Executive Vice President and General Manager for WQED Multimedia; and Mr. Richard Zappone, president of The Westmoreland Group, which specializes in consulting services to the health care industry.

Bishop David A. Zubik

On July 18, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI named Most Reverend David A. Zubik the twelfth Bishop of Pittsburgh. Bishop Zubik was installed in Saint Paul Cathedral on September 28, 2007. He is now the spiritual leader of 840,000 Catholics in 214 parishes throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

Bishop Zubik was born in Sewickley. He grew up in Ambridge and attended Saint Stanislaus Elementary School and Saint Veronica High School, before entering Saint Paul Seminary in Pittsburgh. He received an undergraduate degree at Duquesne University in 1971 and
did his studies for the priesthood at Saint Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore.

Following his ordination on May 3, 1975, he served as Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Shadyside until 1980. He was then named Vice-Principal of Quigley Catholic High School in Baden and Chaplain to the Sisters of St. Joseph and to the students at Mount Gallitzin Academy. In 1982 he completed a masters degree in education administration in the School of Education at Duquesne University.

In 1987, he was appointed Administrative Secretary to Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua, and in 1988, Administrative Secretary to Bishop Donald W. Wuerl. In 1991, Bishop Zubik became the Diocesan Director of Clergy Personnel. He was named Associate General Secretary and Chancellor of the Diocese of Pittsburgh in 1995 and then Vicar General and General Secretary in 1996. He also served as the Chaplain to the Sisters of the Holy Spirit in Ross Township.

He was appointed auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and titular bishop of Jamestown, North Dakota, by His Holiness Pope John Paul II. On April 6, 1997, he was ordained a bishop.

Bishop Zubik has served the Church on many boards and committees at the diocesan, local and national levels, including Saint Paul and Saint Vincent Seminaries, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' committees on Priestly Life and Ministry and Priestly Formation. He currently chairs the USCCB’s Committee on the Laity and serves on the National Advisory Council of the USCCB.

On October 10, 2003, Pope John Paul II named Bishop Zubik as the eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay. He was installed on December 12, 2003.

Ms. Deborah L. Acklin

Ms. Deborah L. Acklin, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Emmy-Award winning WQED Multimedia, has been named to the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents. She is responsible for day-to-day operations of the organization, including WQED-TV, WQEX-TV, WQED-FM, Pittsburgh magazine, an education center and wqed.org. She recently served as executive producer for “The War That Made America,” a four-hour, high-definition (HD), nationally-released docudrama for PBS which focused on the French and Indian War. In September of 2007, Ms. Acklin received the Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award for Station Excellence, given by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to a television station for outstanding programming, commitment to broadcast excellence and exemplary operations in Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and New Jersey. It is the second year in a row that she has received this prestigious Emmy award.

In Western Pennsylvania, Ms. Acklin is only the second woman in broadcast history to serve as general manager of a television station-multimedia operation.

Ms. Acklin returned to WQED in 2002 to serve as Senior Vice President of Production and Technology and Chief Content Officer after spending several years at the National Geographic Channel where she was recruited to help launch the cable television startup. Working from the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington DC, she helped lead a team that conceived, developed and produced “National Geographic Today,” a daily television journal about life on “planet earth.” In her role at National Geographic, Acklin produced more television hours than any other producer in the Society’s long history.

As Executive Producer at WQED Pittsburgh from 1996-2000, Ms. Acklin developed blockbuster music specials for PBS which generated more than 45 million dollars for public television and still holds the record as the most successful fundraising programs to date. She also oversaw national documentaries for PBS, and created WQED’s nightly television magazine program, “On Q Magazine”.

The Pittsburgh native’s work has been honored with many awards including: a national Emmy award nomination; seven Emmy awards (Mid-Atlantic); a CINE Golden Eagle; White House Press Association honors; The Gabriel award, the Pearl award, the Pennsylvania TV/Film award from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); Associated Press honors for Best Newscast; Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters awards for Excellence in Broadcasting; and the personal honors of being named one of Pittsburgh’s Outstanding Women in Science by the Women & Girls’ Foundation, and one
of the region’s 40 Under 40, by Pittsburgh magazine.

Ms. Acklin is active in the Pittsburgh community on a variety of boards and committees including: The Three Rivers Arts Festival, where she also holds the post of board chair; The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium; Carlow University; The Carnegie Museum of Art; The Pennsylvania Film Institute; The Steeltown Entertainment Project; Saint Vincent Seminary; and The Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Society.

Mr. L. Richard Zappone

Mr. L. Richard Zappone of Greensburg has been named to the Board of Regents of Saint Vincent Seminary. Mr. Zappone holds bachelor and master degrees from the University of Denver and is a former national health care partner for Touche Ross & Co. (now Deloitte & Touche). He is currently president of The Westmoreland Group that provides consulting services to the health care industry and specializes in the ownership and management of health care organizations.

A U.S. Army officer veteran, Mr. Zappone is a former company commander with the 5th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo., and the 25th Infantry division, Tay Ninh Province, Vietnam. He received two Bronze Stars and two Army Commendation Medals, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and various Meritorious Unit and Presidential Unit citations.

His volunteer work includes serving as founding chairman of the board of Aquinas Academy and The Westmoreland Cultural Trust. He co-chaired the advance giving campaign at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral and has been a member of various diocesan task forces and the Pennsylvania Society. He has been a Knight of Magisterial Grace of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta since 1999.

He and his wife Christine recently received the papal honor of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. They are Leaders of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums and parishioners of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish. They have four children, Richard, Matthew, Allison and John, and two grandchildren, Emma and Richard.

Dr. Kathleen Borres Appointed Academic Dean

By Liz Cousins

Dr. Kathleen Borres has been appointed Academic Dean of Saint Vincent Seminary by Seminary Chancellor Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B.

“This is an exciting challenge for me,” Dr. Borres said. “The job of academic dean is demanding, but it is also rewarding, as it grants me exposure to behind the scenes activities that keep the seminary active in the accomplishment of its mission.”

Dr. Borres has been a part of the Saint Vincent Seminary faculty since 2002, when she began serving as an adjunct professor teaching Church history, biblical and systematic theology. In 2005-2006, maintaining her teaching responsibilities, she assisted the Rector with planning and coordinating Saint Vincent Seminary’s Apostolic Visitations in January 2006. The following year, Dr. Borres was appointed assistant to the Rector. She is responsible for directing the Seminary’s self-study report in preparation for a 2008 re-accreditation visit from the Association of Theological Schools and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

“The role of academic dean is even more challenging right now, since we are in the middle of preparing for a site visit from ATS and Middle States,” she continued. “However, the Seminary’s self-evaluation conducted as a part of the ATS and Middle States evaluation affords us the opportunity to see in what areas we are doing well and where there is room for growth. The evaluation helps us in our planning.”

“The theme for our self-study evaluation is ‘Listening with the Ear of the Heart: Accepting the Mission,’ which means emphasizing the formative mission of the Seminary,” Dr. Borres said.

Dr. Borres earned her Doctorate in systematic theology, magna cum laude, from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh in 2000; a Master of Arts degree in religious studies, cum laude, from Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio, in 1993; a Master of

(Continued on Page 25)
Saint Vincent Seminary welcomed 22 new students for the 2007-2008 school year. They are from seven dioceses and archdioceses and four abbeys. One is a lay student in the Master of Arts program.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA**

Luis Efrain Alvarez of Atlanta, Georgia, is the son of Luis Alinedo Alvarez and Carmen Maria Velazquez of Caguas, Puerto Rico. He is a 2001 graduate of Croem High School in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. He also studied electrical engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Cong Tan Nguyen, a native of Vietnam, is the son of Nghia Thi Tran of Norcross, Georgia and the late Xuan Tan Nguyen. He graduated from high school in 1990 in Phu Yen, Vietnam. He received a Bachelor of Arts in teaching methodology from the University of Technology in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, in 1996.

**DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN**

Matthew B. Baum of Altoona, is the son of James and Donna Baum of Altoona. He is a 2000 graduate of Bellwood-Antis High School, Bellwood, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy/religious studies from Saint Francis University, Loretto, in 2004.

Raphael Chinemere Onyeocha of Washington, D.C., is the son of Donatus and Beatrice Onyeocha of Washington. He is a 1990 graduate of Saint Peter Claven Seminary, Nigeria. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Claretian Institute of Philosophy in Nigeria in 1997 and the S.T.B. in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, in 2005.

**DIOCESE OF COVINGTON**

Albert J. Hadler, Jr. of Burlington, Kentucky, is the son of Albert Joseph Hadler, Sr. and Angela Marie Hadler of Burlington. He is a 1996 graduate of Dixie Heights High School, Edgewood, Kentucky. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in the humanities and philosophy from Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio in 2007.

John J. Michniuk of Cincinnati, Ohio, is the son of Agnes Mary Michniuk of West Chester, Ohio. He is a 1979 graduate of Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, Ohio. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science in 1994 and a Masters of Public Administration degree in 1996 from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. He also earned a Master of Arts degree in liturgy and pastoral ministry from Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California in 2005.

Thomas W. Snowden of Park Hills, Kentucky, is the son of Carl Herbert Snowden of Park Hills, and Julie Anne Aseeve of Bellevue. He graduated from Larry A. Ryle High School in Union, Kentucky. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights in 2007.
Anthony R. Dill of Harrisburg is the son of James and Virginia Dill of Etters. He is a 2003 graduate of Red Land High School, Lewisberry. He attended Messiah College, Grantham, where he studied humanities and philosophy.

Stephen P. Kelley of York is the son of Philip and Brenda Kelley of Lebanon. He is a 1991 graduate of Cedar Crest High School, Lebanon, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in music education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania in 1996.

Michael R. Peck of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is the son of Robert and Ann Peck of Warminster. He is a 1992 graduate of William Tennent High School in Warminster. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical and computer engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, in 1996. He also earned a Master’s degree in philosophy from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, in 2007.

