Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and most recently chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools in Michigan, was named the eleventh rector of Saint Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania in December. The appointment was effective in January of 2012.

In his role at Orchard Lake, Father Whalen served as chancellor of both Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary and Saint Mary’s Preparatory School in the Archdiocese of Detroit. At Saint Vincent Seminary, Father Whalen will lead the first major seminary in the United States sponsored by Benedictine monks.

“It is a pleasure to welcome Father Whalen as the new rector of Saint Vincent Seminary,” said Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor. “With his rich experience in education and in pastoral ministry, he will certainly be in a position, with our faculty, to enhance the educational philosophy of the Seminary—‘scholarship in service of pastoral care’.

“I had the opportunity to work with Father Whalen from 1986 to 1991 when I was the Secretary of Education for the Diocese of Pittsburgh,” said Archabbot Douglas. “Father Whalen served with Catholic Youth and Young Adult Ministry, which was part of the Education Secretariat. He is a wonderful model as a priest and we are looking forward to his leadership here at Saint Vincent.”

“Father Whalen has done an outstanding job in priestly formation at Orchard Lake,” said Most Rev. David Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, in recommending Father Whalen to serve as rector. “His approach to ministry has been clearly pastoral.”

“I am delighted that Father Whalen has agreed to accept the responsibilities of Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary,” said Dr. James Maher, chairman of the Seminary Board of Regents, “I look forward to working with him and all the members of the Saint Vincent community to continue the development of the Seminary in service to the Church.”

“I am very grateful to Bishop Zubik, Archabbot Douglas and to Dr. Maher for their confidence and trust in me,” said Father Whalen. “It’s true I’ve worked with young people all my life, all my ministry, and I have recognized in them a deep thirst for Jesus Christ. The primary challenge of the seminarian is to examine his love for Jesus Christ and to grow in that love. This is the basis for all that he learns and does and says.”

He spoke of the New Evangelization of Blessed John Paul II,
noting that “I’m very excited and feel very honored to be with men who want to dedicate their lives to this New Evangelization, to making Jesus Christ known and loved throughout the world.”

“Every seminary is like a family,” Father Whalen said. “Every seminary has its own character and its own personality, its own quirks. I look forward to getting to know this family, this family which is so steeped in faith, this family which is so steeped in tradition, this family which has been so dedicated to the Gospel for many years. I feel blessed just to be able to spend time here and I ask for your prayers.”

Bishop Zubik noted at the press conference that: “As we were pulling onto the campus this afternoon, my mind raced back to an earlier and maybe an easier time in my life when I had the privilege of serving as an adjunct spiritual director here for eight years at Saint Vincent. I thought about how special those years were for me because I had the privilege of being a part of the spiritual journey of the men who trusted me enough to call on me to be a soul partner. Those memories reflect the ongoing relationship that Saint Vincent Seminary has had with the Diocese of Pittsburgh, almost from the very beginning of the establishment of our diocese in 1843.

“As I was pulling onto the campus I also remembered the first time that I lived at Saint Paul Seminary—where I currently live—I was a senior and there was a young man in the freshman class, my brother Timothy, who has grown in wisdom and knowledge and love of God in the Church. What a great honor it is for me to be here today to stand with him and what a great gift the Diocese of Pittsburgh gives to Saint Vincent Seminary in your new rector.

“The bishops of Pennsylvania just returned yesterday from our ad limina visit in Rome,” said Bishop Zubik. “In the meetings we had with our Holy Father on the Congregations we spoke about priesthood formation, and we talked about the excitement of the new Pentecost that really is touching the hearts of so many people in our dioceses. Our numbers of candidates for the priestly ministry are growing. Given that backdrop and also the concern for the Universal Church, this is a great day. It’s a great day for us to be able to celebrate the appointment of your new rector, and for very selfish reasons I have got to say Tim I’m glad you’re a lot closer to home. Congratulations! You have the love of the Church of Pittsburgh, and our priests and our faithful. Everybody who knows you knows that you are going to do a good job. God bless you.”

Father Whalen has done an outstanding job in priestly formation at Orchard Lake. His approach to ministry has been clearly pastoral.”

—Most Rev. David Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh

Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, a Pittsburgh diocesan priest, the eleventh Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary, with his mother, Mary Anna Whalen, and two brothers, Father Daniel Whalen and Mark Whalen.

In his role as chancellor, Father Whalen has had a leadership role in development campaigns for the Orchard Lake Schools and the community. Father Whalen supervised accreditation for the Seminary by the Association of Theological Schools and the Michigan Accrediting Agency for Non-Public Schools. He has represented the Seminary at community and civic events and meetings, oversaw the celebration of events connected with the 125th anniversary of the Orchard Lake Schools’ founding, and served as the spiritual leader of the Orchard Lake Schools community.

His experience both as pastor and in education has been wide-ranging: budget management within his diocesan and pastoral roles; retreats and lectures in youth ministry on both the national and regional levels; ministry in suburban, city, inner-city and rural parishes; reorganization of five ethnic parishes into one parish in Ambridge; and working in school and university environments.

Before his assignment in (Continued on Page 4)
New Rector
(Continued from Page 3)


Father Whalen’s assignments included serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of Madonna University (2006-present); delegate to the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and the Polish National Alliance (2000-present); the National Catholic Engaged Encounter Executive Team (1994-1997); the Catholic Engaged Encounter of Pittsburgh Executive Team (1994-1997); the Board of Regents of Orchard Lake Schools and the Board of Trustees of Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary (1989-1998); the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry Committee for Evangelization (1986-1991); the Pittsburgh Diocesan Committee for Spiritual Renewal of the Priesthood (1987-1988); Whale’s Tail (Youth Drug and Alcohol Counseling Center) Board of Directors (1986-1988); Central Catholic High School Advisory Board (1981-1983); and as adjunct spiritual director for Saint Paul Seminary (1978-1987).

-Kim Metzgar

New Seminary Apparel

The Saint Vincent College Bookstore, accessed via the link, http://benedictine.stvincent.edu/, created some new Saint Vincent Seminary apparel items. Damian Zablocki of the Diocese of Paterson, and Britton Hennessey of the Diocese of Covington, are pictured above. Hennessey is wearing the new t-shirt that says Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, 1846. Hats are also available and other items will be offered in the future.
By Kim Metzgar

Msgr. Lenz Vice Postulator For Canonization of First Native American Saint

By Kim Metzgar

For nearly half his life, and more than thirty of his sixty-plus years as a priest, Msgr. Paul A. Lenz, C’46 S’49 D’95, has been involved in ministry and advocating for Native Americans. Thus, February 18 of this year was one of joy, excitement, and celebration, when Msgr. Lenz received word that Pope Benedict XVI announced that Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha will become the first Native American saint of the Roman Catholic Church on October 21, 2012.

