A Message From The Rector, Father Edward

The Advent season will soon be here with Christmas following not long thereafter. Just as the arrival of this beautiful season gives all of us new hope, so too there is a very hopeful spirit in the air here at Saint Vincent.

What fills the Advent and Christmas seasons with hope is the anticipation of the celebration of the Christ child’s birth. His appearance in our world and history and his assumption of our human nature are the defining proof of God’s love for us. The Lord in whom we rejoice during the coming days of Advent is truly Emmanuel—“God with us”!

This sense of hope is deepened and extended in the Seminary this autumn through the heartfelt desire of all our students to answer their vocational call and share the good news of Jesus’ birth, ministry, death and resurrection with a modern culture that often tries to find hope in other sources. The Seminary’s strong spiritual formation program in addition to thought-provoking classwork and extensive pastoral training give our seminarians the background and tools they need to effectively share their Christian joy and hope with a world much in need of it.

The community we are building in the Seminary is one marked by both the prudence necessary to understand and overcome the challenges facing the gospel message today, and the hope that drives us to carry out the work of evangelization with joy and confidence. A truly vibrant spirit of fraternity sustains us each day and marks our interactions with those whom we serve in our pastoral outreaches.

In the Epistle to the Romans we read: “Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Romans 5:5). It is my prayer for you that in this Advent season you and your loved ones may find in the child Jesus a renewed sense of hope and an inspiration to share your joy with all whom you encounter.

Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Greensburg, celebrated the opening day Mass of Saint Vincent Seminary. The homily was preached by Very Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B., the new seminary rector. Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., seminary chancellor, also concelebrated.

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Father Ed Mazich, O.S.B.
Rector
Rev. Edward M. Mazich, O.S.B., Named Rector


Father Edward began serving on the seminary faculty in 2007, teaching Sacred Scripture. In 2008, he was named Director of Solemnly Professed Benedictine and Other Religious Seminarians and Assistant Director of Human Formation. He was appointed Novice Master of the monastic community in 2009, and served in that capacity through 2013.

Father Edward served as President of the Saint Benedict Education Foundation, which raises funds for the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’ Anselmo, the international Benedictine University in Rome, from 2007 to 2010. He continues to serve the foundation as a consultant.

Father Edward writes and publishes at both the popular and academic levels. He contributes to a column on the Sunday Homilies that appears in The Catholic Accent of the Diocese of Greensburg; Jednota, the national newspaper of the First Catholic Slovak Union; the website of the National Institute for the Renewal of the Priesthood and the Saint Vincent Archabbey website. He is active in retreat ministry, frequently offering retreats for laity, religious, and clergy. In July of 2015 he gave the annual retreat for the clergy of the Diocese of Beijing, China.


A native of Danville in the Diocese of Harrisburg, he is the son of the late Alice (Connolley) and John Mazich.

He attended Saint Joseph School in Danville, and is a 1990 graduate of Danville Area High School. He received a bachelor of science degree in mathematics from Penn State University in 1994 and received a master of arts degree in theology from Saint Vincent Seminary in May of 1998. He is a member of Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society and Phi Beta Kappa.

In an interview with The Catholic Witness of Harrisburg, his diocesan newspaper, Father Edward noted that while growing up in Danville he was influenced by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, who taught at Saint Joseph’s School in his hometown, by the Sisters of Christian Charity at Holy Family Convent and the priests who served at Saint Joseph’s Parish.

Shortly after college he was attracted to the “community-focused way of life that Benedictines have been living for more than 15 centuries, as well as the apostolates in which Saint Vincent Archabbey has long been engaged: education and missionary and pastoral work.”

The Benedictine Order, he said, “is a religious order which is open to many adaptations and to changing times, and I believe that this is part of the Benedictines’ staying power throughout history. I look forward to helping with the formation of seminarians.”

Father Edward succeeds Very Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and former chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools in Michigan. Father Whalen, who served as Seminary rector since January of 2012, has been appointed by the Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, to serve as the pastor of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish in Glenshaw, Pennsylvania, effective July 13.

“It is a pleasure to announce the appointment of Father Edward as the new rector of Saint Vincent Seminary,” said Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Chancellor. “His service as a member of the faculty, as Director of Human Formation, and on various Seminary committees will allow him to step into this leadership role immediately. His graduate work in Rome allowed him to study at the very heart of the Church, and he brings this experience to our seminarians.”

“I am delighted with the appointment of Father Edward as Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary,” said Dr. James V. Maher, Jr., chairman of the Seminary Board of Regents, “I have worked with him as a member of the Rector’s Council, and know that he is eminently qualified to continue the work of Father Whalen in preparing future generations of priests to serve the Church.”

Archabbot Douglas expressed heartfelt gratitude to Father Whalen, who has served as Rector of the Seminary for the past three and a half years. Father Whalen completed his three-year term as Rector in January of 2015 and agreed to continue until the end of the current academic year, which ended on June 30.

Archabbot Douglas noted that “Father Whalen has served the Seminary exceptionally well. He has been an outstanding role model for our seminarians. His pastoral experience and administrative experience have served our seminarians well in their years of formation at Saint Vincent.

“His ability to respond quickly with both insight and compassion to the daily challenges of seminary formation has been a great blessing in preparing our seminarians for pastoral ministry in the Church today.”
Saint Vincent Seminary honored Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, Bishop of Erie, as an Alumnus of Distinction at the annual Alumni Day Mass on September 29. Very Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B., Seminary rector, served as homilist at the Mass. Bishop Persico was the principal celebrant. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 1973 from Saint Pius X Seminary in Erlanger, Kentucky before earning his master of divinity degree at Saint Vincent Seminary in 1975. In June of 1980, he was assigned to study canon law at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he received the licentiate degree in canon law in 1982. He has served as vice chancellor and chancellor of the Diocese of Greensburg, was named a monsignor with the title of Prelate of Honor to his Holiness by Pope John Paul II and was the bishop’s representative to the administrative board of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference while serving as pastor of Saint James Parish in New Alexandria. He was vicar general, moderator of the curia, acting chancellor and the bishop’s delegate for clergy sexual abuse prior to being appointed Bishop of Erie by Pope Benedict XVI on July 31, 2012. He was ordained Bishop on October 1, 2012 by Most Rev. Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Philadelphia. Bishop Persico has been a member of the Canon Law Society of America since 1983 and is a member of the Board of Regents of Saint Vincent Seminary.