Curtis M. Abbott of Nitro, West Virginia, is the son of Harold and Shawn Abbott of Nitro. He is a 2005 graduate of South Charleston High School, South Charleston, West Virginia. He also studied theology at Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Cody C. Ford of Wheeling, West Virginia, is the son of Tony R. Ford of Grayville, Illinois, and the late Linda E. Ford. He is a 2000 graduate of Poca High School in Poca, West Virginia, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from West Virginia University in 2005. He studied philosophy at Wheeling Jesuit University.

Thomas R. Gallagher of Cross Lanes, West Virginia is the son of Suzette Gallagher of Cross Lanes, and the late Thomas Gallagher. He is a 2002 graduate of Charleston Catholic High School, Charleston. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, in 2006.

Kevin L. Kayda II of Carlisle is the son of Kevin and Laura Kayda of Carlisle. He is a 2004 graduate of Carlisle High School. He studied psychology at West Virginia University from 2004-2005 and also studied philosophy and theology at Wheeling Jesuit University from 2005-2007.

Matthew T. Milhon of Inwood, West Virginia, is the son of Michael Milhon of Winchester, Virginia and Sheila Beach of Inwood. He graduated from Millbrook High School in Winchester and studied theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Ryan L. Stichweh of Morgantown, West Virginia, is the son of Dorothy and James Stichweh of Peachtree City, Georgia. He is a 1990 graduate of Princeton Community High School in Princeton, Indiana. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering technology from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, in 1996. He also earned a Master’s Certificate in project management from George Washington University.

Brian M. Crouch of Findlay, Ohio, is the son of Robert Crouch of Centennial, Colorado.

(Continued on page 8)
Seminary Welcomes 22 New Students

and Pamela Crouch of Findlay. He is a 1996 graduate of Saint Wendelin High School in Fostoria, Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from Franciscan University of Steubenville and a Master of Arts degree from Saint Meinrad School of Theology, Saint Meinrad, Indiana. He also studied at Ohio State University.

DOWNSIDE ABBEY, ENGLAND

Brother Benet Watt, O.S.B., is the son of Lilian Martha Watt of the United Kingdom. He is a 1986 graduate of Woodchurch High School, Wirral, in the United Kingdom. He is a 1999 graduate of Birkbeck College, University of London, where he studied history.

SAINT ANDREW ABBEY

Brother Finbar A. Ramsak, O.S.B., of Saint Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, is the son of Joseph and Gerri Ann Ramsak of North Olsted, Ohio. He is a 1996 graduate of Saint Ignatius High School, Cleveland. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 2001 from Mercyhurst College, Erie. He also studied at John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio.

SAINT BERNARD ABBEY

Brother Jacob A. Amos, O.S.B., of Cullman, Alabama, is the son of Barbara Amos of Vallejo, California, and the late Cottrell C. Amos. He is a 1976 graduate of Murphysboro Township High School, Murphysboro, Illinois. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Saint Meinrad College, Saint Meinrad, Indiana in 1981. He earned a Juris Doctor degree in law from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, in 1991.

SAINT VINCENT ARCHABBEY

Brother Dominic L. Greco of Latrobe, is the son of Perri Greco of Monongahela. He graduated from Ringgold High School, Monongahela in 2002. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Saint Vincent College in 2006.

MASTER OF ARTS

Bridgette Ann Trunzo of Latrobe, is a 2003 graduate of Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School, Coraopolis. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in religious education, Catholic theology and business management from Saint Vincent College in 2006. She also took graduate level courses in theology, spirituality and philosophy at the Angelicum, Rome, Italy, in 2006.

New Cardinals Recent Saint Vincent Visitors

Both new American Cardinals named by Pope Benedict XVI in October have visited Saint Vincent in recent years. Cardinal John Patrick Foley, a former priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, is now Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. He had previously served for 23 years as head of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications at the Vatican. He visited Saint Vincent in 2005 (photo at left). Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, ordained in 1977, was bishop in Sioux City, Iowa, from November 1998 to January 2004, before being assigned to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. A native of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, he replaced Sioux City Bishop Lawrence Soens when he retired. He visited Saint Vincent in 2000, photo above, and was pictured with retired Archabbot Paul Maher. The newly-named Cardinals are to be installed on Nov. 24, the second such Consistory under Pope Benedict.
Seminarians 2007-2008

Pictured above, are, row one, Father David Brzoska, Diocese of Charlotte, Vice Rector; Father Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Very Rev. Justin Matro, O.S.B., Rector; Dr. Kathleen Borres, Academic Dean.

In row two, from left, Christopher Barnes, Diocese of Erie; Brother Jacob Amos, O.S.B., Saint Bernard Abbey, Cullman, Alabama; Matthew Larlick, Diocese of Harrisburg; Carlos Florez, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Vernon Knight, Diocese of Savannah; John Michniiuk, Diocese of Covington; Brother Gregory Dulmes, O.S.B., Saint Benedict’s Abbey; Jon Dunham, Diocese of Ogdensburg; Thomas Snowden, Diocese of Covington; Cong Nguyen, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Juan Anzara, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Carlos Vargas, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Brother Finbar Ramsak, Saint Andrew Abbey; Alexandre de Moura, Archdiocese of Campinas; Abuchi Nwosu, Diocese of Paterson; Thomas Gallagher, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Row three, from left, Jorge Bedoya, Diocese of Savannah; Thang Pham, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Christopher Henyk, Diocese of Youngstown; Joseph Hadler, Diocese of Covington; Brother Michael Gabler, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Stephen Kelley, Diocese of Harrisburg; Anthony Dill, Diocese of Harrisburg; Matthew Baum, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; John Labrise, Diocese of Steubenville.

Row four, from left, Michael Peck, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Jose Manuel Escalante, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Michael Gossett, Diocese of Steubenville; Bradley Greer, Diocese of Steubenville; Luis Fonseca, Diocese of Savannah; Matt Abbott, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Brother Jeremy Heppler, O.S.B., Saint Benedict’s Abbey; Michael Polinek, Diocese of Erie; Jose Missio, Archdiocese of Campinas; Larry Schaeper, Diocese of Covington; Matthew Milhorn, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Cody Ford, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Brother Benet Watt, O.S.B., Downside Abbey, England; Dominic Tran, Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Row five from left, Jasen Blehm, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Gilbert Exume, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Brian Crouch, Diocese of Steubenville; Raphael Onyeocha, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; Brian Warchola, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; Matthew Cushing, Diocese of Covington; Solomon Garcia Cortes, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Stephen McGinnis, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Kevin Kayda, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Brother Francis Dankoski, O.S.I.H.J.M., Diocese of Steubenville.

Last row, from left, Luis Alvarez, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Rob Fleckenstein, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Brother Elijah Ciriglano, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Brother Bonaventure Curtis, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Brian Cline, Diocese of Youngstown; Dan Langa, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Brother Francis Ehnat, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Martin Pitstick, Diocese of Covington; Brother Dominic Greco, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Brother Nathanael Polinski, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbevy; Ryan Stichweh, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Brother Patrick Egan, O.S.B., Saint Bernard Abbey; Michael Zavage, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Ernesto Rodriguez, Diocese of Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands.
Father Lavelle Taking Ministry In New Directions

By Kim Metzgar

When he was completing his Seminary studies at Saint Vincent Father John-Michael Lavalle remembers one of his professors talking about how we are often called to do ministries we wouldn’t select for ourselves, but that the Church needs done.

Those words certainly exemplify his ministry, as his assignments since ordination have taken him in many different directions. Father Lavelle, a priest in the Diocese of Youngstown, was a teacher for four years before deciding to enter the seminary. He earned a degree in elementary education from Youngstown State University, and thought about priesthood for a number of years while participating in parish activities at Saint Patrick in Hubbard. He began studies at Saint Vincent Seminary in 1995, earning a Master of Divinity degree and a Master’s in Religious Education before ordination in 2000.

He is a member of the graduate faculty of Walsh University in North Canton, and is finishing a doctoral degree in ministry at Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology in Cleveland. He is also treasurer of the board of Catholic Charities of Portage County and will become board president in 2008.

His latest assignment, in addition to serving as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Ravenna, is as pastoral director of the Catholic Television Network of Youngstown.

“All of my training was in elementary education,” he said. “But that doesn’t mean that is all of what you will be asked to do.”

His involvement with communications in the diocese began when he started serving as a moderator of a weekly radio show that aired on Sundays. He began providing more on-air commentary during different liturgical events that occurred at the diocesan Cathedral. When the director of the program, Brother Dominic Calabro, received a different assignment within his community, the Vicar General and Diocesan Administrator, Msgr. Robert Siffrin, asked Father Lavalle if he would take over in the interim until a new bishop was appointed.

“We were waiting to see what direction the new bishop wanted to take,” Father Lavalle noted, adding that the Diocese of Youngstown is one of only nine dioceses in the country that owns a 24-hour-a-day television station. The station began in the early 1980s under Bishop James Malone, who at the time was involved with communications while serving on the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (now the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

“Today, when everyone is involved in some form of technology,” Father Lavalle said, “we’ve come to appreciate his great foresight.”

The Youngstown station is an ecumenical one, involving other denominations of Christian and Jewish faith, but more than 60 percent of the programming is Catholic in nature. The station currently airs programming from EWTN, Boston Catholic and the Inspiration Network. Now that Bishop George Murry, S.J., has been installed, the diocese is able to consider development of its own programs, as well as ministering to people in other ways.

“People spend an incredible amount of time in their cars,” Father Lavalle said. “So we are also looking at radio programming and other technologies to reach out to them. People want to be exposed to these kinds of things.”