“The response has been unbelievable,” he said two days after the news was announced. “I just cannot believe it. Everyone I have spoken to is so excited, both Catholic Indians and non-Catholic Indians. My phone has been ringing off the hook.”

Although he has been retired as Director of the National Black and Indian Mission Office in Washington, D.C. since 2009, Msgr. Lenz has not been idle, continuing to serve as vice postulator for Blessed Kateri’s beatification cause. The coming months will not be idle either, as he will be involved with the liturgy the day of the canonization, and planning for the day.

“She is the first Native American to be presented for sainthood,” said Msgr. Lenz. “She was born in 1656 near what is now Allegany, New York, and was known to be very holy. Hundreds of books and articles have been written about her.”

Kateri was known for her chastity and holiness before she died at age 24. She was beatified by Blessed John Paul II in 1980. The committee Msgr. Lenz served on submitted its documentation to the Vatican in September of 2009, and review of the documentation was then undertaken.

The medical committee unanimously affirmed that a miracle had occurred, Msgr. Lenz said. That story involved a boy of six, Jacob Finkbonner, a member of the Lummi Nation from Bellingham, Washington, who was infected with necrotizing fascitis, a bacterial infection that can destroy muscle, skin, and underlying tissue.

“He was in the hospital for several months, and he required constant treatment,” Msgr. Lenz said. “At one point there was a team of 26 doctors working on his case.”

Father Tim Sauer, a family friend, told the boy’s parents to pray to Blessed Kateri. She was known for teaching prayers to children and working with the elderly and sick. As a child her face had been badly scarred and her eyesight impaired by smallpox, a disease that killed her parents and brother. Due to the smallpox, she had pockmarks all over her face.

“Maybe Blessed Kateri in heaven wanted a miracle for a young person who had scars from a similar affliction,” said Msgr. Lenz, noting that Blessed Kateri also had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The doctors told the Finkbonner family almost every night that they did not think Jake would live until the next morning, Msgr. Lenz said. The doctors, he added, also commented that it was not within their medical ability or modern medicine as it stands now that Jacob was kept alive for over two months, supporting the claim that his survival was a miracle.

Not expected to live, and with severe scarring and infection throughout his facial area, the family continued praying to Blessed Kateri Takakwitha, and Jake survived. He required subsequent treatment for damage to his face, and has much scarring. The boy, Msgr. Lenz said, will be the first to receive communion from Pope Benedict XVI during the canonization Mass.
The annual Saint Vincent Seminary Scholarship Dinner was held April 12 at LaMont in Pittsburgh. This year’s speaker was Very Timothy F. Whalen, the new Seminary Rector. In the top row, from left, Very Rev. Joseph Mele, Rector of Saint Paul Seminary, gives the invocation; Dr. James V. Maher, Jr., Chairman, Board of Regents, gave brief remarks; Father Whalen, keynote speaker; and Rev. Richard Infante, S’92, gave the Benediction. In the center photo alumni, administrators and deacons from the fourth year class sing the Benedictine Ultima at the conclusion. Below, left, Rev. Mr. Deyre Azcuna, a deacon from the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, is pictured with members of the Pangilinan family. The Pangilinan family, including Mrs. Nelly Pangilinan, established a scholarship in honor of Dr. Rizal Pangilinan, who served for many years on the Board of Regents of the Seminary. At bottom, right, Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor, greets Father Peter Pilarski.
Canadian Archbishop Honored at Saint Vincent Seminary Commencement

Archbishop Terrence Prendergast of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, Canada, spoke at the 166th annual commencement of Saint Vincent Seminary where he received an honorary doctor of divinity degree. The commencement ceremony took place Friday, May 11 in the Archabbey Basilica.

In presenting the honorary doctorate to Archbishop Prendergast, Rector Timothy F. Whalen read the following tribute: “Archbishop Prendergast, the Saint Vincent Community honors you today for your distinguished leadership and humble service to the Archdiocese of Ottawa, to the Catholic Church in Canada, and to the Universal Church. As a member of the Society of Jesus and a seminary professor and rector you helped to form a new generation of priests and vowed religious for service in Canada and abroad. As a priest and a renowned biblical scholar you have brought the saving message of the Gospel for forty years to congregations and to classrooms, and as a bishop serving first in Toronto, then in Halifax, and since 2007 as the Archbishop of Ottawa, you have represented the people of your dioceses and your nation at the local, national, and international levels, always striving to let the gentle yet powerful life and teaching of Christ shine forth for the benefit of all.

“In 1995, while you were teaching in your capacity as the Catholic Biblical Association of America Visiting Professor at L’ecole biblique et archeologique francaise in Jerusalem, Blessed Pope John Paul II called you to serve as the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto, home to one of the world’s largest and most ethnically and linguistically diverse Catholic communities. Only three years later, when Pope John Paul II called upon you to devote yourself to serve the people of Nova Scotia as the Archbishop of Halifax, you earned the respect of many in the Halifax community and beyond on account of your ardent pastoral zeal, your Christian charity and justice, and your unaffected sincerity as a man who was both the chief shepherd of the flock and a humble disciple of Jesus at the same time.

“In May of 2007, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI named you as the ninth Archbishop of Ottawa. In that capacity, in October of 2008, you brought your scriptural studies to bear on the life of the Universal Church as one of the four Canadian delegates elected by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to represent your country at the World Synod of Bishops “On the Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church”. Your personal commitment to the Word of God has long been evident as you open yourself to the saving revelation of God in Christ at the same time that you seek to share that Word with others.

“Archbishop Prendergast, your personal service to the Church extended beyond your home country once again when you accepted the profoundly challenging request of his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, announced in May of 2010, to lead the Apostolic Visitaton of the Archdiocese of Tuam following the clerical abuse scandal that deeply wounded the Church in Ireland. Your candid and humble efforts to heal the pain suffered by many and to establish procedures to prevent further abuse has already borne fruit as the work of the “New Evangelization” begins in Ireland.

“Both at home and abroad your use of classical and contemporary art, literature, music, and other forms of cultural expression, and your innovative approach to evangelization—creatively making use of the internet and the “blogosphere” in order to draw a new generation of believers to the sublime beauty of the Christian faith—has been an inspiration not only to the people of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, but also to many men and women throughout Ontario and Canada who have been moved by your long-standing commitment to promote effective preaching, catechesis, and Catholic education within the Church.