Pictured, top row, from top left, are faculty members and alumni concelebrating Mass; Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Greensburg; Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, Bishop of Covington; Bishop Persico; Father Edward; in row two are Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Seminary chancellor; Bishop Foys, Bishop Brandt and Monsignor Larry Kulick, vicar general and chancellor, Diocese of Greensburg; in row three are Bishop Persico speaking, Bishop Persico receiving the alumnus of distinction award from Dr. James V. Maher, Jr., chairman, Seminary Board of Regents, Archabbot Douglas and Father Edward; Bishop Persico celebrating Mass; in row four are Father Anthony Ditto receiving recognition for 25 years in priesthood from Father Edward and Archabbot Douglas speaking; in the final row Father Warren Murrman, O.S.B., and Father Alfred Patterson, O.S.B., receiving recognition for their jubilees.
Saint Vincent Seminary welcomed 21 new students for the 2015-2016 school year. They are from seven dioceses and six monasteries, including the dioceses of Altoona-Johnstown; Beijing, China; Covington, Kentucky; Erie; Metuchen, New Jersey; Pittsburgh and Steubenville, Ohio; Conception Abbey, Missouri; Saint Andrew Abbey, Cleveland; Saint Joseph Monastery, Lucerne Valley, California; Saint Peters Abbey, Muenster, Saskatchewan, Canada; Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe and São Bento Monastery in São Paulo, Brazil.

**DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN**

1) Mark E. Groeger of Ridgway is the son of Geraldine Gilmore of Ridgway and the late Theodore J. Groeger. He is a 1976 graduate of Ridgway Area High School.

**DIOCESE OF BEIJING**

2) Paul Wu of Datong, Shanghai, China, is the son of Hua Kui Wu and Gui Lian Li of Datong. He graduated from No. 5 High School of Datong in 2009. He studied philosophy at Beijing Catholic Philosophical and Theological College.

3) Andrew Yan of Tai Yuan, Shanghai, China, is the son of Hui Ping Yan and Rune Fan of Shanghai. He graduated in 2004 from Quin Xu High School, Tai Yuan. He earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Tai Yuan University of Technology.

**DIOCESE OF COVINGTON**

4) Benton M. Clift of Melbourne, Kentucky is the son of the late Benton E. Clift and Audrey E. Clift. He is a 1977 graduate of Silver Grove High School, Silver Grove Kentucky, and studied electro-mechanical technology and environmental engineering technology at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, from which he holds an associates in applied sciences degree. He was ordained a deacon on April 13, 2013 for the Diocese of Covington by Most Rev. Roger J. Foy.

5) Alex P. Deters is the son of William and Jacqueline Deters of Florence, Kentucky. He graduated from Saint Henry District High School, Erlanger, in 2006. He studied history at Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in 2015.

6) Stephen E. Gallagher of Newport, Kentucky, is a son of Mary G. Gallagher of Naples, Florida and the late John J. Gallagher, Jr. He has a sister, Kathleen, and a brother, Michael. He is a 1992 graduate of Archbishop Wood High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice from DeSales University. He has done graduate studies in theology at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein Seminary, prior to coming to Saint Vincent Seminary.

7) David Alexander Godbey of Hebron, Kentucky, is the son of David S. Godbey of Union, Kentucky and Kimberly M. Hamrick of Hebron. He is a 2012 graduate of Conner High School in Hebron, and has also studied anthropology and German at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky.

8) Michael Thomas Grady of Snellville, Georgia is the son of James M. Grady of Snellville and the late Jean C. Nieporte Grady. He graduated from Crystal Lake High School, Crystal Lake, Illinois, in 1974 and obtained a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia in 1979, studying agricultural economics.

9) Joseph C. Rielage of Florence, Kentucky, is the son of the late Thomas J. and Carol J. Rielage. He graduated in 1988 from Elder High School, Cincinnati. He studied at Thomas More College, Crestview Hills, Kentucky from 1988 to 1990, then transferred to the University of Cincinnati, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in history in 1993.

**DIOCESE OF METUCHEN**

10) Matthew J. Marinelli is the son of Michael and Linda Marinelli of Pittsburgh, New Jersey. He is a 2009 graduate of Phillipsburg High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree in Catholic theology from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, in 2013.

11) Gustavo Rodríguez-Perez is the son of Gustavo Rodríguez Holguin and Maria del Pérez Zuñiga of Cali, Colombia. He graduated in 2003 from the Instituto Comercial Arquidiocesano, and earned a licentiate in philosophy in 2011 from Universidad Minuto de Dios, Bogota.

12) Michael K. Tabernero is the son of Peter M. and Mary Catherine Tabernero of Hillsborough, New Jersey. He is a 2011 graduate of Hillsborough High School. In
2015 he earned a bachelor of arts degree in Catholic theology from Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey.

**DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH**

13) Rev. Mr. Jack Demnyan of the Diocese of Pittsburgh is a 2003 graduate of Canon McMillan High School. He studied at Duquesne University from 2003 to 2005 and from 2009 to 2011. He earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration from California University of Pennsylvania in 2009. He also studied at Saint Paul Seminary, Pittsburgh (2003-2004, 2009-2011), and has been a student at Saint Mary Seminary and University since 2011. He is a continuing education student.

14) Michael J. Faix is the son of Jeffrey and JoAnn Faix of White Oak. He is a 2006 graduate of McKeesport Area High School and earned a bachelor of science degree in physics from Allegheny College, Meadville, in 2010.

15) Jordan C. Sonnett is the son of Francis and Mary Sonnett of Beaver Falls. He is a 2009 graduate of Quigley Catholic High School, Baden. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in theology in 2013 from Saint Vincent College. He has also done graduate work at the Augustinian Institute.