The path of priesthood was a new direction for Father Lavalle. As he has embraced his new role in the diocese he thinks often of his former professor’s words. “In the worst case, you can just say it didn’t work out. But in some cases you may discover something about yourself and be able to do something interesting and beneficial in your
With over 90,000 members, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) is a fraternal benefit society that ranks among the top fraternal societies active in the United States today. Founded in 1892 in Cleveland, Ohio, FCSLA has grown to provide licensed financial products in 21 states. Since its inception, FCSLA has contributed regularly to Slovak educational and religious institutions, and supports various churches, priests, sisters and religious organizations, including Saint Vincent Seminary. The Seminary recently played host to a luncheon of the Pittsburgh District of the FCSLA. The organization’s XXXIX National Convention was held at the Hyatt Regency in St. Louis, Missouri from October 21 through October 25, 2007. During the convention, the FCSLA awarded a grant of $75,000 to Saint Vincent Seminary. Pictured above, at top left, are Margaret Bock, Mary Ann S. Johanek, National President and Anna Golofski.

At top right, Archabbot Douglas says the blessing. Next to him is Dorothy Urbanowitc, president of the Pittsburgh District. In the middle photo, Father Justin Matro, rector, visits with some of the district members. Below, left, Archabbot Douglas, Mrs. Johanek, and Dolores Ragan. Below, right, Rev. Vincent Zidek, O.S.B., Monica and Gerald Lafrankie and Archabbot Douglas.
On April 11, Saint Vincent Seminary hosted a lecture by Dr. Michael Waldstein who spoke on the significance of Pope John Paul II’s monumental work on theological anthropology: *Theology of the Body*. Dr. Waldstein is a Distinguished Fellow of The Saint Paul Center for Biblical Theology; President of the International Theological Institute in Gaming, Austria and the Francis of Assisi Professor of New Testament, International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family. He is a current member of the Pontifical Council for the Family.

Dr. Waldstein writes widely on the subject of the New Testament and Christian origins, and has published numerous scholarly articles related to the thought of Saint Thomas Aquinas and Hans Urs von Balthasar. He is author, with Dr. Frederik Wisse, of *The Apocryphon of John: Synopsis of Nag Hammadi Codices II, I III, I and IV, I with BG 8502,2* (Brill, 1995). He is currently working on a monograph, “The Apocryphon of John: A Curious Eddy in the Stream of Hellenistic Judaism.” He is the English translator for the most recent edition of Pope John Paul II’s significant work on theological anthropology, *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*. Dr. Waldstein has also written a 125-page Introduction to this work which is considered to be a great contribution to the study of the writings of Pope John Paul II.

Dr. Waldstein holds a doctoral degree in philosophy from the University of Dallas, a license in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, and a doctoral degree in theology (Th.D.) from Harvard University.

He and his wife Susan live in Gaming, and have eight children.
Second Annual Summer Conference

Saint Vincent Seminary, in conjunction with the Saint Paul Center for Biblical Theology, held its second annual four-day workshop for priests, deacons and seminarians June 4-8. Entitled “Reading Scripture from the Heart of the Church: The Mystery Unveiled,” the conference featured authors Dr. Scott Hahn; Dr. Brant Pitre of Loyola University in New Orleans; and Dr. William Bales of Mount Saint Mary’s in Emmitsburg. Dr. Hahn teaches at Saint Vincent Seminary.

In the photo at right are, from left, Dr. Pitre; Dr. Michel Therrien, Saint Vincent Seminary faculty; Dr. Hahn and Dr. Bales. The workshop is available as a ten-DVD set by sending payment of $40 to Archabbey Publications, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA, 15650.
2007  READING SCRIPTURE FROM THE HEART OF THE CHURCH: THE MYSTERY UNVEILED
Dr. William Bales
Dr. Scott Hahn
Dr. Brant Pitre

In 2006 the three lay doctors of Sacred Scripture, Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. Brant Pitre, and Dr. William Bales, helped workshop attendees begin to read the Bible from the heart of the church so that the typology of the Old Testament and its fulfillment in the New Testament is recognized and realized in the liturgy. A hermeneutical triad is offered to enable the faithful reading of the Bible from the heart of the Church: historical, literary, and theological.

In the summer of 2007 the workshop members continued to read the Scriptures from the heart of the church, but this time the mystery is unveiled. This exposure and exploration of the mysteries is called mystagogia, the doctrine of the mysteries that is given to the new believers after the celebration of their baptism, communion, and confirmation at the Easter Vigil. In the early church the catechumens were instructed to read the Bible from a typological perspective. This enabled them to see the Old Testament fulfilled in the New Testament and the New Testament understood through the Old Testament. After being thrust into the mysteries of baptism, into the dying and rising of Christ, these new believers were summoned to maturity in Christ by further reflection upon the mysteries as they were unveiled in the teaching of the patristic interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures.

Dr. Hahn explores these mysteries in his presentations on the Gospel of Saint John. Dr. Pitre unveils these mysteries in his synoptic presentation of the baptism and temptations of the Lord Jesus. Dr. Bales savors these mysteries within his study of the Lament Psalms. All three lay doctors of the Sacred Scripture rely upon Pope Benedict’s new book that asserts a hermeneutic of trust in our understanding of the Bible. The Gospels, and indeed the entire Bible, is historical truth, literary truth and theological truth. All three together are equally important for reading the Scripture from the heart of the church.

This further hermeneutical triad expands upon the triad offered in 2006 in such a way that commonly accepted theories of biblical studies are severely challenged, and we are invited to rediscover that in embracing the Christ of faith we hold on to the Jesus of history and not onto thin air. In this set, Dr. Hahn, Dr. Pitre, and Dr. Bales each have three DVD presentations, and these nine DVDs are complemented by another DVD that offers the further enlightenment of the questions and answers from all three evenings of the 2007 workshop.

A THEOLOGY OF THE BODY
Dr. Michael Waldstein

From his careful and dedicated study of Pope John Paul II’s teaching on the theology of the body, Dr. Waldstein leads his listeners to a fresh appreciation for the “spousal implications” of both marriage and virginity. The Lord Jesus taught three things about human sexuality. God’s original intention in creation was that man and woman spend a lifetime together, and the intimacy of their vocation was to reveal the very mystery of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the fullness of the Kingdom of God there will be “no giving and receiving in marriage” we will all be celibates in heaven. A lifetime of faithful marriage is only a “novitiate for eternal life” in the Kingdom of God; in heaven each of us will be completely united to God in spousal love. Dr. Waldstein’s ordered
presentation of the Pope’s teaching is both systematic and inspirational. Dr. Waldstein responds with clarity and humor to questions from the audience. Throughout, he shares an understanding of the mystery of the body as it comes from the loving hands of our Creator and reveals the life-giving nature of The Living God.

POPE BENEDICT XVI ANNUAL LECTURE
The Lord’s Prayer and the New Exodus
Dr. Brant Pitre
The Theology of Pope Benedict XVI
Dr. Scott Hahn

Each petition of what we call the “Our Father” is analyzed in the context of its Old Testament origins. This study enables the listener to pray as the Lord taught us with greater understanding and deeper meaning. Just as our Jewish ancestors depended upon God for the original manna in their journey from slavery to freedom we, too, depend upon God to give us “daily bread” for our faith journey through life and into New Life. Our Exodus begins here and now and is completed only in the not-yet-present and becoming-more-present Kingdom of God.

With profound reflection upon the teaching of great theologians from our past, in particular Saint Anselm of Canterbury, the Pope defines theology as “faith seeking understanding.” As Dr. Hahn explains, the Pope envisions the theological enterprise as something that brings unity to the People of God. Rather than setting up ego-invested domains with one theologian distinguishing himself from others and sometimes from the Church’s Tradition, a Catholic theologian is commissioned to work for the unity of the faith and the faithful.

POPE BENEDICT XVI INaugural LECTURE
Letter and Spirit: The Living Word in the Church’s Liturgy
Dr. Scott Hahn

Without the Holy Spirit the Letter of God’s Word is just text, it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that the Word of God is proclaimed and presented in the liturgy. Promises made by God in the Old Testament are fulfilled in the New Testament. Dr. Hahn stirs up the faith of those who hear his message: The Kingdom of God, for which we pray in the liturgy, comes (parousia) to us in the liturgy... “for where the King is present there is...”

2006
READING THE BIBLE FROM THE HEART OF THE CHURCH
Dr. Williams Bales
Dr. Scott Hahn
Dr. Brant Pitre

Catholics live in the liturgy—we are most alive when we celebrate the life, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. From the Bible we hear about the liturgy, and from the liturgy we learn about the Bible. The Word of God comes alive for us in Liturgy and we come to new life when we break open that Word in prayer, study, preaching and celebrating the Word of God—made flesh and dwelling among us! In these lectures we encounter the Liturgy as the living memory of the Church. These talks present the Jewish background for our understanding of fatherhood and priesthood. The Psalms are opened to reveal the prayer of the Church and the very life of the Priest. All of this is packed onto 6 DVDs with 10 lectures and question/answer sessions.

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Dr. Michael Waldstein

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Leaven Fall 2007, Volume 16, Number 1

Psalms Book Now In Its Third Printing

By Kelly Bridges

The Psalms: Heartbeat of Life and Worship, by Brother Benedict F. Janecko, O.S.B., has been reprinted for the third time through Archabbey Publications. Calling the Psalms the ageless prayer book of life, Brother Ben shows that one finds the heart of religious experience in ordinary living, where we are “on a high”, “in the pits”, or somewhere in between.

“I’ve been praying the Psalms for over a quarter century,” Brother Benedict said of his personal connection to the book. “They are in the heart of the Bible. They are the symbol of life.”

Brother Ben said he hopes the reader of this book will recognize his or her personal struggles and in doing so, will know the truest religious experience: God living and reigning within one’s own life.

William Kiel, S’93, Back At Seminary

By Liz Cousins

A former biology teacher at Greensburg Salem High School for more than 20 years, Father Bill Kiel entered Saint Vincent Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood in 1993 as a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg. This fall, he is teaching diocesan priestly spirituality.