“In your Archbishop’s Message for Easter 2012 you wrote: ‘During Eastertide, we contemplate the striking encounters of the Risen Jesus with his disciples. We see that he gave a mission to those he met at meals or on the road. Like the earliest Christians, we meet our Risen Saviour in the sharing of the Word and in the ‘breaking of the bread’.…..We Christians are to see ourselves as ‘raised with Christ’….Guided by the Spirit of the Risen Lord, we are to spread the mystery of Easter to our world.

“We honor you today, Archbishop Prendergast, for your unceasing efforts to share the joy of our Risen Lord with those who long for his loving presence: the elderly, children, the poor and marginalized, immigrants, and all of the most needy and vulnerable in the Archdiocese of Ottawa and throughout the Church. Inspired by the spirit of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, and by the self-giving zeal of the early Jesuit missionaries who first brought the Catholic faith to Canada, your spirit of service knows no bounds, as you humbly and gracefully do all things in the course of your ministry ‘For the greater glory of God’!

“In recognition of your truly outstanding leadership and service to the Society of Jesus, to the Archdioceses of Toronto, Halifax, and Ottawa, and to the Universal Church: Saint Vincent Seminary confers upon The Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, S.J. Archbishop of Ottawa, the degree of Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa.”
Rev. Pablo Gadenz spoke on Pope Benedict’s Scripture and Evangelization at the Annual Pope Benedict XVI Lecture.

REV. PABLO GADENZ GIVES ANNUAL POPE BENEDICT XVI LECTURE

The Annual Pope Benedict XVI Lecture was held March 23 in the Fred M. Rogers Center at Saint Vincent.

The featured speaker was the Rev. Pablo T. Gadenz, a priest of the Diocese of Trenton, New Jersey, and an assistant professor of Biblical Studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University. His lecture, Preaching the Gospel: Pope Benedict on Scripture and Evangelization, followed the trajectory in Pope Benedict’s thinking from the last Synod of Bishops on the Word of God (and the Pope’s document after the Synod: Verbum Domini) to the upcoming Synod later this year on the New Evangelization, emphasizing the role of Scripture in preaching.

He received his licentiate in Scripture (S.S.L.) from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in 2005 and his doctorate in biblical theology (S.T.D.) from the Pontifical Gregorian University in 2008. He holds both an M.Div. and an M.A. from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, as well as a master of science degree in engineering from Columbia University and a bachelor of science degree in engineering from Princeton.

Father Gadenz is one of 12 authors who collaborated on Catholic for a Reason, which was edited by Dr. Scott Hahn and Leon J. Suprenant. The book’s foreword is by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput. Father Gadenz’s published dissertation is entitled Called from the Jews and from the Gentiles: Pauline Ecclesiology in Romans 9–11. Father Gadenz is a member of the Catholic Biblical Association of America and the Society of Biblical Literature. His research focuses on rhetorical analysis and use of Scripture in Paul’s Letters.

Father Gadenz teaches various New Testament courses at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. His research focuses on rhetorical analysis of Paul’s Letters and the study of Paul’s use of Scripture. He is also interested in the theological interpretation of Scripture, building bridges between exegetical study and the Church’s theology and liturgy.

A video of the lecture is available on the Seminary website, www.saintvincentseminary.edu.
To be the Hands of Christ,
Reaching out to Bless the World

Father Timothy Whalen’s challenge
to the Ordination class of 2012

From left Brother Francis Ehnat, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey; Deyre Azcuna, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Alberto Vargas, Diocese of Saginaw; Tri Nguyen, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Brother John Mary Lugemwa, O.S.B., Mary Mother of the Church Abbey; Brandon Kleckner, Diocese of Erie; John Michniuk, Diocese of Covington; Brother Nathanael Polinski, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey; Kevin Fazio, Diocese of Pittsburgh.
Dear Friends,

Each spring in the Leaven, we look back upon the past academic year in gratitude and prayer for those who have supported us in our mission of priestly formation. As our recent graduates prepare to return to their dioceses to be ordained priests, we reflect upon their years of Seminary formation to prepare for service to the people of God.

This year’s ordination class will embark begin their priestly ministry during “The Year of Faith,” announced by Pope Benedict XVI in his Apostolic Letter, Porta Fidei. The year will begin on October 11, the 50th anniversary of the Opening of the Second Vatican Council.

The Year of Faith will include World Youth Day 2013 in Brazil, as well as various ecumenical initiatives aimed at restoring unity among Christians. During the year, all of the baptized are asked to renew and deepen their faith in Christ, with a focus on the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, the “mystery of faith and source of the new evangelization, the faith of the Church is proclaimed, celebrated and strengthened.”

This spring the Seminary welcomed Father Timothy F. Whalen as the new Rector of our Seminary. He brings a great deal of experience in priestly formation which is a great blessing to the dioceses and religious communities which utilize our Seminary. A special word of thanks to Father Justin M. Matro, O.S.B., who served as Rector for almost six years. He continues to teach on our faculty while assuming his new responsibilities as pastor of Saint Bartholomew Parish in Crabtree. Saint Vincent Seminary also welcomes a new member to our Board of Regents, Father Nicholas Rouch, Vicar of Education for the Diocese of Erie.

We are grateful to our commencement speaker, Archbishop Terrence Prendergast of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, for his inspiring message to our graduates. The Archbishop spoke about the challenge of “saving civilization again.”

Be assured of the continued gratitude of the Saint Vincent Seminary Community for your continuing prayers and support of our students and programs.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

“Your Benedictine formation will serve you well in the somewhat intimidating mission field that you face in today’s America. Intimidating, yes, but exhilarating too, for we live in times which demand greatness from the disciples of Christ, and we should desire nothing less. Saint Benedict concluded his Rule by referring to it as a beginning. You graduates have been blessed with a good beginning. May the Lord then bring to completion the good work He has already begun in you.”

—Archbishop Terrence Prendergast

Presenting the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Archbishop Terrence Prendergast were, from left, Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor; Dr. Michel Therrien, Academic Dean; and Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, Rector.
Dear Friends,

This academic year has been an exciting and productive one for Saint Vincent Seminary students, faculty and staff members. After five and a half years of dedicated service as Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary, Father Justin Matro, O.S.B., stepped down to return to active ministry in the Diocese of Greensburg as pastor of Saint Bartholomew Church in Crabtree. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Father Justin for his leadership and we are grateful that he will continue to be involved in our Seminary program as a member of the faculty.