**SAINT ANDREW ABBEY**

16) Brother Conrad Wald, O.S.B., of Saint Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, is the son of Udo S. Wald of Bainbridge Island, Washington, and Hannelore K. Sturm-Singh of Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany. He is a 1982 graduate of Northside High School, Atlanta, Georgia. He earned the A.B. degree from the University of Georgia, Athens, in 1986, majoring in political science. He completed a master of arts degree in political science at the Ohio State University in 1988.

**SAINT JOSEPH MONASTERY**


**SAINT PETER’S ABBEY**

18) Brother Dominic Leo, O.S.B., a native of India, is from Saint Peter’s Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada. He graduated in 1988 from Saint Aloysius High School in Bangalore, then received a bachelor of commerce degree in 1991 from Saint Joseph’s College of Commerce in the same city, majoring in taxation. He is the son of M. Leo Joseph and Mary Rita Leo of Banaglore, India.

**SAINT VINCENT ARCHABBEY**

19) Brother George (Brian) DeFazio, O.S.B. of Pittsburgh entered the novitiate of Saint Vincent Archabbey on July 1, 2014 and professed simple vows on July 10, 2015. He is the son of Deacon Victor and Carol DeFazio of Pittsburgh. He has one brother, Jonathan. A 2009 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, he earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy/history from Duquesne University in 2013. He studied at Saint Paul Seminary, Pittsburgh, while a student at Duquesne. DeFazio has participated in Boy Scouts of America, where he attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

20) Brother David Klecker of Saint Vincent Archabbey the son of Robert Klecker of Eagon, Minnesota and Barbara Weiss of Hopkins, Minnesota. He graduated from Saint Paul Academy, Saint Paul, Minnesota, in 1993. He received a bachelor of science degree in 1997 from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. He has done graduate work at the Angelicum in Rome, the Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis, Missouri, and at Holy Apostles College and Seminary, Cromwell, Connecticut. He is finishing his master of divinity degree at Saint Vincent Seminary. He was ordained a deacon in the spring of 2011.

**MASTER OF DIVINITY**

21) Mr. Thomas A. Clifton of Greensburg has entered the master of divinity/non-ordination program. The son of Ruth Elaine Clifton of Millington, Tennessee and the late Robert Wells Clifton, Jr., he is a 1984 graduate of Millington Central High School, Tennessee. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in religious studies/pastoral ministry from Seton Hill University in 2015.
Richard DiClaudio, a member of the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents, was the keynote speaker at the Annual Saint Vincent Seminary Education Fund Dinner this spring at LeMont, Pittsburgh. He is Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner of Blue Tip Energy Management, LLC.

DiClaudio, who has 30 years business management and leadership experience, is deeply committed to the Church. He is an Opus Dei cooperator in Shadyside, a secular oratorian at the Pittsburgh Oratory, was founding president and board chair of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Legatus, and a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Serra Club. He is also active in the pro life movement, along with his wife Carole.

DiClaudio received a bachelor of science degree in finance and economics from Saint Vincent College and also pursued graduate studies in business at Duquesne University and Baldwin Wallace University. His talk outlined the societal changes that have occurred in the past several decades, changes in beliefs and behaviors that have outpaced the growth of the Church.

“To be certain, in past years, Catholics were much more active in their faith. We prayed routinely, seldom missed Sunday Mass, and frequently went to confession, Adoration, and even daily Mass,” he said. “We participated in the church’s feast days, and were actively involved in building, maintaining and enriching our parishes. We had many holy devotions, and families often prayed the Rosary together. We named our children after saints, and openly sought the intercession of those patron saints, and Mary and Joseph, too. We also belonged to and participated in the various parish ministries. They tended to be fraternal in nature, but they still helped the Church be mission-oriented, resulting in Christ’s message spreading out into our neighborhoods, thereby making even more disciples of Christ.

“It is difficult to live this way and not draw closer to God,” DiClaudio said. “Because the culture supported the main tenets of our Catholic doctrine, there was much less widespread behavior contrary to Christ’s teaching.”

Citing changes in technology, communications and mass media, he said, “Somewhere along the line, ‘practicing Catholics’ stopped becoming Disciples of Christ.” This change in social current has been difficult for the Church to keep pace with, he said. “Long ago, in the middle of all these cultural ‘isms’ we stopped making our faith the center of our lives. ... The reality is that the rules of engagement with our culture have changed.”

The Church has Christ on its side, he added, noting that “the faithful must reengage with our faith and the Church, to fulfill our responsibilities, both under and alongside our priests, to make our parishes vital again. We can no longer just leave it to the priest and the few active faithful to keep our faith alive in our parish and neighborhoods. ... I believe that the only solution is to pick ourselves up and turn back to the basics, to trust God and take the next right step.

“To begin doing again what His Son asked directly of us more than 2,000 years ago. He told us ‘to make disciples of all nations’ [Matthew 28]. This means to love God above all else,” DiClaudio said. “To seek a personal relationship with Christ and then lead others to do the same. That is our mission. Period. All the other good stuff we have done and do is an outgrowth of getting this right.

“We must identify what makes a parish healthy and dynamic, and then set about the work of making them this way. There are many great tools for doing this that did not exist even 20 years ago.

“These tools range from Catholic Leadership Institute, to Christ Life, ACTs, Alpha, Cursillo, Emmaus, ENDOW, Forming Intentional Disciples, CMF, and dozens of other orthodox and bishop-approved programs for every stage of maturity in faith.” Noting that youths of today “do not learn like we did,” he said technology needs “to be co-opted by the Church, and used to teach them what they must learn.”

DiClaudio cited the changing face of Pittsburgh through the years, “from a tiny Indian village, to a revolutionary fort, to a steel manufacturing and banking powerhouse, to a broken city on the ropes and once again to a world leader in not one, not two, but several important industries.”