Since his ordination, Father Kiel has served as a parochial vicar for Blessed Sacrament Cathedral and for Saint Regis Church in Trafford. From 1995 until 1999, he served as pastor of Saint Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Kittanning. From 1999 until 2005, he was pastor at Saint John the Evangelist Church in Uniontown. Currently, Father Kiel is pastor of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux in Indiana, Pa.

Father Kiel has been an adjunct spiritual director since 1995; supervisor for Seminarians for the Diocese of Greensburg from 1996 through 2005, and supervisor for transitional deacons from 1998 to the present. He has presented numerous days of recollection and retreats for groups in the Greensburg Diocese, as well as the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Burlington, Vermont, and Knoxville, Tennessee. His Masses with Prayers and Laying on of Hands Blessings for Healing span parishes in more than a half dozen states and Germany. Father Kiel has also led pilgrimages to Canada, Israel, Italy, Portugal, France, and Medjugorje, as well as the U.S.

The third reprinting of The Psalms features a revised introduction. Each chapter features a section, “On the Nature of Prayer,” which emphasizes not only the importance of the subject of prayer but also the method of prayer. The Psalms are also divided into related parts, such as occasional Psalms and pilgrim Psalms emphasizing the journey of life.

Brother Ben noted that the core of the book remains the same, but with a renewed purpose. “Especially since the Vatican II, we as a church have been trying to make the Scripture more accessible,” he said. “The Psalms are not only a monastic but a Biblical way of praying.”

Brother Ben received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College. He studied at the Collegio di Sant’ Anselmo, Rome, Italy, where he received his S.T.L. in theology in 1966, and at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, where he received his S.S.L. in Sacred Scripture in 1969. He entered the Benedictine Monastic community at Saint Vincent Archabbey in 1958, made solemn profession of vows on July 2, 1962, and was ordained a deacon on July 4, 1964 in Einsiedeln, Switzerland, by Bishop Joseph Avack. He has taught Old Testament and Hebrew at Saint Vincent Seminary since 1969, and has also taught in the Religious Studies Department of Saint Vincent College. He is a member of the Catholic Biblical Association.

The Psalms is available for purchase in the Saint Vincent College Bookstore, the Saint Vincent Basilica gift shop and online at http://www.stvincentstore.com.
Father Cyprian Expands His Musical Roots

By Laura Gerhart

Father Cyprian Constantine, O.S.B. has assumed a new position as the Liturgical Director of Saint Vincent Seminary, adding yet another title to the already long list of influential roles he has played within the Saint Vincent community. Backed by an extensive history with Saint Vincent as well as impressive experience with liturgical music, Father Cyprian assumed the numerous duties and responsibilities associated with his new role with ease.

“It’s really an extension of my other experiences, because I’ve been involved with Liturgical Music even before I came to Saint Vincent,” he said. “As a Liturgical Musician, I had to know the proper structure of the liturgy and how it is carried out to help to fit the music appropriately. It’s just another facet... and a greater fullness of what I’ve always been doing.”

With a doctor of musical arts degree, Father Cyprian has served in a variety of musical posts both at Saint Vincent and around the country that have prepared him for this newest position. Among his many other accomplishments, he was chosen by the Benedictine Musicians of the Americas to participate in a study-tour of current liturgical music practices in European Benedictine houses in 1982, and later became the associate Director of Music for the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and the Director of Liturgy for the Archdiocese of Denver.

Father Cyprian is currently attending the Liturgical Institute in pursuit of a degree in Liturgical Studies.

As the Liturgical Director of the Seminary, Father Cyprian will supervise the many considerations that go into all liturgical services. In addition to selecting the music, he is also responsible for the training of others to perform their ministries correctly and with dignity.

Father Cyprian also supervises the liturgical formation of the Seminarians.

“I work with the seminarians in liturgical areas, explaining some points of liturgy and helping guide them to the proper celebration of the liturgy.”

Brother Bruno Heisey Named To Faculty

By Liz Cousins

Brother Bruno Daniel Heisey, O.S.B., who completed graduate studies at Cambridge University in June, has been named to the faculty of Saint Vincent Seminary. He is teaching Patrology and Modern Church History to seminarians, as well as monastic history to novice monks.

“Church history should help seminarians see how their other classes integrate with one another,” Brother Bruno said. “For example, when discussing the early Church councils, I drew upon Greek vocabulary they should know, as well as Christological terms they will encounter in their class on the Trinity.”

“What I enjoy most is giving the seminarians a Catholic framework for thinking about history,” he continued. “In years to come, they can always look up dates they may have forgotten, but they won’t be able to glance at an encyclopedia and get a Christian perspective on how God’s providence unfolds over thousands of years.”

Brother Bruno, a 1984 graduate of Cumberland Valley High School, earned a bachelor of arts degree in Latin and History from Dickinson College in 1988.

He made simple profession of vows in 2002 and solemn profession of vows in 2005. From 2002 to 2006 he served as the assistant curator of the Archabbey coin and stamp collection. From 2002 to 2007 he was an assistant in the Archabbot’s Office, and from 2003 to 2004, he served as assistant director of Archabbey Publications. In 2004, he earned the Master of Arts degree in monastic studies from Saint Vincent Seminary and began serving as the Saint Vincent librarian’s assistant (2004-2006).

“It’s fun to make connections with life today, such as explaining how the invention of eyeglasses around 1280 developed from the rise of universities,” Brother Bruno said, “which are themselves enduring evidence of Catholic critical thought throughout the Middle Ages. History isn’t something in a case in a museum, it’s still with us, even having an effect on, literally, how we see ourselves.”
Newly-installed Bishop of Pittsburgh David Zubik was the homilist and guest of honor at the 2007 Seminary Alumni Day Mass and Banquet, held October 2.

Dr. John C. Marous, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Regents, noted that the Seminary owes “a debt of gratitude to all of our alumni, benefactors, board, faculty and staff. Saint Vincent Seminary provides a world-class, total quality educational experience for the seminarians who attend here.”

Dr. Marous announced an increase in enrollment by nine seminarians as opposed to last year. He also recognized both lay and ordained alumni, in particular three distinguished alumni celebrating their 25th and 50th years of ordination. They are Father David Driesch, S’82, Father E. Daniel Sweeney, S’82, and Father Thomas Kirby, S’57. He reported on the progress of the Pastoral Stewardship Program, Hispanic Ministries Program and recent activities involving the Pope Benedict XVI Chair in Biblical Theology and Liturgical Proclamation, including two conferences and two lectures.

In recognizing Bishop Zubik, Dr. Marous noted that “I had the honor of being a part of the installation as the 12th bishop of Pittsburgh. As the new bishop in Pittsburgh, he will be the spiritual leader of over 800,000 Catholics and over 200 parishes. Bishop Zubik has held many distinguished titles throughout his priestly career. He served as Administrative Secretary to Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua and to Bishop Donald Wuerl in the late 1980s. In 1995 he served as Chancellor for the Diocese and then Vicar General and General Secretary.

“Bishop Zubik has served the Church in a variety of ways at the diocesan, local and national levels—including Saint Vincent Seminary, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops committees, and the National Advisory Council of the USCCB.”
Archbishop Wuerl Receives Honorary Degree

Drawing from the Gospel of John (12:15-17), Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl told graduates on May 11 that “with all of its moral values we follow through to the realization that we simply cannot live by bread alone.” He said truth and development of wisdom leaves a profound mark on the human experience.

Bishop Lawrence Brandt of the Diocese of Greensburg praised Archbishop Wuerl for his “enormous contribution” to Catholic and catechetical education. He told graduates to “teach all of the basics of our faith. The thin and tender chicken soup of the soul on the menu of generic Catholicism is not what people are hungering for today.”

Thirteen students received the Master of Divinity degree, nine students were awarded a Master of Arts degree and one student earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree.

Four academic awards were presented. Timothy David Marcoe of the Diocese of Harrisburg received the Honorable Judge Bernard F. Scherer Award. Katrina Wojtunik of Latrobe was named recipient of the Sacred Scripture Award. Timothy Kruthaupt of the Diocese of Greensburg was presented with the Diakonia Award, and Br. Frowin Joseph Reed, O.S.B., of Conception Abbey was named the recipient of the Omer U. Kline, O.S.B. Homiletics Award.

As part of his remarks, Archbishop Wuerl reminded the graduates that they will face “some grave challenges. You are going to face some great opportunities.”

“Today, we remind ourselves that the priest, the teacher, the voice of the church, ... a voice that offers to this age answers to the questions that only Christ can bring,” he added. “To be able to choose of all the things that can be done what we ought to do is the challenge of this age. You will be the voice saying this is God’s word, this is Christ’s wisdom.”

Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, a member of the Board of Regents of Saint Vincent Seminary for eighteen years, was installed as the sixth Archbishop of Washington on June 22, 2006. He is the spiritual leader for 580,000 Catholics in 140 parishes in the District of Columbia and five Maryland counties.

The Graduates

Archdiocese of Atlanta
Gilbert Exumé, who earned a Master of Arts degree with honors, is the son of Aubert Exumé and Cadina Affricot of Jacmel, Haiti. He is a 1996 graduate of Petit Seminaire College St. Martial/Mazenod in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. He studied theology at Grand Seminaire Notre Dame, Turgeau in 1999 and 2000, and philosophy and liberal arts at St. Joseph Seminary College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2003.

Conception Abbey
Br. Frowin J. Reed, O.S.B., who earned a Master of Divinity degree with high honors, is the son of William R. Reed of Knoxville, Tennessee and the late Elizabeth L. Reed. He is a 1993 graduate of Farragut High School, Knoxville. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts from Conception Seminary College, Missouri, in 2000 and a Master of Arts degree in theology in 2003 from St. John’s School of Theology.