Our search for a new rector concluded with great success. Father Timothy Whalen of the Diocese of Pittsburgh received permission from Bishop David Zubik and accepted our offer of the rectorship. The Seminary now proceeds under the leadership of a prominent academic leader whose extensive experience and background as a diocesan priest complements our ongoing Benedictine traditions in the priestly formation of our seminarians. We are delighted to have Father Whalen join us, and we are also very grateful to Bishop Zubik for allowing such a talented priest of his diocese to take on this assignment. For 166 years the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Saint Vincent Seminary have worked closely together in service to the Church, and that longstanding partnership has advanced one step further with the arrival of Father Whalen at Saint Vincent.

This spring we are sending nine new qualified men into the priesthood, representing six dioceses and archdioceses and one abbey and one archabbey. We are proud of each of them and look to each of them to bring to their coming assignments the dedication to the service of the Church and its people that have for so long characterized the alumni of our Seminary. All of you who have contributed to scholarships or other forms of support for the priestly formation of these men can and should share in our sense of accomplishment in this contribution to the future of the Church.

Our academic dean, Dr. Michel Therrien, has announced that he will be leaving Saint Vincent this summer to take a position as Academic Dean for the Augustine Institute in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Therrien has served our Seminary well and faithfully for seven years, and we wish him great success in his new role. We are beginning a search for a new dean, as well as a search for a chaired professor for the Pope Benedict XVI Chair of Biblical Theology and Homiletics for Excellence in Preaching. We have restructured the Academic Affairs and Technology Committee of our Board of Regents, leaving all the purely academic responsibilities with that committee and creating a new committee to oversee the development of our program of priestly formation. Bishop David Zubik has kindly agreed to chair this new Priestly Formation Committee, all of whose members will be bishops who are members of the Board. With this new division of responsibilities, we are confident that we will be able to continue our ongoing focus on providing our seminarians with the best possible preparation for their future service to the Church.

We take this opportunity to extend heartfelt gratitude to the members of the Board of Regents who have completed their tenure. Monsignor Paul Lenz, an alumnus of Saint Vincent College and Seminary, provided 18 years of outstanding service to the Board of Regents—six years in the 1980s, and 12 consecutive years since 1999. Last December Monsignor Lenz received the exciting news that Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha was going to be canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at Saint Peter’s Square in Rome. Msgr. Lenz is the U.S. vice postulator of Blessed Kateri’s cause. We congratulate Msgr. Lenz and all who worked for the successful outcome of this canonization cause. Prior to his retirement from active ministry, Msgr. Lenz had been Executive Director of the Black and Indian Mission Office of the USCCB in Washington for 32 years, and coordinated all of the events surrounding Blessed Kateri’s beatification in 1980.

Bishop Daniel Conlon also completed his tenure after nine years of service to the Board of Regents. Bishop Conlon, who had served the Church as Bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville since his Episcopal ordination on August 6, 2002, was installed as the Bishop of Jolliet, Illinois, on July 14, 2011, and began a new chapter in his episcopal ministry. We are grateful for the many gifts which Bishop Conlon brings to the Church in the United States and to the Universal Church.

We would also like to welcome our newest member of the Board of Regents, Father Nicholas Rouch. Father Rouch is the Vicar for Education for the Diocese of Erie. Father Rouch brings to the board wonderful experience in the fields of education and seminary formation, having served as vice rector and associate director of seminarians at Saint Mark’s Seminary in Erie for the past 12 years.

Thanks to the many benefactors who generously support us, our endowment has grown nicely in recent years. With your further support we can hope in the near future to develop much enhanced scholarship programs to educate both diocesan and Benedictine seminarians. We express our gratitude to all who have given so generously to Saint Vincent Seminary this past year. This issue contains the list of all of our benefactors.

The future does look bright, with vocations growing slowly but steadily across the country and leading us to anticipate opportunities to provide more priesthood candidates for the dioceses and abbeys we serve. Thank you for all that you do to support Saint Vincent Seminary. You are and will continue to be in the prayers of all at Saint Vincent Archabbey and Seminary.

Sincerely,

Dr. James V. Maher, Jr.
Chairman
Rector's Column

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF FAITH

Dear Friends,

Of the many boxes and suitcases and files that I moved in to Saint Vincent there was a large trunk. The last time that trunk had been on this campus was 1948. It was my father’s trunk. It is humbling to think that everything he owned was in that trunk, and it was just one of dozens that I moved in here. My father never graduated from Saint Vincent, but throughout his entire life he always had a special love for Saint Vincent.

From a very young age, when we drove by and stopped briefly while on a Sunday drive, I sensed that there was something very special about Saint Vincent. And of course now it’s obvious as to why this is such an extraordinary place—when you look at this tradition, when you look at the history, the largest Benedictine Archabbey in the world. It is the faith that has characterized Saint Vincent. There are saints buried here. And there are saints here. And now it is our legacy to continue that tradition of faith here on this campus.

Faith, if it is real, is a matter of constant conversion of the heart. Faith is constantly changing. Faith is constantly growing. It is never stagnant. It is never old. It is never tired. It’s the faith that is expected of us.

We cannot relegate Jesus to the corners of our lives. We must keep him at the center of all that we think and say and do. Then this faith that we profess will truly be alive. Blessed John Paul II once summarized everything that we should be as Christians, and everything that we should do as a community of faith, and as a Seminary, very shortly, very curtly, when he said, “Seek. Love. And witness to Christ.”

We seek Christ for our study of theology and in our pastoral action. We love Christ through our prayer and through the way we love each other. We witness to Christ by being faithful to the New Evangelization that was proclaimed by Blessed John Paul II. Seek. Love. And witness to Christ. When we truly strive to do that, we have to keep Christ in the center of all that we do and he will not be grieved by our hardness of heart.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Timothy F. Whalen
Rector

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The following list includes all Saint Vincent Seminary donors who made a gift or pledge payment for any purpose during 2011. All gifts received after December 31, 2011 will appear in the next annual report. Please telephone the Seminary Development Office at 724-532-6740 if a correction is necessary. We extend our sincere appreciation to all partners in our mission during 2011.