Just as Pittsburghers embraced the advances in learning and technology, he suggested, the Church should “develop and implement new ways to carry out our own great commission to make disciples of all peoples. I believe that this can be done, in large part, and most especially, with our youth, by adopting the new teaching and blended learning techniques that are being developed, perfected and implemented right here to help teach the truth, love and Good News of Christ in our age.”
Seminarians and monks from religious orders attending Saint Vincent Seminary in 2015-2016 are pictured with members of the rector’s council. Front, from left, Rev. Jeremiah Lange, O.S.B., director of spiritual formation; Dr. Lawrence Sutton, director of pre-theologian formation; Rev. Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., academic dean; Very Rev. Edward M. Mazich, O.S.B., rector; Rev. Emmanuel Afunugo, dean of students; Rev. John-Mary Tompkins, O.S.B., vice rector, director of human formation; Rev. Cyprian Constantine, O.S.B., director of liturgy.

Row two, from left, Brother Joachim Morgan, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, second theology; Stephen Gallagher, Diocese of Covington, first theology; Benton Clift, Diocese of Covington, pre-theology II; Brother Etienne Huard, O.S.B., Conception Abbey, third theology; Rev. Mr. Mauricio Tabera, Diocese of Metuchen, fourth theology; Brother Ignatius Camello, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, pre-theology II.

Row three, from left, Brother Matthew Nguyen, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, third theology; Brother Canice McMullen, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, third theology; John (Jie) Shi, Diocese of Beijing, third theology; Brother Matthew Hershey, Saint Vincent Archabbey, pre-theology II; Andrew (Xiaen) Yan, Diocese of Beijing, first theology; Peter (Panji) Ren, Diocese of Beijing, third theology; Brother Martinho Zevallos, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, second theology; Brother Dominic Leo, O.S.B., Saint Peter’s Abbey, second theology; Brother Minh Pham, O.Cist., Saint Joseph Monastery, first theology; Alex Deters, Diocese of Covington, pre-theology I; Michael Tabernero, Diocese of Metuchen, first theology; Samuel Rodgers, Diocese of Covington, first theology.

Row four, from left, Paul (Hai) Wu, Diocese of Beijing, first theology; Joseph Shelton, Diocese of Covington, third theology; Rev. Mr. Eric Andriot, Diocese of Covington, fourth theology; Brother Rafael Quesada, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, master of arts; Brother Rafael Arcanjo dos Santos, O.S.B., São Bento Monastery, fourth theology; Brother Thomas Sanders, O.S.B., Saint Andrew Abbey, fourth theology; Jordan Sonnett, Diocese of Pittsburgh, first theology; Matthew Marinelli, Diocese of Metuchen, first theology; Gustavo Rodriguez-Perez, Diocese of Metuchen; Rev. Mr. David Carter, Diocese of Erie, fourth theology.

Row five, from left, Brother George DeFazio, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, first theology; Brother Conrad Wald, O.S.B., Saint Andrew Abbey, first theology; Austin Keith, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, pre-theology II; Rev. Mr. James Schaeper, Diocese of Covington, fourth theology; Brother Mark Liatti, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, pre-theology II; David Godbee, Diocese of Covington, pre-theology II; Peter Crowe, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, third theology; Michael Grady, Diocese of Covington, first theology; David Whiteford, Diocese of Erie, third theology.

Row six, from left, Michael Faix, Diocese of Pittsburgh, first theology; Rev. Mr. Matthew Gossett, Diocese of Steubenville, fourth theology; Ross Kesich, Diocese of Covington, third theology; Brother David Klecker, O. Cist., Saint Vincent Archabbey, fourth theology; Joseph Rielage, Diocese of Covington, pre-theology I; Mark Groeger, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, pre-theology II; Britton Hennessey, Diocese of Covington, third theology; Andrew Boyd, Diocese of Erie, second theology; Brother Matthew Lambert, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, fourth theology.
Seminarians from the Archdiocese of Atlanta, the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, and Erie, as well as Saint Vincent Archabbey, Subiaco Abbey, Arkansas and Saint Joseph Monastery, California, received degrees at the 169th annual commencement of Saint Vincent Seminary. Most Rev. Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, received an honorary doctor of divinity degree and gave the address. (See opposite page).

Receiving degrees were Jorge Carranza, Archdiocese of Atlanta, master of divinity degree; Thomas N. Trocchio, Diocese of Erie, master of divinity degree; Donald H. Bender, Jr., Diocese of Harrisburg, master of divinity degree, cum laude; Ryan Michael Fischer, Diocese of Harrisburg, master of divinity degree, summa cum laude; Zachary A. Galiyas, Diocese of Pittsburgh, master of divinity degree, summa cum laude; Isaac (Paul) Haywiser, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, master of divinity degree; Brother Joachim Morgan, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, master of arts degree; Brother Peter Pham, O. Cist., Saint Joseph Monastery, master of divinity degree, magna cum laude; Brother Patrick Boland, O.S.B., Subiaco Abbey, master of arts degree.

Donald Bender received the Father Omer U. Kline, O.S.B., Excellence in Preaching Award, given by the Rector’s Council to the fourth-year student who has most clearly demonstrated excellence in preaching during his fourth year of study;

Ryan Fischer received the Diakonia Award and the Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B., Sacred Scripture Award. The Sacred Scripture Award is given by the faculty to a graduate who demonstrates excellence in the study of Sacred Scripture, while the Diakonia award is given to the student nominated by the entire Seminary community and chosen by the faculty. The award honors a graduate who exhibits praiseworthy academic performance as well as service to the Seminary community through building student morale and spirit, exercising leadership within the community, and demonstrating creative outreach to others.

Zachary Galiyas received the Honorable Judge Bernard F. Scherer Award, given to the student who most exemplifies the qualities evident in the life of Judge Scherer, including breadth of learning, the integration of knowledge, faith and life, service to others through corporal works of mercy, and a strong witness of faith, hope and charity.

Bishop Bartchak Honored at Commencement; Degrees Awarded
“Some Reflections on the Right and Obligation of the Laity to Proclaim the Joy of the Gospel,” was the topic of the Seminary commencement address given by Bishop Mark Bartchak on May 8.