Diocese of Erie
William R. Barron, who earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree with high honors, is the son of Patrick and Michelle Barron of Erie. He is a 1999 graduate of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Gannon University in 2003. He earned the Master of Arts degree with highest honors from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2006, when he also received the Honorable Judge Bernard F. Scherer Award.

Diocese of Greensburg
Timothy J. Kruthaupt, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with high honors, is the son of Janet F. Kruthaupt of Littleton, Colorado and the late Francis J. Kruthaupt. He is a 1970 graduate of Roger Bacon High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Western State College of Colorado in 1974 and a Juris Doctor degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1980.

Alan N. Polczynski, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with honors, is the son of Rose Polczynski of Lower Burrell and the late Sylvester Polczynski. He is a 1984 graduate of Burrell Senior High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in theater arts from Point Park College in 1989.

(Continued on Page 20)

Archbishop Wuerl Receives Honorary Degree

(Continued from Page 19)

**Diocese of Harrisburg**

Timothy D. Marcoe, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with highest honors, is the son of David and Debra Marcoe of Whitehall. He is a 1997 graduate of Whitehall High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in meteorology from Millersville University in 2001.

**Diocese of Pittsburgh**

William E. Dorner, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with high honors, is the son of Adrianne Frollini of Pittsburgh. He is a 1991 graduate of Shaler Area High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Clarion University of Pennsylvania in 1995 and a Master of Arts degree in secondary social studies from the University of Pittsburgh in 1997. He received a Master of Arts degree in philosophy from Duquesne University in 2003.

**Diocese of Savannah**

Stephen J. Pontzer, who earned a Master of Divinity degree, is the son of Joseph H. and Carol J. Pontzer of Athens, Georgia. He is a 1985 graduate of Cedar Shoals High School in Athens. He attended the University of Georgia from 1985 to 1993 where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in forest resources.

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**Diocese of Steubenville**

Seth T. Wymer, who earned a Master of Divinity degree, is the son of Thomas P. Wymer of Wheeling, W.V., and Linda J. Wymer of Tiltonsville, Ohio. He is a 1999 graduate of Saint Johns Catholic Central High School, Bellaire, Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio, in 2003.

**Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston**

Douglas Ondeck, who earned a Master of Divinity degree, is the son of Andrew F. and Mary E. Ondeck of Wheeling, West Virginia. He is a 1988 graduate of John Marshall High School, Glendale, West Virginia. He studied at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio, from 1997 to 1999. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Catholic Theology from Saint Vincent College in 2002.

**Diocese of Youngstown**

Matthew Joseph Albright, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with honors, is the son of George J. and Margaret E. Albright of Alliance, Ohio. He is a 1999 graduate of Marlington High School, Alliance. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, in 2003. He earned the Master of Arts degree with high honors from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2006.

**Saint Peter’s Abbey**

Rev. Paul B. Paproski, O.S.B., who earned a Master of Arts degree with honors, is the son of Ardel and Freda Paproski of Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan. He is a 1981 graduate of Hudson Bay Composite High School. He studied journalism at the University of Saskatchewan from 1981 to 1983 and earned a degree in journalism in 1985 from the University of Regina. He earned the Master of Divinity degree with honors from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2006.

**Saint Vincent Archabbey**

Brother Shawn Matthew Anderson, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with high honors, is the son of Colleen L. Anderson of Clearfield, Pennsylvania and the late James C. Anderson. He is a 1987 graduate of Clearfield Area High School. He received a Bachelor of Science in pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in 1992 and has studied philosophy at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Brother Fernando P. Lanas, O.S.B., who earned a Master of Arts degree with honors, is the son of Fernando and Guadalupe Lanas of Quito, Ecuador. He attended Colegio Frances elementary school in Quito and is a 1989 graduate of Colegio Benalcazar in Quito. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in finance and management from Universidad San Francisco de Quito in 1997.

Brother Matthias Martinez, who earned a Master of Divinity degree with highest honors, is the son of Lynda C. Martinez of Latrobe, formerly of Bernardston, Massachusetts and the late Edelmiro Martinez, Jr. He is a 1993 graduate of Northfield Mt. Hermon High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy in 1999 from Saint John Seminary College, and has also studied at Babson College and Saint John Seminary.

Brother Michael Miller, O.S.B., who earned a Master of Arts degree, is the son of Donald and Jo-Anne Miller of Allison Park. He is a 1979 graduate of Shaler Area High School, Glenshaw. He studied at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy in 1985 from Don Bosco College, Newton, New Jersey. He taught elementary school at St. Joseph Regional School in Newton, before entering the monastery.

Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor; Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl; Dr. John C. Marous, Jr., Chairman, Board of Regents; Rev. Justin Matro, O.S.B., Rector; Rev. Cyprian G. Constantine, O.S.B.
Installation Of A Bishop
Bishop Zubik: ‘Be Excited About Faith’

Bishop David Zubik of the Diocese of Pittsburgh challenged those attending his Installation Mass to be excited about their faith. More than 2,000 people attended the Mass on Sept. 28 at Saint Paul’s Cathedral.

“What an awesome responsibility it is to be the shepherd of such wonderful people,” he said.

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, papal nuncio to the United States, reminded Bishop Zubik that the role of the bishop is to be a “man of prayer” who carries out the challenging mandate of proclaiming the word.

Cardinal Justin F. Rigali of Philadelphia and Archbishop Sambi led him to the cathedra—or Episcopal chair—and presented him with his crosier, the sign of his Episcopal office.

His parents introduced him to the Catholic faith and challenged him to live his talents for the honor and glory of God and for the service of God’s people. “They’ve taught me literally not only how to believe, but how to live.”

Bishop Zubik said he was told by a seatmate on an airplane that the man had fallen away from his faith because he had not seen people excited about their faith.

“Can people who see us day in and day out know without question that we’re proud about our faith, that we’re dependent upon God and that we’re excited about doing his work?” the bishop asked. “The Gospel, our faith, calls us to be the hands and the hearts of Jesus to people who need his love most.”

Participating in the ordination from Saint Vincent Seminary were all diocesan seminarians, Chancellor and Archabbot, Seminary Rector Justin Matro, O.S.B., processes; Bishops and Archbishops processing include Most Rev. Daniel DiNardo, Most Rev. Donald W. Wuerl and Most Rev. Paul Bradley; Bishop Zubik greets seminarian Brother Patrick Egan, O.S.B., who is serving his deacon internship in the diocese, prior to Mass; Bishop Zubik giving his homily.

New ESL Instructor

Christopher Whiteside has joined the Seminary staff as an English as a second language instructor. He attended Allegheny College in Meadville as a Spanish major and is currently pursuing an education degree at Saint Vincent College. He is fluent in Spanish after spending a full semester studying in Spain in 2005. He has volunteered his time to assist the poor in the outskirts of Chicaco and in impoverished areas of Mexico. He has also worked as a translator for an international public relations firm in Pittsburgh.
Father Kurt Belsole, O.S.B., has been appointed the Director of Liturgy and one of the resident formation advisors at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. During the 2006-07 academic year, 165 seminarians were enrolled in the College. Fifty-three new seminarians were scheduled to arrive to begin studies in August.

Besides his duties at the Pontifical North American College, Father Kurt will also be teaching a course per semester at the Benedictine Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’ Anselmo, Rome.

A native of St. Marys, Father Kurt earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College in 1974, a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1978, a Diploma in Latin Letters in 1980 from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, a license in Patristic Theology and Sciences in 1983 from the Patristic Institute at the Augustinianum, Rome, and studied at the Pontifical Liturgical Institute of Sant’ Anselmo, Rome.

He earned a doctorate in Sacred Theology in 1994 from Sant’ Anselmo Rome.

Father Kurt served as rector of the Seminary from 2000-2006, and has taught at Saint Vincent Seminary since 1983. From 1995-2000, during the spring semesters, he taught at the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’ Anselmo.

Father Kurt Belsole Teaching In Rome

Academic Dean

(Continued from Page 5)

Business Administration degree from Plymouth State College, Plymouth, New Hampshire in 1987; and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies from the University of Massachusetts in 1980. She previously taught at Mount Aloysius College (2001-2002) and was an adjunct lecturer at Duquesne University (1999-2004).

Dr. Borres’ work experience includes 15 years in the computer and publishing industries, 11 of which were with Digital Equipment Corporation where she was involved in sales and marketing, writing.

Dr. Borres’ work experience includes 15 years in the computer and publishing industries, 11 of which were with Digital Equipment Corporation where she was involved in sales and marketing, writing.

Archbishop Wuerl Receives Honorary Degree

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SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE

Sr. Jessiamma George, who earned a Master of Arts degree with honors, is from the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, Greensburg, and a native of India. She is a 1980 graduate of St. George’s High School, Kulathuvayal, Kerala, India. She earned a bachelor’s degree in 1986 from the University of Calicut, Tenjipalam, Kerala, India, and a Diploma in Theology from Scuola di Teologia, Udine, in 1997.

MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

Michael Edmund Burchill, who earned a Master of Divinity degree, is the son of Katherine Burchill of Pittsburgh and the late Howard Burchill. He is a 1989 graduate of Mount Lebanon High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Maryland in 1994.

MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM

Maria T. Buoni, who earned a Master of Arts degree with honors, is the daughter of William G. and Theresa M. Buoni of Columbus, Ohio. She is a 2000 graduate of Bishop Watterson High School, Columbus, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Theology from Saint Vincent College in 2004.

Marita Ann Hunchuck, who earned a Master of Arts degree with high honors, is from Uniontown, Pa. She is a 2000 graduate of Laurel Highlands High School and a 2004 graduate of Saint Vincent College with a Bachelor’s Degree in Sacred Theology.

Michael Walter Kelly, who earned a Master of Arts degree, is the father of four children and lives in Wilkins Township. He is a 1977 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. He is a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, was ordained in 1999 and serves in St. Bernadette Parish in Monroeville. He is currently working in hospice ministry.