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

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Requiescat in Pace

If you have included Saint Vincent Seminary in your estate planning, or need information on becoming a Planned Giving Associate, please contact Paul Whiteside at (724) 532-6740, or email pwhiteside@stvincent.edu.
Seminary Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2011

Revenues, Gains, and Other Support:
Tuition and Fees .............................................................. $966,455
Contributions ...................................................................... $870,457
Investment Income ................................................................ $609,221
Net Realized Gains, (Losses) on Long-Term Investments ............. ($332,572)
Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) ....................... $890,557
Auxiliary Enterprises (including Room and Board) ............... $363,057
Net Assets Realized from Restrictions ....................... $90,588
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support ..................... $3,457,773

Expenditures:
Instruction ....................................................................... $618,349
Library ........................................................................... $55,000
Academic Support .......................................................... $143,390
Student Services .............................................................. $110,483
Admissions ..................................................................... $22,244
Institutional Support ......................................................... $694,010
Operation and Plant Maintenance ..................................... $356,000
Auxiliary Enterprises ......................................................... $354,899
Total Expenditures ...................................................... $2,354,375

Change in Net Assets ...................................................... $1,103,398
Net Assets, Beginning of Year ........................................... $8,235,440
Net Assets, End of Year .................................................. $9,338,838

The information presented in this report has been derived from the consolidated financial statements audited by an independent accounting firm, Parente-Randolph, LLC and published separately. Copies of audited financials are available upon request.
Paying Tribute to Influential Priests

Think, for a moment, about the people who have influenced your life and have affected where you are today and where you have been. If you are like me, your parents, siblings, friends, teachers, coaches and teammates may all come to mind. Perhaps you are also thinking of a priest—a pastor or an ordained college professor—who guided you through the formative years of your life, or who helped in times of distress, or who provided guidance and counseling when you were faced with a difficult career decision.

Priests have played a vital role in my life and truly helped me come to grips with my Catholic Faith as a young man. During my college years, Benedictine monks played a very important role in my education and in my formation as an adult Catholic. There are many to whom I owe a great debt of gratitude. They are too numerous to mention here, so I am hopeful that they will help to increase vocations in the future.

In my current role here at Saint Vincent Seminary, I have the opportunity to interact with and meet new priests on a regular basis. As I am able to hear their stories, I am grateful that new generations of young men and women in our Church are able to benefit from the solace and wisdom that a priest may offer to them. I continue to hope and to pray for an increase in vocations in our country, and I am confident that the positive example of our priests will help to increase vocations in the future.

I recently read the following quote from a priest who passed away a few years ago. These few sentences detailed the reason that he answered God’s call to enter the holy priesthood:

“I am often asked, especially by young people, why I became a priest. Maybe some of you would like to ask the same question. Let me try briefly to reply. I must begin by saying that it is impossible to explain entirely. For it remains a mystery, even to myself. How does one explain the ways of God? Yet, I know that, at a certain point in my life, I became convinced that Christ was saying to me what he had said to thousands before me: ‘Come, follow me!’ There was a clear sense that what I heard in my heart was no human voice, nor was it just an idea of my own. Christ was calling me to serve him as a priest. And you can probably tell that I am deeply grateful to God for my vocation to the priesthood. Nothing means more to me or gives me greater joy than to celebrate Mass each day and to serve God’s people in the Church. That has been true ever since the day of my ordination as a priest. Nothing has ever changed this, not even becoming Pope.”

This quote came from Blessed Pope John Paul II. He was speaking to a large group assembled in Los Angeles in September 1987. The United States enjoyed a relatively large increase in priestly vocations during the his papacy, and this trend has continued during these years of Pope Benedict XVI.

At Saint Vincent Seminary we are charged with the awesome duty of training men for the holy priesthood, and it is a responsibility that we do not take lightly. Our formation program has been rated very highly by the Association of Theological Schools, and we intend to continue to improve the academics and formation programs in the years to come.

The continued investment in people, programs and the students themselves comes at a financial cost. Please know that the administration of Saint Vincent Seminary makes very prudent use of the funds available to us. Your contributions are key to our continued success, and more importantly, to the success of our seminarians and priest-alumni.

If your life has been positively influenced by a priest, please consider a gift to Saint Vincent Seminary so that we can continue in our work of sending new priests into the Lord’s vineyards. You may honor or memorialize a priest with your gift, and those words of tribute can appear in a future edition of Leaven.

The entire administration of Saint Vincent Seminary is very grateful for your support, and most especially, for your prayers. Please know that you are welcome to our campus at any time to meet any members of our faculty, staff or student body. I hope we can meet soon!
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Mrs. Jane Zitterbart and
Family

To give a tribute or memorial gift please make a donation to Saint Vincent Seminary in honor of a friend, colleague or family member. Mail to Mr. Paul R. Whiteside, Seminary Development Office, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa., 15650-2690. Donors from October 6, 2011 to March 16, 2012, are included below.
The Seminary held its annual Mardi Gras fund raiser this spring. In the photos, clockwise, from top, left: Dr. Joseph Mosso, who found the “baby” in the King Cake; Brother Paul Sheller, O.S.B., of Conception Abbey, and Paula Maloney, and Lillian Sherry; Michael Black of the Diocese of Covington, who, along with Vincent Watkins of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, entertained guests with a lesson in Hebrew, modeled after the famous “Who’s on First” skit by Abbott and Costello; guests selecting which gift baskets to place their Chinese auction raffle tickets into; Mark Whalen, brother of Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, Seminary Rector, who entertained with his “one-man band” musical act; Brother Thomas Colucci, O.S.B., a monk of Mount Saviour Monastery, New York, who, along with the other seminarians, helped serve at the dinner. Proceeds from the dinner benefit the Seminary.
Seminary Deacon Serving The Poor In Guatemala

By Liz Cousins

Helping to dig school foundations for a school for kids who live in a garbage dump in Guatemala City, Guatemala, doesn’t fit the sun and sand image that accompanies the words “Spring Break trip,” but for seven Saint Vincent College students, one seminary student, and two faculty members, that is the basis for a spring break to remember.

Christopher McMahon, an associate professor of theology, and Elaine Bennett, assistant professor of anthropology, led the students on the eight-day service-learning trip, working with an organization called International Samaritan. This trip marked McMahon’s third as a member of the Saint Vincent College faculty, although he had worked with International Samaritan previously.

According to McMahon, International Samaritan works to establish outreach ministries that are sustainable beyond the lifetime of the sponsoring organization by working with local stakeholders and government officials who will continue to support the programs.

International Samaritan’s mission is focused on garbage dump communities, primarily in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Haiti and Egypt.

“These squatter communities live off the garbage that ends up in the dump in the middle of Guatemala City,” McMahon said. “They also collect the recyclables and form co-ops that sell what is collected, in bulk, to recyclers. They earn $3 to $4 a day doing that.”

McMahon explained that the program, as set up by International Samaritan, is basically triage.

“They first set up a guarderia, or nursery school, at the entrance to the dump so the parents can leave their children instead of taking the whole family into the dump to work,” he said. The organization also sets up a nutrition program at the nursery, and then psychological services with the aid of local government.