Bishop Bartchak, a native of Cleveland, was ordained a Bishop and installed as the eighth Bishop of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown on April 19, 2011.

He has been an active member of the Saint Vincent Seminary Board of Regents since 2011. He has served as a consultant and advisor to the Seminary administration and has also delivered several major presentations to students and guests at Saint Vincent Seminary Human Formation Conferences. The following excerpt is from his address. The complete address is available at www.saintvincentseminary.edu.

“I am most grateful for having been chosen to receive an honorary doctorate from Saint Vincent Seminary,” he said. “My hope is that all members of the clergy and seminarians might find some food for thought in understanding and perhaps in promoting the role of the laity in this age of the new evangelization.

“According to the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium, 12, 35; the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation Dei Verbum, 1, 7-10; and the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, Gaudium et Spes, 41-42, of the Second Vatican Council, all the Christian faithful participate in the ministry of proclaiming the Divine Word.

“The ministry of the Divine Word encompasses all the ways that the mystery of God’s self-revelation is communicated to humanity, especially in and through the mission of the Church.

“According to Lumen Gentium, 11-14, ‘Everyone in the Church has the radical right and duty to participate in the ministry of the Divine Word by virtue of their initiation (i.e., through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist), by virtue of their communion with the Church, and their possession of the Spirit of Christ.’

“In other words, we all have a role to play in evangelization; proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“By explicitly stating that everyone in the Church has this right and duty to evangelize, it is clear that this includes the laity.

“I would like to pose a question: ‘Can you think of a circumstance or circumstances in which only through lay persons people can hear the Gospel and know Christ?’ I will come back to that question later.

“Most Catholics know that the word ‘evangelization’ essentially means to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Originally, evangelization referred to proclaiming the Gospel to people who had never heard of Jesus or his teachings (cf. Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:18-20).

“A broad meaning of the word ‘evangelization’ is found in the Vatican II Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen gentium, the Decree on Missionary Activity of the Church Ad gentes, and the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity Apostolicam actuositatem.

“These key documents describe evangelization as the whole mission of the Church and the activities of the apostolate through which the Church announces, implants, and brings to maturity the Kingdom of God.

“Saint John Paul II made evangelization a major focus of his preaching and teaching. In 1990, he issued an Encyclical letter on the permanent validity of the Church’s missionary mandate Redemptoris missio, in which three groups are identified as the object of evangelization;

• those who have never heard the Gospel;

• those who faithfully adhere to the Gospel in the practice of the faith;

• and Christians who have become indifferent to the faith.

“Pope John Paul II had started using the expression ‘new evangelization’ in 1983 at a meeting with the Catholic bishops of Latin America in Haiti.

“In that address he said that for those who are no longer practicing the faith, a new evangelization is needed. He explained that it does not mean a new or different Gospel, but a proclamation of the Gospel that is new in its passion, methods, and expression.

“Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI continued to teach and speak about proclaiming the Gospel to the three main groups of people: those not yet evangelized; those who are faithful to the Gospel; and those who have become indifferent. Also, Pope Benedict was especially concerned about the negative effects of secularization on all three groups.

“Pope Francis issued the Apostolic exhortation on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today’s World Evangelii gaudium in November 2013. (This exhortation is popularly known by its English title: ‘The Joy of the Gospel.’)

“He states that the new evangelization is a summons addressed to all and that it is carried out in three principal settings.

“First is the area of ordinary pastoral ministry, which is directed at the faithful who regularly take part in community worship on the Lord’s day.

“But Pope Francis states that this also includes those members of the faithful who have a deep and sincere faith, express it in different ways, but are seldom present at Sunday worship.

“The second area of pastoral ministry is directed at the baptized whose lives do not reflect the demands of Baptism; those who lack a meaningful relationship to the Church and no longer experience the consolation born of faith.

“The third setting involves those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him.

“As I began to reflect on these three categories which Pope Francis treats in a different order than his predecessors, I could not help wondering who are the real people that would fit these descriptions?

“The first one is obvious; those who are at Mass every Sunday, receive the sacraments regularly, and participate in parish activities. At the same time, I could not help thinking that this represents only one-third of those who consider themselves to be Catholics.

“But then Pope Francis links that category to those who are only in church occasionally. Aren’t they the ones who are referred to as Christmas and Easter Catholics?

“And in terms of pastoral ministry, aren’t they often viewed as being high-maintenance?

“Aren’t they the ones who appear at the rectory door wanting to get married and they have already set a date for less than two months from now and one of them has a prior marriage?

“As you think of other examples, I remind you that Pope Francis has placed them in the category of being in need of ordinary pastoral care.

“When Pope Francis describes the second category of those whose lives are not oriented by the Gospel and have no meaningful relationship with the Church, I think of persons like the granddaughter...
or great nephew of someone who has died.

"The deceased was at Mass every Sunday and received the sacraments. The granddaughter or great nephew is the only living relative and comes to the rectory to discuss funeral arrangements. It is obvious they are clueless about Catholic funerals and it is even more obvious that that he or she finds that encounter with the pastor to be more than awkward.

"When Pope Francis describes the third category of those who do not know Jesus, I wonder if I have to think of far away places where missionaries would be sent?

"And when Pope Francis describes those who have always rejected Jesus, I wonder if that rejection is a free and deliberate act, or if they were misled, mistreated, or coerced into rejecting Christ?

"And I wonder if in that long-standing rejection whether they are also hostile toward Christians or the Church or is there any opportunity for conversation or interaction?

"And as I think about real persons in these categories, I begin to understand that they are the persons on the peripheries on whom Pope Francis is constantly focusing our attention. And I begin to understand that the periphery is often right beside me or just outside my door.

"What images or scenarios do you think of in these three categories of pastoral ministry? And in case you are thinking, ‘Why ask me?’ I invite you to think about the trajectory of pastoral ministry presented by Pope Francis in Evangelii gaudium.

"It’s a trajectory which he says needs to be more inclusive and focused on conversion as an objective for the one who evangelizes and for the sake of persons whom the evangelizer encounters.