Katrina M. Wojtunik, who earned a Master of Arts degree with high honors, is a 2000 graduate of Seton La Salle High School, Pittsburgh, and a 2004 graduate of Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, where she studied religious education and Catholic theology. She is currently a campus minister at Saint Vincent College.
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A new school year brings new students, new teachers and new classes to Saint Vincent Seminary. The start of the 2007-2008 year also brought new furniture to Leander Hall, the residence building for diocesan priesthood students.

The new furniture was eagerly anticipated by the students who had helped to raise the money to purchase it.

This campaign, which replaced the traditional Lenten Appeal for diocesan priest alumni, raised $175,000.

Bronze plaques on the room doors pay tribute to those who donated, or to the memory of a donor’s loved ones. The door to room 201 bears a plaque in tribute to the Seminary Class of 1962, which was donated by members of the class.

The ordination class of 2000 also furnished a room, and a third room was furnished in honor of the members of the class of 1957 on the occasion of their 50th jubilee and in memory of the deceased members of that class.

Seminarian Michael Gossett works comfortably at his desk. He and all of the seminarians residing in Leander Hall are enjoying new beds, desks, chairs, lamps and bookcases thanks to the generosity of Seminary Alumni and friends of the Seminary.
Father Lester Knoll New Spiritual Director

By Liz Cousins

The Reverend Lester Knoll, O.F.M., Cap., has been named the director of Spiritual Formation at Saint Vincent Seminary.

Father Lester has previously served as an adjunct spiritual director at Saint Vincent Seminary, and he was asked to consider the position when Father Charles Byrd was recalled to the Archdiocese of Atlanta. “I had been impressed with the overall programs of the Seminary,” Father Lester said, “and felt I could contribute to the formation process through spiritual direction.”

Father Lester is a priest of the Capuchin Franciscans in the Province of Saint Augustine, with headquarters in Pittsburgh. He was ordained to the priesthood on February 8, 1964 and his home parish is Mater Dolorosa Parish, Chicora. Father Lester professed Solemn Vows with the Capuchin Province of Saint Augustine July 14, 1961.

Father Lester served as a vocation director and as a principal of a high school seminary. After 13 years in the foreign missions in Papua New Guinea, Father Lester then served 10 years as a contemplative at the Capuchin Hermitage in Butler County. More recently, he has served as Pastor of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish in Herman. He just completed a three-year term as the National Director of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers, with the office in Pittsburgh.

“I find my missionary experience in Papua New Guinea pertinent as I walk with these men preparing for the Diocesan Priesthood,” Father Lester said. “It was crucial for the missionaries to work closely together, and to support one another in prayer and in some form of small group gatherings, where the ideals could be kept fresh. The danger was that an individual could become isolated and lose his way, spiritually and otherwise.”

“Here in this country,” he continued, “we are now living in a neo-pagan atmosphere, with more and more demands being put on the priests in the parishes. It is equally crucial that these men form deep relationships with their brothers while in formation, and become comfortable with small group dynamics and prayer. This will help them to develop skills to be able to walk together as brother priests, recognizing that in numbers there is strength.”

Father Lester holds the following degrees: M.A.R.E., Capuchin College, Washington, D.C. and a Master’s Degree in Education from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

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Pastors, Seminarians Recognized At Fourth Year Dinner

Students completing their final year and the pastors and parishes involved in their pastoral formation are honored at the annual Fourth Year Recognition Dinner held each spring.

Those recognized included, above, Seth Wymer of the Diocese of Steubenville, and Rev. James Dunfee, Saint Agnes Church, Mingo Junction, Ohio; bottom, right, Douglas Ondock of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Father Charles Byrd of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, top, right, was homilist at the Mass preceding dinner.

Other fourth year students and pastors were Matthew Albright, Diocese of Youngstown, and his pastor, Rev. Bernard Gaeta, Saint Aloysius Parish, East Liverpool, Ohio; William Barron, Diocese of Erie, and his pastor, Rev. Joseph Mele, Saint Sebastian Parish, Pittsburgh; William Dorner, Diocese of Pittsburgh, and his pastor, Very Rev. Andrew C. Fischer, Catholic Community of Sharpsburg, Sharpsburg, Pa.; Timothy Kruthaupt, Diocese of Greensburg, and his pastor, Rev. Msgr. James T. Gaston, Saint Margaret Mary Church, Lower Burrell; Timothy Maro, Diocese of Harrisburg and his pastor, Very Rev. Harry R. Bielewicz, Saint Paul Parish, Butler; Brother Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey and his supervisor, Rev. Brian Boosel, O.S.B., Saint Vincent College Campus Ministry; Alexandre de Moura, Archdiocese of Campinas, Brazil and his pastor, Very Rev. Harry R. Bielewicz; Saint Paul Parish, Butler; Barry O’Leary, Diocese of Pittsburgh and his pastor, Rev. Robert J. Miller, Saint Pius X and Our Lady of Loreto, Pittsburgh; Alan Polczynski, Diocese of Greensburg and his pastor, Msgr. Raymond E. Rifle, Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg; Stephen Pontzer, Diocese of Savannah and his pastor, Rev. William Kiel, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana; Brother Frowin Reed, O.S.B., Conception Abbey and his pastor, Rev. Thomas Kredel, Saint Louise de Marillac, Pittsburgh; Brother Shawn Matthew Anderson, O.S.B., and his pastor, Rev. Vincent Zidek, O.S.B., Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown.
Seminarians participated in a softball game prior to commencement, followed by a cookout with faculty and staff.
Andy Walz may be a new addition to the Saint Vincent Seminary staff, but he’s no stranger to the Saint Vincent Community. A 2006 graduate of Saint Vincent College, he has been actively involved in various capacities over the past five years, serving first as a student leader on campus and then as a member of Alumni Council. His experiences in both of those roles have helped prepare him for his responsibilities as the new Seminary Event Coordinator. His new role demands a familiarity with the campus as well as a genuine appreciation for the Saint Vincent community and its mission.

As Seminary Event Coordinator, Walz is involved in planning alumni events that promote the mission of the seminary and to reconnect with graduates and strengthen their bond with Saint Vincent. Working in cooperation with the Development Office, his responsibilities include executing such events as Alumni Day, Priest Day, and the Red Mass. In accompaniment with other staff members, he will travel to different dioceses and archdioceses that have sent seminarians to Saint Vincent.

His unique educational experiences as an undergraduate have also helped him to fulfill the duties he now has as a staff member. Having served as Student Government President, a role that requires a significant amount of event planning, he became familiar with the operating structure of Saint Vincent early on and learned who were the best people to contact for help in specific situations. In addition, he feels that his frequent contact with all of these individuals puts him in a position where he can demonstrate the depth of his skills and competency. He credits his undergraduate experience at Saint Vincent for teaching him a lot about himself as well as some important life lessons.

“You don’t just learn the book things, but you learn how to deal with things in life and what’s important...It’s really just learning about yourself and what you’re capable of,” he said. “I really like working in the Seminary and Archabbey and feel privileged to help promote the Mission,” he added.

On September 26, fourteen Seminary alumni and friends gathered for an evening of fellowship at the Dodge City restaurant in Harrisburg. In the photo at left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, left, was greeted by Father Justin Matro, O.S.B., Rector, and Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B. In the photo at right, Father Gilbert Burke, O.S.B., reminisces with several generations of Harrisburg alumni.
By Kelly Bridges

Brother Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., was recently appointed as assistant to the rector of Saint Vincent Seminary. He is a 1993 graduate of Northfield Mount Hermon High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 1999 from Saint John Seminary College and has also studied at Babson College and Saint John Seminary, Boston. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2007.

Brother Matthias was ordained to the diaconate on July 14, 2007 and in August, he began working as an assistant to the rector and serving as a deacon in St. Marys, Pa.

Brother Matthias’ first task as assistant to the rector was aiding in the preparation for the upcoming Association of Theological Schools accreditation review in April, which involved filing information and compiling statistics. Brother Matthias also helps with financial and administrative work. He finds the job of assistant to the rector to be “rewarding” and enjoys being involved in the education of those considering priesthood as a vocation. He will be ordained to the priesthood in 2008.

Father Edward Mazich Named To Faculty

By Kelly Bridges

In Father Edward M. Mazich’s tidy Roderick Hall office, there is little evidence of a man completing a doctoral dissertation, helping to prepare for an upcoming academic accreditation review of the seminary, doing parish work on the weekends and presiding over the Saint Benedict Education Foundation. His busy schedule is formatted into a single list maintained on his impossibly neat desk. Despite his various commitments, Father Edward has added a new venture to the list—teaching in the seminary.

An avid scholar for many years, his experience as a student has helped him in his new role as a member of the seminary faculty. He graduated from Danville High School in 1990 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Penn State University in 1994. In 1998, Father Edward earned a Master’s degree in Theology from Saint Vincent Seminary. He began graduate studies in Rome at the Biblicum in 2000 and continued his studies in 2003 at the Gregorian University. He recently completed his graduate studies at Oxford University. His doctoral dissertation is on the work of John Henry Newman.

Father Edward previously taught in Saint Vincent College’s mathematics department, and is now teaching Hebrew in the Seminary.

“I am happy to have the opportunity to help others learn about their Catholic faith,” he said. He has developed a sense of appreciation not only for the subject he teaches but also for the way it can be integrated into everyday life. He hopes that “if my students take away anything from my class, it is that the intellectual dimension of classes can be integrated into their pastoral activities.”
Vocations Growing Through ‘Quo Vadis’

At Saint Vincent Seminary, we are committed to nurturing vocations to the priesthood. While our primary role is to provide a sound formation program to those who have already made the decision to follow God’s call, we also feel a responsibility to foster vocations for the dioceses which we serve.