The second phase of International Samaritan’s operations is to start a school. “School is compulsory in Guatemala up to sixth grade,” McMahon said. “But these are very poor people, so often they only go up until second grade.”

The Guatemala City school is named for Francisco Coll, founder of the Dominican Order that runs it. “A couple of the teachers actually grew up in the dump,” McMahon said. “They were able to continue going to school, and now they help to supply an avenue for kids and families to be in school, stay in school, and have a means to eventually bring their families out of the dump.”

As part of the service on this trip, Saint Vincent College students and Rev. Deacon Kevin Fazio, a fourth year seminarian from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, worked side by side with older students and employees of the Francisco Coll school to dig the foundations for two additional classrooms.

“Now hope is not an abstraction for these kids,” McMahon said. “Hope is something that’s concrete.”

On every trip McMahon leads, the schedule is similar. “We do school work with the kids in the morning, from about 7:30 to 12:15,” he said. “In the afternoon, we work on a building project.”

According to McMahon, there are no textbooks, audio-visual equipment, or computers in the school. They use white boards as the main teaching aid. “The classrooms are tiny, tiny spaces. There are 42 kids in a room approximately 12 feet by 20 feet,” he said. “There are two first-grade and two second-grade classrooms with 40 kids each, then a single classroom houses the third- through sixth-grade classes. The 80 that started in first grade has shrunk to 30 kids by sixth grade.”

Rev. Deacon Fazio made his second trip with McMahon this year. The Diocese of Pittsburgh parish where he is spending his deacon internship, Saint Maurice in Forest Hills, helped to fund his trip as did Saint Paul Seminary in Pittsburgh.

“We are received with a joy and a love that is beyond description,” Fazio said. “The children clamor with each other to grab your hand, and cling to you for attention. They enjoy giving ‘high-fives’ and they ask how their names translate into English. In the end, they just want to be loved, and to share love as only they know how.”

The group spends approximately two hours per day in prayer according to McMahon. They pray both morning and evening office, using a psalter and readings specifically chosen for the trip. They are also required to complete a reflective journaling exercise.

Following the trip, the students do a debrief, and complete small research projects related to their major.

“The demands of the Gospel require practical wisdom as well as spiritual gifts,” McMahon said. “Fellowship makes hope concrete.”

Fellowship makes hope concrete.

Rev. Deacon Kevin Fazio, a fourth year seminarian and deacon from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, pictured at left, completed his second service trip to Guatemala in conjunction with a Saint Vincent College trip. Fazio, who is wearing a Saint Vincent Basketball t-shirt, has been very active while at Saint Vincent, and even helped coach the women’s basketball team this past year.
By Simon Stuchlik

Becoming a priest is a long and challenging process that is only made possible through the support of those around us. This principle inspired Friends of Saint Vincent Seminary, an organization looking to guide seminarians on their journeys to becoming the next generation of Catholic priests.

The group was founded last year, and plans to help support seminarians at Saint Vincent. Once a year, its members visit the campus to share mass and dinner with the seminarians. As Joseph Rubino, C'50, D'93, former alumni council president of Saint Vincent College and current member of the Friends sums up, “we want to help seminarians by mentoring them in any way possible.”

The Friends of Saint Vincent Seminary participated in a Mass on All Souls’ Day. Their mission is to raise funds to support vocations and seminarian training at the Seminary.

To coordinate these activities, Friends of Saint Vincent Seminary works closely with Very. Rev. Timothy Whalen, Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary, and Paul Whiteside, the Saint Vincent Archabbey and Seminary Director of Development.

“They have been very helpful to us,” Rubino recalled, noting the goodwill and cooperation that the Friends of Saint Vincent Seminary has received from the Seminary administration.

Friends of Saint Vincent Seminary is currently comprised of 10 members, who meet on the second Thursday of every month to discuss possible mentoring activities for young men with vocations to the priesthood. To become a member of the group, find out more information, or to contribute in any way possible, please contact Joseph Rubino at 412-271-2959 or via email at jjoen@comcast.net.

Diaconate Ordination

Taking part in the ordination to the diaconate of two seminarians were, from left, Rev. Justin M. Matro, O.S.B., who completed his term as seminary rector in December; Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor; Brother Maximilian Maxwell, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, who was ordained; Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, J.C.D., Ph.D., Bishop of Greensburg; Brother Jeremiah Lange, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, who was ordained; and Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, Seminary Rector.
Bishops’ Breakfast

Most Rev. David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, speaks during the annual breakfast the seminary hosts for bishops in Washington, D.C. during the annual meetings of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. From left are Most Rev. Paul Bootkoski, Bishop of Metuchen; Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, Bishop of Greensburg; His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, D.C.; Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B.; Dr. James V. Maher, Jr., Chairman, Board of Regents; Most Rev. Donald Trautman, Bishop of Erie; Most Rev. Roger Gries, O.S.B., auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland is behind Bishop Zubik and is pictured in the lower, right picture, at right. Below, left, Rev. Paschal Morlino, O.S.B., and Archabbot Douglas speak with Most Rev. William J. Waltersheid, Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh.

Deacon Ordination Held In Covington

Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, Bishop of Covington, ordained five men to the Order of Deacon on March 31, including four seminarians from Saint Vincent. Pictured, from left, are Michael Hennen- gen, who attends Pontifical College Josephinum, Allan Frederick, Saint Vincent Seminary; Michael Norton, Saint Vincent Seminary; Luis León, Saint Vincent Seminary and Jacob Straub, Saint Vincent Seminary.

—Photo courtesy of The Messenger, Diocese of Covington
POLICE CHAPLAINS

Rev. Thomas J. Burke, S’00, was among those quoted in a Tribune-Review feature on police department chaplains recently. Nine law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty in western Pennsylvania since 2005, the article noted, bringing the role of police department chaplains into the forefront.

Burke said his baptism by fire involved three Pittsburgh police officer deaths on April 4, 2009, gunned down during a domestic dispute by Richard Poplawski. The son and brother-in-law of Pittsburgh officers, Burke said the chaplains were there to listen, talk, and pray with colleagues of the fallen officers following the incident. Other duties can involve notifying officers’ relatives about their deaths, providing support to victims or family members, and, on a happier note, presiding over weddings and baptisms.

BOARD OF REGENTS

Dr. James V. Maher, Jr., Chairman of the Seminary Board of Regents, spoke this fall on “Science and Religion” at the Saint Vincent College lecture series sponsored by the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing. Dr. Maher is provost emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh, professor of physics and astronomy and senior science advisor.

Erie

One new seminarian arrived at the start of the spring semester, 2012.