"I would like to make two more observations about the new evangelization. The first has to do with where the focus has been and where it may be headed.

"First, in the span of the pontificates of Paul VI, John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and now with Pope Francis, considerable attention has been given to evangelization, new evangelization, and evangelization in the circumstances of the modern world.

"However, it is clear from his Apostolic exhortation that Pope Francis is trying to get us to break free of the inertia that has been present in the Church’s approach to the new evangelization.

"With that in mind, it makes me wonder about the role of lay persons who have the right and responsibility to proclaim the Gospel even in ways in which they are unencumbered by the formalities of the hierarchically organized, institutional Church and its official ministries.

"It reminds me of the question I posed earlier: Can you think of a circumstance or circumstances in which persons can hear the Gospel and know Christ only through lay persons?

"It has been a long time since I had a course in sociology, but I do recall learning about culture.

"Even Webster’s Dictionary tells us that culture may be defined as the sum total of ways of living built up by a group of human beings and transmitted from one generation to another.

"These ways of living may include behaviors, beliefs, customs, and rituals that are characteristic of a particular social, ethnic, or age group. Since culture has something to do with the stability and the core characteristics of that group, it is understood that in many respects, culture is resistant to change. That makes sense.

"And when changes in the core behaviors and beliefs are introduced, a certain amount of tension, confusion, and even chaos can result. A contemporary example is the debate and legal contention concerning the nature of marriage.

"Theologians have observed that the Church’s understanding of culture was refocused during the Second Vatican Council.

"The Church has a long history of examining and responding to social issues.

"However, social questions were often framed from a perspective that was primarily ethical. So the responses were formulated according to moral norms or ‘as being in opposition to Christian civilization.’

"Without repudiating the traditional moral perspective, the Church took up the modern approach of anthropology through which the concept of culture is understood as encompassing the anthropological dimension of living societies.

"This is evident especially in the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World Gaudium et spes, which describes the contemporary world with its hopes, and fears, and the deep changes affecting it in the social, psychological, moral, and religious dimensions.

"It points out areas of serious imbalance and at the same time acknowledges the universal aspirations of persons everywhere.

"It shows the necessity for the Church to recognize these situations and to be attentive to the underlying questions of men and women today.

"At the same time, the Church sees the world from the point of view of the Gospel and it is aware of the close bonds between culture and the message of salvation.

"The Church understands the extent to which cultures can influence religious life and the extent to which culture can be a special locus for evangelization (cf. Gaudium et spes, 58)

"In his Apostolic exhortation Evangelii gaudium, Pope Francis affirms this view of the close bonds between culture and evangelization. He acknowledges that the impact of the Gospel in some cultures appears to be waning.

"Pope Francis makes me think once again of the question I have already posed more than once: ‘Can you think of a circumstance or circumstances in which persons can hear the Gospel and know Christ only through lay persons?’

"I would like to offer one response to that question, keeping in mind a unique group of people who have received baptism in great numbers, and express their faith and solidarity with others in a variety of ways that are unique to their lived experience.

"I am reminded on a daily basis how much our young people are influenced by popular music, television, film, and especially social media. They are constantly bombarded with information and ideas that do not view the world,
As they search the media of their culture, they often look to personalities who are attractive to them because of their success, their celebrity, their excitement for life, and their message, whatever that message may be.

“This attraction occurs even though this encounter with celebrities is not direct and personal. And it occurs even if it does not include anything transcendent; even if it does not contain the message and joy of the Gospel.

Yet young people have an openness to and a longing for an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ. As Pope Francis reminds us, this encounter with Christ is at the core of evangelization, especially a new evangelization.

“I have come to learn that they are seeking the truth and most of all they are seeking love and the source of love which is God.

“How do I know that? Because they tell me. It’s that simple. And they tell me a lot more. They have taught me how to dialogue with them and their culture. “This is seen especially when they boldly ask a question that is often phrased like this: ‘Bishop Mark, what about gay marriage?’ They have taught me that the meaning of marriage is an important question.

“And it is seen especially when I am asked a question that makes things even more personal. It is often phrased like this: ‘Bishop Mark, why does the Church condone gay bashing?’ “This question is often linked to one of the realities of their culture, a personal culture in which the overwhelming majority of young people will acknowledge that they know someone who is gay.

“They have taught me that if the response to these questions begins with a recitation of the definition of marriage according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church; it will end the conversation. “They have taught me that if the initial response includes a blanket moral condemnation of homosexual persons, the conversation is over.

“And they have taught me that if the response begins with a question about their hopes and fears about the question that they posed to me, then a conversation has begun. “Young people have taught me that ‘it would show a lack of trust in the free and unstinting activity of the Holy Spirit to think that authentic Christian values are absent where great numbers of people have received baptism and express their faith and solidarity with others.’

“In the experience of their culture they have a solidarity with others who are homosexual.

“And because they are mindful of the Catholic faith that they have received in baptism, their culture is the contemporary world with its hopes, and fears, and the deep changes affecting it in the social, psychological, moral, and religious dimensions described in the Pastoral Constitution on the Church as I mentioned a few minutes ago.

“These young men and women are baptized and they try their best to discover and express their faith in solidarity with others, including their bishop! “They have taught me that it is necessary to share the most important and fundamental truths of the Gospel; truths like every person has fundamental God-given dignity and is therefore deserving of our love and respect.

“They have helped me to understand what a theologian and alumnus of Saint Vincent Seminary observed in his description of a theology (especially morality) in which there is a marriage of orthodoxy and orthopraxy, together with orthopathy.

“In simple terms, orthodoxy has to do with right doctrine. Orthopraxy has to do with right practice. And orthopathy has to do with right affection.

“However, affection does not simply mean emotions. The term ‘affection’ has been used in older theological discourse to describe holy and godly movements of the soul such as love, reverence, honor, righteous anger, etc.

“Orthopathy is described as ‘a cognitive and participative lens of aesthetic, emotional, appreciation of the religious dimension of life, that will allow our culture to experience Christianity’s offer of depth, making Catholic belief and practice of fundamental pragmatic value.’ (John J. Slovikovski, “Reframing the 21st Century Papacy: John the Baptist as a Model for Petrine Ministry,” Chicago Studies, 53 (Spring 2014) 66.