One way in which we can do this is to work cooperatively with the dioceses on programs such as “Quo Vadis”. Literally translated, this phrase means “where are you going.” Quo Vadis is an intense, yet enlightening program designed to expose young high school and college men to Seminary life and to provide them with information on the priesthood. Our hope is to host at least one Quo Vadis “retreat” in the summer of 2008. In this way, Saint Vincent Seminary, with its beautiful campus and excellent professors, can work proactively to help grow the number of vocations in the areas in which we serve.

If you have been considering a gift to the Seminary, there is no better time than now to assist us in this effort. Quo Vadis is just one example of the many ways in which your charitable gift can help Saint Vincent Seminary, and ultimately the Church at large, to enhance the number of priests who are available to serve God’s holy people. The Church is projecting an increase in priestly vocations in the very near future. Clearly, this is tremendous news! As a microcosm of this effect, we have seen an increase in our Seminary population of 15% in just one year. This is truly a blessing, but we are carefully reviewing our dormitory space for Seminarians. If the growth trajectory continues, we will soon be out of room (what a wonderful problem to have!) As such, your charitable giving dollars can also help us to expand our primary residence, Leander Hall. We are working closely with the building experts to determine the best possible solution to the expansion project. Our goal is to be prepared for increased dormitory space for the Fall of 2008.

As you consider your year-end giving, please give some thought to all of the ideas listed here. To discuss any of these ideas in more detail, do not hesitate to contact me at (724) 532-6740 or by email at paul.whiteside@email.stvincent.edu.

Thank you for all of your past support, and for your future gift consideration. The Seminary could not continue to thrive without your help.

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Memorial, Tribute Gifts

To give a tribute or memorial gift please make a donation to Saint Vincent Seminary in honor of a friend, colleague or family member. Donations should be mailed to Mr. Paul R. Whiteside in the Seminary Development Office, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa., 15650-2690, telephone 724-532-6740. Donors from January 1, 2007, to October 15, 2007, are included below.

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Opening Mass

New faculty members read their oaths of fidelity during the Seminary’s opening day Mass. At top left is Brother Bruno D. Heisey, O.S.B. In the top right photo, at left, is Father Lester Knoll, O.F.M. Cap., and Father Edward M. Mazich, O.S.B. Seminary Rector Father Justin Matro, O.S.B., (left) gave the homily and presided.
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Rev. David Medina of the Diocese of Tulsa participated in the joyous occasion of the ordination of his brother, Leonardo Medina, by Bishop Edward Slattery in Guardalajara, Mexico. Father David is director of the Diocesan Hispanic Apostolate and was named pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Parish in mid-July.

Father Leonardo will become his brother’s associate pastor and assist his brother in the Hispanic Ministries Apostolate.

Brother Benedict F. Janecko, O.S.B., Theology Department, had an article published in The Bible Today (September/October, 2007) entitled “The Seventh Commandment: You Shall Not Steal.”

In the Diocese of Youngstown:

Rev. Robert M. Miller, S’00, has been appointed associate pastor at Saint Patrick Parish, Kent, Ohio, effective March 1, 2007. He previously served as associate pastor of Saint Patrick Parish, Hubbard, and administrator of Saint James Parish, Waynesburg. He also provided sacramental assistance at Little Flower and Saint Peter of the Fields parishes.

Rev. Martin Celuch, S’02, has been assigned to the Marriage Tribunal and Canonical Studies in the Diocese of Youngstown. He is associate pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Struthers.

Rev. Peter Halajedj, S’01, has been named associate pastor of Saint Christine Parish, Youngstown.

Rev. G. David Weikart, S’02, has been named associate pastor of Saint Rose Parish, Girard.

Bishop George Murry, S.J., ordained Christopher Henyk a transitional deacon on July 29 at Blessed Sacrament Church, Warren. Henyk is a native of Trzcianka, Poland.

The Diocese of Greensburg recently dedicated the William G. Connare Center. More than 50 diocesan priests, current staff and former staff members who worked with Bishop Connare, and Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt, took part in the dedication.

In the Archdiocese of Atlanta:

Rev. John M. Matejek, S’02, parochial vicar at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta, has been assigned as parochial vicar at Transfiguration Church, Marietta, effective January 18.

Rev. Kevin Hargaden, S’98, received his first pastorate at Saint Peter Church, LaGrange, and as administrator of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Mission, Warm Springs, effective June 21. He had been serving as parochial vicar of Saint Lawrence Church, Lawrenceville. He is also chaplain at LaGrange College.

Rev. Roberto A. Orellana, S’00, received his first pastorate as pastor of Saint Augustine Church, Covington, effective June 21. He had been serving as parochial vicar of Saint Patrick Church, Norcross.

Rev. Charles A. Byrd Jr., C’96, S99, has been assigned as parochial vicar at Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta, effective June 21. He had been serving on the faculty of Saint Vincent Seminary.

Rev. Victor A. Galier, S’97, pastor of Saint Matthew Church, Tyrone, has been appointed to serve as a Vicar for Clergy for the priests of the archdiocese for a three-year term, effective June 1. He will also be an ex officio member of the Council of Priests.

Rev. Armando Herrejon-Lopez has been assigned as parochial vicar at Saint John Neumann Church, Lilburn, effective June 30.

Juan Anzora and Gilbert Exume were ordained to the transitional diaconate May 26.

Frowin Reed, O.S.B., a monk of Conception Abbey, Missouri, was ordained to the priesthood this past spring. On hand for the ordination were, from left, Matthew Cushing, a seminarian from the Diocese of Covington who attends Saint Vincent; Father Shawn Matthew Anderson, O.S.B., a classmate from Saint Vincent Archabbey; Father Cyprian G. Constantine, O.S.B., Seminary faculty; Br. Maximilian Maxwell, O.S.B., a novice at Saint Vincent Archabbey; Father Tom Kredel from Saint Louise de Marillac in Pittsburgh, the parish where Father Frowin served his deacon internship; Father Frowin and Father Joseph Mele, Seminary faculty member.
In the Diocese of Erie:

Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo, S’75, has been appointed as Defender of the Bond in the Tribunal for a term of five years, effective January 3, 2007.

Rev. Joseph V. Dougherty, S’04, was appointed parochial administrator of Saint Bibiana Parish, Galeton, and Sacred Heart Mission, Genesee, effective June 12, 2007.

Rev. Mark A. Hoffman, S’89, has been appointed pastor of Church of the Beloved Disciple, Grove City, for a term of six years, effective July 10, 2007.

Rev. Matthew J. Kujawinski, S’02, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2010, effective September 1, 2007.

Rev. Meinrad J. Lawson, O.S.B., S’67, has been appointed pastor of Saint Mary Parish, Saint Marys, effective August 1, 2007.

Brother Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., S’07, has been appointed deacon assistant at Saint Mary Parish, Saint Marys, effective August 1, 2007.

Msgr. George Adams, S’50, was named temporary parochial administrator of Saint Gabriel Parish, Port Allegany, effective March 2.

Rev. Scott E. Katren, J.C.L., S’91, was assigned to residency at Saint Andrew Parish Erie, while continuing to serve as adjunct judicial vicar for the Erie Diocese.

In the Diocese of Greensburg:

Rev. Terry A. Hercik, S’80, has been named administrator of Holy Trinity Parish, Connellsville, while continuing as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Connellsville, effective January 19, 2007.

Rev. Dennis A. Bogusz, S’79, will assist pastors in the pastoral care of the parishes of Immaculate Conception, Holy Trinity, Saint John the Evangelist and Saint Rita in Connellsville, while continuing as chaplain of Highlands Hospital, Connellsville.

Rev. William J. Lechar, S’96, has been named Director of the Office for Planning in the Diocese of Greensburg while continuing as pastor of Saint Thomas More University Parish, Indiana.

Rev. Anthony W. Ditto, S’90, has been named pastor of Saint Raymond Parish, Donegal and chaplain of Harmon House, Mount Pleasant.

Rev. Daniel C. Mahoney, S’70, has been named pastor of Holy Family Parish, Latrobe.

Rev. James L. Popochock, C’64, S’68, has been named pastor of Saint Joan of Arc Parish, Farmington.

Rev. John T. Euker, C’70, S’74, has been named pastor of Saint Mary Parish, Freeport.

Rev. Martin R. Bartel, O.S.B., S’85, pastor of Saint Martin Parish, New Derry, has been named pastor of Saint Bruno Parish, Greensburg.

Rev. Robert T. Lubic, S’95, was assigned to his first pastorate at Saint John the Baptist Parish in Perryopolis July 5. A native of Connellsville, he was ordained in 1996 following graduation from Saint Vincent Seminary. He most recently served as parochial vicar of Holy Family Parish, Latrobe.

Rev. Joseph E. Bonafed, S’92, has been named pastor of Saint Patrick Parish, Brady’s Bend, and administrator of Saint Mary, Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Parker. Ordained in 1992, he most recently served as parochial vicar of Saint Barbara Parish, Harrison City.

In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:

Rev. John A. Rice was named temporary administrator of Saint John University Parish, Morgantown, and chaplain to West Virginia University Hospital, Morgantown, effective February 21.

Rev. Mr. Stephen McGinnis, ordained a deacon on May 19, was appointed to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling for his summer assignment.

Jose Manuel Escalante spent the summer at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Wheeling.

Rev. Arthur Bufogle, S’03, was named pastor of Saint Patrick Parish, Hinton and Sacred Heart Parish, Rainelle, effective June 15.

Rev. Thomas Dagle, S’00, was named pastor of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, White Sulphur Springs and Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Ronceverte, effective June 15.

Rev. Benedict E. Kapa, S’98, was named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Salem, and Saint Patrick Parish, West Union, effective June 15. He will continue as pastor of Saint James the Apostle Parish, Clarksburg.

Rev. Mark T. Gallipeau, S’06, was named administrator of Saint John Neumann Parish, Marlinton, Saint Mark the Evangelist Mission in Bartow, and Saint Bernard Chapel, Snowshoe, effective June 15.