Christopher A. Wheeler of Girard is the son of Victor and Sandra Wheeler. He is a 1997 graduate of Northwestern High School in Albion, Pennsylvania. He earned a bachelor of science degree from Edinboro University in secondary education and history in 2001 and studied pre-theology at Gannon University from 2009-2011.

He is from the Diocese of Erie.

Father Edward Lohse, S’88, now works as a canonist for the Congregation for Clergy in Rome. He is also serving as an adjunct spiritual director at the Pontifical North American College, Rome.

Rev. Thomas More Sikora, O.S.B., S’91, was appointed parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Parish, Saint Marys.

FEATURED

Seminarian Luis León of the Diocese of Covington was featured as part of a series of articles on seminarians for his diocesan newspaper, The Messenger. He and several classmates, Allan Frederick, Michael Norton, and Jacob Straub, were ordained to the transitional diaconate this spring.

The Costa Rica native settled in the Baltimore area in 1999, and after a 23-year teaching career he began seminary studies in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. In 2010 he received a master’s degree from Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary, and shortly thereafter learned about the Diocese of Covington. With two additional years of study needed for his priesthood training to be complete, he entered Saint Vincent Seminary in the fall of 2011.

“Jesus Christ is the messenger of our heavenly Father ... the eternal son of God. His mission was to reveal to us the love and mercy of his heavenly Father. This reality is deeply related to my ordination,” he said in the article, “because I will be sent by Bishop (Roger) Foy to be a messenger of the Word of God, to teach and to evangelize about the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ.”

WHEELING-CHARLESTON

Bishop Michael J. Bransfield has made the following appointments:


PITTSBURGH

Bishop David A. Zubik has made the following appointments:

Rev. Joseph E. Sioli, S’96, has been appointed administrator pro tem of Saint Matthew Parish, Lawrenceville, effective February 6. He maintains his responsibilities as pastor of Saint Raphael Parish, Morningside.

Rev. Gerald J. Lutz, C’53, S’66, has retired. He most recently served as senior priest at Saint Paul Parish, Butler, and Saint Wendelin Parish, Carbon Center.

Rev. Rudolph F. Smoley, S’69, has been assigned to replacement ministry, with residence at Saint Anne Parish, Castle Shannon, effective January 16.

Rev. Carl J. Gentile, S’60, has been named administrator, Saint John Fisher Parish, Churchhill, effective December 16.

Rev. Vincent Zidek, O.S.B., C’85, S’91, has been named pastor of Saint Peter Parish, North Side, for a six-year term.

Rev. William Beaver, O.S.B., C’85, S’91, has completed his assignment as parochial vicar at Saint Peter, and has returned to Saint Vincent Archabbeby.

Rev. Ralph M. Tajak, O.S.B.,
Nine Saint Vincent seminarians were installed to the Ministry of Acolyte and four were admitted to Candidacy for priesthood by Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D., Bishop of Metuchen, New Jersey, on November 21 at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica. They are from the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Covington, Erie, Paterson, Harrisburg, and Wheeling-Charleston; the archdioceses of Atlanta and Campinas, Brazil; Saint Gregory’s Abbey; Conception Abbey and Saint Vincent Archabbey. Seminarians who were installed to Ministry of Acolyte were: Jorge Carranza, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Marcel Alvarenga, Archdiocese of Campinas; Ernie Darby, Diocese of Covington; Thomas Trochchio, Diocese of Covington; Christopher Barkhausen, Diocese of Paterson; Joseph Gregula, Diocese of Pittsburgh; Brother Simeon Spitz, O.S.B., Saint Gregory’s Abbey, Shawnee, Oklahoma; Brother Michael Antonacci, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey; and Brother John Paul Heiser, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey.

Admitted to Candidacy before Bishop Bootkoski were Feiser Elliott Muñoz Polanco, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Brother Paul Sheller, O.S.B., Conception Abbey, Missouri; Stephen Kelley, Diocese of Harrisburg; Ryan Lee Stichweh, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

S’94, has completed his term as pastor at Saint Peter Parish, and is continuing his studies in Ireland.

Very Rev. Harry R. Bielewicz, S’86, has been named director of Saint John Vianney Manor, with residence there, effective March 1. He continues his responsibilities as vicar for Clergy Personnel.

Rev. James G. Young, S’69, has been given permission to retire, effective June 4, 2012. He is pastor of Saint Therese of Lisieux parish, Munhall.

Rev. Albert C. Koser, C’55, S’59, has been appointed administrator pro tem of Saint Gregory Parish, Zelienople, and administrator pro tem of Saint Matthias Parish, Evans City, effective March 26.

Rev. William E. Domer, S’07, was appointed parochial vicar at Saint Anne Parish, Castle Shannon, effective March 26.

Rev. David A. Driesch, S’82, has been accepted into the affiliate program at Daylesford Abbey, Paoli, in anticipation of entering the novitiate of the Norbertine order.

Rev. Lawrence R. Smith, S’76, has been named pastor of Saint Gregory Parish, Zelienople, and pastor, Saint Matthias Parish, Evans City, effective April 30.

Rev. Edward L. Yuhas, S’97, has been named administrator, Ave Maria Parish, Bentleyville/Ellsworth/Cokeburg, effective March 27.

Rev. Regis M. Famer, C’68, S’73, has been named administrator pro tem, Saint Lawrence O’Toole Parish, Garfield, effective April 30 through June 3. He maintains his responsibilities as pastor of Saint Catherine of Sweden Parish, Hampton Township/Wildwood.

Rev. Steven V. Neff, S’04, has been named pastor of Saint Catherine of Sweden Parish, Hampton Township/Wildwood, effective June 4.

**Greensburg**

Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, J.C.D., Ph.D., has made the following appointments:


Rev. Anthony W. Ditto, S’90, pastor of Saint John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis, and administrator of Saint Hedwig Parish, Smock, effective March 8.


Rev. David J. Nazimek, S’93, pastor of Saint Regis Parish, Trafford, effective March 8.

Rev. Robert T. Lubic, S’95, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Connells ville, and administrator of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Connells ville, and
the great blessing to offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass,” he told writer Cecile San Agustin. “My hope when I become a priest is simply to be a good priest,” he said. “One of the great things about the diocesan priesthood is the wide variety of people we meet, situations we deal with and ministries in which we serve.”

Saint Bede Abbey

Rev. Gregory B. Jarzombek, O.S.B., S’89, pastor of Saint Bede Parish, Crabtree, April 15.

Rev. Michael P. Sikon, S’95, pastor of Saint Thomas More University Parish, Indiana, while continuing as director of the Office for Worship and Director of the Office for Clergy Formation, effective March 8.