“Young people, teenagers and young adults, have taught me that they are open to allowing their culture to experience the Gospel’s offer of depth and meaning.

“They have taught me that it is possible for a bishop to speak to them about the truth and to show them that Catholic faith and practice has a fundamental pragmatic value.

“They have taught me that even though they would more often be viewed as the ones who need to be evangelized, young Catholics can be evangelizers.

“My faith has been deepened; my appreciation of the joy of the Gospel is expanded; and my encounter of Jesus Christ becomes ever more real and personal as his divine image is found in the human faces of these young people.

“In other words, they have answered the question that I have invited you to reflect on this evening: Can you think of a circumstance or circumstances in which persons can hear the Gospel and know Christ only through lay persons?

“I can say with certitude, I would not be touched by the meaning of the Gospel or encounter Jesus Christ that way if it were not for them. I can only imagine what effect they may have on their peers as their thoughts, hopes, and fears are shared in that culture of young persons; teenagers and young adults.

“According to the doctrine and the law of the Church, in virtue of their baptism and confirmation, they have a right and a duty to help me, and you, and especially their peers to hear the Gospel and to know Christ.

“For those who are on the threshold of new and potentially challenging and exciting ministerial experiences that follow your graduation from Saint Vincent Seminary, I would like to reiterate an observation and specific exhortation of Pope Francis in Evangelii gaudium 18. He says, “I have dealt with these topics not with the intention of providing an exhaustive treatise, but simply as a way of showing their important practical implications for the Church’s mission today. All of them help give shape to a definite style of evangelization which I ask you to adopt in every activity which you undertake.”

“And for all of us here, including especially lay persons who have the right and duty to proclaim the joy of the Gospel, here is one last quote from Pope Francis: “I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities. The important thing is to not walk alone, but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters, and especially under the leadership of the bishops, in a wise and realistic pastoral discernment.”

“As a bishop, I am ready to help and to receive your help in the work of evangelization.”
Faculty Members Win National Awards for Publications

A Scripture book co-authored by a former Saint Vincent Seminary faculty member and a seminary alumnus and retired Saint Vincent College faculty member received a national award from the Catholic Press Association in 2015. Two other faculty members received awards.

FATHER DEMETRIUS DUMM, O.S.B. 
FATHER CAMPION GAVALER, O.S.B.

The Sunday Homilies, Saint Vincent Archabbey, Cycle B, by Father Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B., C’55, S’59, and the late Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B., P’40, C’45, S46, D’99, received a first place book award in the category Scripture: Popular Studies. Father Demetrius was a former rector and faculty member at Saint Vincent Seminary.

The judges’ commentary noted: “In this book, two fine scholars write simple, practical homily reflections for every Sunday of the Liturgical year. Each homily reflection provides a concise, insightful summary of the Gospel, obviously the fruit of years of study and contemplation of the passage! Each reflection also includes a wise life application that truly enables the Sunday Gospel to be lived in the ordinary moments of life that occur every day of the week. The insights into the human heart provided in the Life Implication section of each chapter are profound. There are no excess words, which provides an example for homilists.”

Father Demetrius (1923-2013), who was professor of Scripture, was the author of Flowers in the Desert: A Spirituality of the Bible, Cherish Christ Above All: The Bible in the Rule of Saint Benedict, A Mystical Portrait of Jesus: New Perspectives on John’s Gospel, Praying the Scriptures, and So We Do Not Lose Heart: Biblical Wisdom for All Our Days. In addition to studies at Saint Vincent Seminary, Father Demetrius earned a Doctor of Sacred Theology Degree from the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’ Anselmo, Rome.

Father Campion studied at Saint Vincent Seminary, Notre Dame, and received a S.T.L. degree from Sant’ Anselmo in Rome. His article “Theology of the Sermon as Part of the Mass” (Worship March 1964) explains that the purpose of a homily is to convey the good news of the Lord’s presence to redeem our present situation—however hopeless it may appear to be. He taught theology at Saint Vincent College and Seminary, and was visiting professor at Penn State and Seton Hill. He also has served as academic dean, provost, and acting president of Saint Vincent College.

MONSIGNOR MICHAEL BECKER

Monsignor Michael Becker, adjunct professor of homiletics, received a national Catholic Press Award for the book he edited, A Life of Daring Simplicity, by Liturgical Press. The book received a third place award in the book category Pastoral Ministry.

Judges noted: “This is a very good book of daily meditations for priests. It is based heavily on Saint John Paul II. It is targeted to those priests of the Saint John Paul II generation.”

Monsignor Becker has been collecting material on the vocation of priesthood since 2004. He has compiled those reflections into a book of daily meditations, not just for priests and aspiring priests, but for any Christian who seeks an understanding of the priestly life.

The book was inspired by Saint John Paul II, who wrote an annual letter to priests, as well as by Saint John XXIII, and Monsignor Becker’s desire to create a collection that offered “everyday verse for those living the vocation to priestly life and ministry.” Saint John XXIII uses the expression “daring simplicity” in his Journal of a Soul. And while his writings and those of Saint John Paul II provide many meditations for reflection, the book also includes work from contemporaries, Church Fathers, and those living and observing the priesthood.

Reflection authors include Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis, as well as Blessed Columba Marmion, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Adrianne von Speyer, Francis Cardinal George, Saint Polycarp of Smyrna, Blessed John Henry Newman, Thomas Merton, Basil Hume, and others. Saint Vincent Seminary faculty member Father Thomas Acklin, O.S.B., also has two meditations in the book, taken from his Unchanging Heart of the Priesthood.

“It took ten years to finish,” Msgr. Becker said. And while the title dates to Saint John XXIII, he noted that it is also “very much in keeping with the vision of Pope Francis, who is showing great courage and daring in his call to reform the Church, and great simplicity in his manner of life.”

The book is available on amazon.com as a softcover offering as well as an e-book. It retails for $29.95.