Rev. John P. Mulcahy, C’96, S’05, was named administrator of Saint Anthony Parish, Fairmont, and Holy Spirit Parish, Monongah, effective June 15.

In the Diocese of Columbus, Rev. Raymond
Seminarian Nicholas Passero of the Diocese of Savannah was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army on Saturday, April 21, 2007 in Saint Gregory Chapel on campus. Both of his parents served, as did both of his grandfathers and his brother. All were in the United States Army. Nick’s father, second from right, commissioned Nick, as his mother (center), sister, Father Charles Byrd (second from left) and Savannah Deacon Stephen Pontzer look on.

E. Lavelle, S’57, marked his 50th jubilee as a priest.

In the Diocese of Pittsburgh:

Rev. Edward M. Czemerda, S’86, S’87, was named parochial vicar of Saint Anne Parish, Castle Shannon, effective January 29.

Rev. Kevin G. Poecking, S’02, was named parochial vicar, Immaculate Conception Parish, Washington, effective January 29.

Rev. Terrence P. O’Connor, has been named pastor, Good Samaritan Parish, Ambridge, and administrator, Saint John the Baptist Parish, Baden, effective Oct. 3.

Rev. Dennis J. Bradley, S’76, was named administrator, Ascension Parish, Ingram, effective Dec. 11, 2006.

Rev. J. Francis Frazer, S’76, was named pastor, Saint Thomas Parish, Clarksville.

Rev. Lawrence R. Smith, S’76, was named pastor, Saint Aloysius Parish, Reserve Township, and administrator, Saint Nicholas Parish, Millvale.

Rev. Walter A. Sobon, C’63, was named administrator, Saint Ann Parish, Waynesburg, effective December 11, 2006.

Rev. Albert J. Semler, S’67, was named parochial vicar, with the designation, senior priest, of Saint John of God Parish, McKees Rocks, and parochial vicar, with the designation senior priest, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Crescent, effective December 11, 2006.

Rev. John J. O’Malley, S’65, has retired. He will continue as part-time chaplain to the unions.

Rev. Michael A. McDermott, C’58, S’66, has retired.


Rev. Joseph R. Grosko, C’55, S’59, was named administrator of Holy Trinity Parish, West Mifflin. He maintains his responsibilities as administrator of Saint Agnes Parish, West Mifflin.

Rev. Robert W. Herrmann, C’54, S’58, most recently pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Robinson Township, has begun retirement.

Rev. Matthew McClain, S’01, was named pastor, Saint Peter Parish, Slippery Rock, and director of the Newman Center at Slippery Rock University, effective October 5, 2007.

Rev. William Beaver, O.S.B., S’85, was named senior priest at Saint Peter Parish, North Side, effective August 1.

Rev. Steven V. Neff, S’04, was named parochial vicar of Saint Paul Parish, Butler, and parochial vicar, Saint Wendelin Parish, Carbon Center, effective October 1.

Rev. Sean M. Francis, S’03, was named part-time chaplain at Mount Alvernia High School, effective September 1. He maintains his responsibilities as parochial vicar of Saint Alphonsus Parish, Wexford.

In the Diocese of Harrisburg:

Rev. Michael W. Rothan, S’03, has been named parochial vicar, Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Middletown, while remaining chaplain of Trinity High School, Camp Hill, effective June 14.

Rev. Mark E. Weiss, S’02, was named parochial vicar, Good Shepherd Parish, Camp Hill.

In the Diocese of Savannah:

Rev. Eric R. Filmer, S’03, is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Moultrie, and its mission of Saint John Vianney, Camilla, effective July 31.
Deacon Stephen Pontzer of the Diocese of Savannah was presented a chalice by Mrs. Judy Colvin, the daughter of the late Sir Knight Blaine C. Reed, a former member of the Bishop O’Connor Assembly #921, 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, during his final semester at Seminary.
William Dorner, S’07, quit practicing his faith in high school and stayed away for a decade. But then he discovered how difficult life could be without faith. After receiving his master’s degree in teaching from the University of Pittsburgh he was drawn back to the church. His teaching background led him to work as a catechist at his home parish in Glenshaw and he began to feel a call to priesthood.

“It was tough to die to self and put the church before my needs,” he told Pittsburgh Catholic staff writer John Franko. But his seminary experience at Saint Vincent helped him develop a strong prayer life and gave him a solid spiritual direction.

“I’m very excited and joyful,” he said prior to his ordination in the Pittsburgh Diocese June 30. “The joy comes in just doing what God wants me to do.”

He is now parochial vicar at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Conway.

“My family and friends have been extremely supportive and helpful to me as I traveled—many times stumbling along—the road to the priesthood,” he said to the Pittsburgh Catholic. He quoted Pope Benedict XVI, noting “‘Ordination is not a career, but a cross, which those who are called by Christ must bear.’”

He is now parochial vicar at Saint Bernard Church, Pittsburgh.

A love for the outdoors was something Stephen Pontzer’s family instilled in him from his childhood days. It led to a career in forestry.

“Through my first career as a forester, I saw first-hand how trees, like people, need fertile ground, protection from weeds, fertilization and yes, even pruning,” he wrote prior to his ordination this summer. “I believe my family, childhood, academic and extracurricular activities and my career in forestry were God’s way of preparing this country boy for my true vocation, and made it possible to answer God’s call to serve his people as a priest. It took a leap of faith to get me to the seminary, but God provided me with a sense of peace that I had searched for all my life.”

He was ordained June 23 in the Diocese of Savannah and is now parochial vicar, Saint James Church, Savannah.

William R. Barron of the Diocese of Erie was ordained to the priesthood on June 8. He has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, for a term of three years, effective September 1, 2007.

Matthew J. Albright said his parents laid the foundation of a strong life of prayer and church attendance, and the strong examples of his pastors for his inspiration to become a priest. He took some drafting and design courses as he thought about a career as an architect, but in college he also explored the idea of priesthood. He was influenced by the Benedictine atmosphere while at Saint Vincent and called his time at seminary a special time.

“We are at the service of a tradition that has been handed down for more than 2,000 years,” he said. “So we have to pass on the truth, but we have to do so in a loving way. As Paul says in Ephesians 4:15, ‘let us proclaim the truth in love.’”

He was ordained in the Diocese of Youngstown on June 2, the first priest in the diocese to be ordained by Bishop George V. Murry, S.J. Father Albright has been named associate pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Struthers.

Seminary faculty member Dr. Scott Hahn’s conversion story was told to a packed house at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, in the Diocese of Youngstown. He traced his journey to Rome from his teenage days through his successes as a Presbyterian minister and professor to his finally embracing Catholicism.
Father Tom Acklin, professor and director of counseling at the seminary, is regularly broadcasting on Relevant Radio out of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Father Tom is a guest spiritual director on the Inner Life and substitutes for the host, Chuck Neff, on Searching The Word and The Inner Life. Relevant Radio is heard locally on 1590 a.m. and can be accessed on internet at relevantradio.com

“I found myself falling head over heels in love with our Lord in a way I never had before,” she told The Catholic Exponent.

Rev. Timothy D. Marcoe, S’07, of the Diocese of Harrisburg was named parochial vicar at Saint Joseph Parish, Hanover. Ordained to the priesthood on June 2 by Bishop Kevin Rhoades, Father Marcoe said he is “looking forward to accompanying people through their lives as they journey through the ups and downs, and helping to bring them to God and God to them through the sacraments, counseling, talking, CCD and the various things that go on at a parish, and viewing it with the lens of being a spiritual father for the people.”

Rev. Douglas Ondeck, C’02, S’07, ordained June 2 by Wheeling-Charleston Bishop Michael J. Bransfield, has been named associate rector of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston. Calling each of the four priests he ordained that day a miracle, Bishop Bransfield also ordained John Chapin Engler to the priesthood. Father Engler is associate pastor of Saint Francis de Sales Parish, Beckley.

A 55-year-old widower, father and retired federal law enforcement officer, Timothy J. Kruthaupt, was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Greensburg by Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt. Also ordained was Alan N. Polczynski, 41, of Lower Burrell. Both men graduated from Saint Vincent Seminary.

“It was very moving,” Kruthaupt said. “First I was streaming tears, then I was streaming perspiration.” He has been a widower for two and a half decades. His wife, Jane, died of Hodgkin’s disease when their son, Alex, was 16 months old. Alex, now 27, returned home from Iraq in time for his father’s priesthood ordination. Father Kruthaupt is now parochial vicar at Holy Family Parish, Latrobe.

Father Polczynski’s career took him to the Pittsburgh Opera and included work as stage manager for the Saint Vincent Summer Theater, where he decided to pursue a priestly vocation. He is parochial vicar of Saint Bruno Catholic Church, South Greensburg.

Shawn Matthew Anderson, O.S.B., of Saint Vincent Archabbey, was ordained to the
priesthood July 14 by Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt of Greensburg.

Rev. Jon J. Plavcan, S’94, Diocese of Gary, has been named Rector of the Cathedral of the Holy Angels in Gary, Indiana effective July 1, 2007. Father Plavcan will continue his duties as Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, in addition to his membership on the Board of Directors and Board of Governors for the National Catholic Risk Retention Group.


Dr. Michel Therrien, S.T.D. successfully defended his dissertation magna cum laude at the University of Fribourg on Thursday, May 24, 2007.

Marita Hunchuck, C’04, S’07, has joined the faculty of Saint Vincent College as a lecturer in theology. She resides in Uniontown.

The following deaths were reported:

Msgr. Nicholas A. Mitolo, S’54, on September 11, 2007.

Condolences are offered to:


Brother Patrick R. Lacey, O.S.B. on the death of his brother Donald J. Lacey on October 16, 2007.


Rev. Daniel C. Mahoney, S’70, on the death of his brother John P. Mahoney on March 26, 2007.


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The U.S. Congress may consider an extension to the law; however, as of early November, this tax advantage ends December 31, 2007.

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