Rev. William J. Lechnar, S’96, pastor of Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville, while continuing as director for the Office for Planning and director of Diocesan Pilgrimages, effective March 8.

Rev. Douglas E. Dorula, S’00, pastor of Saint Patrick Parish, Brady’s Bend, effective March 8.

Rev. Robert R. Byrnes, S’67, retired as associate chaplain of Excela Health Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg, with residence at Neumann House, Greensburg, effective March 8.

Rev. Daniel L. Blout, S’86, diocesan chaplain of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, while continuing as pastor of Saint Mary of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning, as well as administrator of Saint Mary Parish, Yatesboro, effective February 14.

Rev. Thomas P. Acklin, O.S.B., S’78, chaplain to Saint Emma Priory, Greensburg, effective February 22.

Richmond

Rev. James M. Glass, O.S.B., S’03, has been named parochial vicar at Saint Edward the Confessor Parish, Richmond, by Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo.

March for Life

Seminarians prepare to board the bus to Washington, D.C., for the annual March for Life. They displayed the new banners created by Jordan Hainsey that they carried during the march.

O.S.B., S05, made first vows as a Benedictine at Saint Bernard Abbey, Cullman, Alabama.

SAO BENTO MONASTERY

Rev. Cassiano Magalhaes deSouza, O.S.B., S’11, a monk of San Bento Monastery, São Paulo, Brazil, was ordained August 6, 2011.

Atlanta

Luke Ballman, S96, of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, is Director of Apostolic Formation at the North American College, Rome. He joined the college faculty after a four-year period as Vocations Director of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.
IMPORTANCE OF DEACONS

Jacob Straub, profiled in the March 30 Messenger, Covington diocesan newspaper, spoke about his role as deacon. He was ordained March 31 along with Saint Vincent seminarians Luis León, Allan Frederick and Michael Norton.

It is, he said, “a very important order in the Church, one that is meant to be of service not only to the people but also to the priests and bishops. A deacon is truly called to be a servant to all, in imitation of Christ who also stooped low and became man for our salvation.”

Straub said that “Seminary is a wonderful experience that truly enriches the priesthood candidate’s understanding of the life of the Christian, and it prepares him as a model of Christ to his people in the parish.”

PITTSBURGH HONORS

Father Ron Lengwin, S’66, was honored with the Bill Burns Award at the Catholic Youth Association of Pittsburgh Inc’s annual gala April 12 in Pittsburgh. The award recognizes outstanding contributions from media in the Pittsburgh area. Father Lengwin is a longtime spokesman for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and has hosted “Amplify” on KDKA-AM 1020 since 1975. Bishop David Zubik presented Father Lengwin with the award, at the 39th Annual Art Rooney Award Dinner.

SAINT BERNARD ABBEY

Father Patrick Egan, O.S.B., S’11, laid out plans for a year-long centennial celebration for the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Cullman, Alabama, in his diocesan newspaper, One Voice. He noted that “by looking back at the roots of Sacred Heart and seeing all that has been accomplished by those who came before, we will be able to look forward to all the tomorrows facing our church community.”

ENGLISH HONORS

Mark L. Bartchak conducted the ceremonies at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on campus. Bishop Cullman, Alabama, in his diocesan newspaper, One Voice. He noted that “by looking back at the roots of Sacred Heart and seeing all that has been accomplished by those who came before, we will be able to look forward to all the tomorrows facing our church community.”

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

Rev. Brian L. Warchola, C’07, S’11 is now serving at Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg.

SAINT PETER’S ABBEY

Father Paul Paproski, O.S.B., S’06, completed a master of arts degree in history at the University of Saskatchewan in October. The thesis, The German Catholics of Saint Peter’s Colony: 1903-1930, examines the concept of the loyalty in Saint Peter’s Colony between 1903 and 1930 among the Benedictine monks, communities, and families. He received his degree at the October 22, 2011, convocations ceremonies at the university.

CHAPEL DEDICATED

Father Matthew Reese, S’01, sacramental minister at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, took part in dedication ceremonies at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on campus. Bishop Mark L. Barchak conducted the blessing.

CONDOLENCES

Jared J. Baker, P’65, C’70, C’74, on the death of his father John J. Baker on December 8, 2011.

Rev. Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B., P’40, C’45, S48, and Rev. Myron M. Kirsch, O.S.B., C’69, S’73, on the death of their brother and cousin, respectively, Frederick Thomas, P’51, C’59, on March 15.


Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Klinzing, S’71 on the death of his mother Pearl Klinzing on November 12, 2011.

Rev. Paschal A. Morlino, O.S.B., on the death of his mother, Marie Morlino, on August 16.

Rev. Chester J. Pabin, S’92 on the death of his mother Mary on December 12, 2011 and his father Chester on December 16, 2011.

Rev. Sebastian A. Samay, O.S.B., C’54, S’59, on the death of his brother Wulf Samay on October 22, 2011.


DEATHS

The following deaths were reported:

James R. Adams, S’63, on September 24, 2011.

Joseph Bator, C’78, S’78, on February 2.

John R. Chess, C’53, S’63, on October 20, 2011.

Rev. Charles R. Griffin, S’56, on March 12.

Rev. Edward J. McSweeney, C’49, S’52, on December 28, 2011.


Rev. John E. Wilt, S’57 on December 4, 2011.

ERIE VICAR NAMED TO BOARD

The Reverend Nicholas J. Rouch, S.T.D., Vicar for Education for the Diocese of Erie, has joined the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents.

Ordained in 1989 for the Diocese of Erie, Pennsylvania, Father Rouch is also the Vice Rector of Saint Mark Seminary, the diocesan college formation program. He has taught regularly at Gannon University, the diocesan university in Erie, and at the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

He received his doctorate in spiritual theology at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas in Rome where his dissertation addressed the relationship of Christian dogma and spirituality in the writings of Cardinal Newman.

In addition to his present duties he is co-chaplain of the Serra Club of Erie and of Holy Family Carmelite Monastery.

Since ordination his assignments have included high school theology teacher, Gannon University Chaplain, and Gannon University Vice President for Mission and Ministry, as well as sacramental assistance at various parishes. He has directed retreats and days of recollection for seminarians in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Providence, and Miami.
Seminary Calendar of Events

Priest Day
Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Annual Red Mass
George Weigel, Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center and author of “Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II,” will speak at the annual Red Mass sponsored by the Diocese of Greensburg’s Saint Thomas More Society and Saint Vincent Archabbey at noon at the Bishop Connare Center, Greensburg.

Seminary Alumni Day
Wednesday, October 24, 2012