BROTHER ELLIOTT MALONEY, O.S.B.

Brother Elliott C. Maloney, O.S.B., C’68, S’72, a monk and professor of New Testament and Biblical Languages at Saint Vincent Seminary, has received an honorable mention award from The Catholic Press Association for his book, Saint Paul, Master of the Spiritual Life “in Christ.” The book received the recognition in the category Scripture: Academic (Continued on Page 15)
Studies. It is the result of more than 40 years of teaching about Saint Paul.

Judges noted that “This book reveals Paul, his life and his teaching in a way that is bound to deeply affect the reader. Through the scholarly work of Maloney, readers will come to understand Paul and his writings in a way that will profoundly enrich their spiritual lives ‘in Christ’.”


Brother Elliott, a member of the Benedictine monastic community at Saint Vincent since 1965, has taught Biblical languages as well as courses at Saint Vincent Seminary and Saint Vincent College since 1976. At the Seminary, he teaches primarily about Saint Paul, the Synoptic Gospels, and the Gospel of Mark, which was the topic of a previous book.


Dr. Emily Cash Speaks On Boundaries

On Wednesday, March 18, Dr. Emily Cash, the director of the Saint Luke Center in Louisville, Kentucky, visited Saint Vincent Seminary, offering seminarians, faculty members, and formators a presentation on how to develop and maintain healthy personal and pastoral boundaries. Dr. Cash, a clinical psychologist, explained how boundaries serve to build strong and effective relationships at the personal and professional levels, and she proposed specific strategies for forming healthy relationships.

That same evening Dr. Cash gave a presentation to the Benedictine monastic community entitled “Cultivating a Greater Mental Health Awareness: A Mental Health Primer for Men.” In this presentation Dr. Cash described prevalent forms of mental illness—such as depression and anxiety—and what some of the warning signs are, in order to help priests and religious recognize such illnesses in persons whom they are counseling.

Both conferences by Dr. Cash continue a line of informative and practical training in human formation that the staff of the Saint Luke Center has provided for seminarians and religious. In 2013, Dr. Cash made her first visit to Saint Vincent. She was followed in the autumn of 2014 by Brother John Mark Falkenhain, O.S.B., a clinical psychologist who is a member of the Saint Meinrad Archabbe Benedictine community, and a colleague of Dr. Cash at the Saint Luke Center. Brother John Mark discussed the topic of “Celibacy and Affective Maturity,” and addressed both seminarians and local clergy.

Inspirational Poems By
Rev. Aaron Kriss, S’91

Rev. Aaron Kriss, S’91, pastor of Saint Ursula Parish, Allison Park, has written a book of inspirational poems, Celestial Thoughts. The 214-page book containing 227 poems, explores various topics, including religious and spiritual subjects, the seasons, places, family and friends, personal and interpersonal, the reflective, the imaginative. Poems also cover Christmas, Easter, the eerie, the mysterious, sports and music. The South Side native has been ordained for 24 years and has served in six parish assignments. He also serves as part-time chaplain at LaRoche College. To purchase a book contact him at Saint Ursula, 3937 Kirk Ave., Allison Park, PA 15101, 412-486-6700.
While college students and laypersons traveled to Philadelphia this September to see Pope Francis, seminarians from across the country, including Saint Vincent, got to see the Pope a few days early in Washington, D.C. The Pope canonized blessed Junipero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. 1) Pope Francis smiles and waves at the tens of thousands of people who lined the streets of Washington September 23 to catch a glimpse of him after he left a meeting with President Obama at the White House. In the popemobile with the Holy Father is Cardinal Donald Wuerl (left), the archbishop of Washington who hosted the pope in the first city of his first visit to the United States. Catholic Standard photo by Eddie Arrossi. Used with permission. 2-4) Photos from the canonization Mass by seminarian Austin Keith. 5 and 7) Pope Francis at the altar during the canonization Mass (Saint Vincent photo). 6) Pope Francis inside the Basilica. Photo by Austin Keith. 7) Pope Francis outside the Basilica at the canonization Mass (Saint Vincent photo). 8) Pope Francis receives the relics of Saint Junipero Serra during the canonization Mass. 9) Bishop Edward Malesic of the Diocese of Greensburg at the canonization Mass (Saint Vincent photo). 10) Cardinal Wuerl and Pope Francis greet seminarians during the pope’s September 23 visit to the Archdiocese of Washington’s Saint John Paul II Seminary. During his visit Pope Francis also prayed with the nation’s bishops at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, addressed a joint meeting of Congress, visited Saint Patrick Church, and met with Catholic Charities clients, staff members and volunteers. Catholic Standard photo by Paul Fetters. Used with permission.
Pope Francis Visits Washington, D.C.
Alumni Visit In China

While giving the retreat for the priests of the Diocese of Beijing this summer, Rector Very Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B., center, visited seminary alumnus Father Yiliang Huang in the Diocese of Chengdu. Father Yiliang was ordained in 2014 and is currently assistant pastor of the Cathedral parish in Chengdu, director of catechesis for young adults in the diocese, and a member of the faculty at the diocesan seminary. Father Yiliang is pictured at left. At right is Mr. John Wenhong Huang, a Saint Vincent College and Seminary graduate.

Faculty News

Rev. Emmanuel Afunugo, who has served on the faculty since 1999, has been named Dean of Students at Saint Vincent Seminary. A priest of the Diocese of Amarillo, Texas, he was ordained on May 26, 1983.

He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Kenrick Theological Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri in 1982; a Licentiate in Canon Law from the University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome, Italy, in 1987; a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in 1994; and a Doctor in Sacred Theology degree from The Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family, Washington, D.C., in 1997. His dissertation was “Fatherlessness and the African American Family: A Study in Morality.”

His work in the Diocese of Amarillo has included serving as Consultant in Canonical Affairs from 1987 to 1991 and as Defender of the Bond, Appellate Court of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas, from 1987 to 1991.

Father Emmanuel has conducted in-depth research on the hiring of African Americans in the Catholic colleges and universities of the United States and, in conjunction with the National Conference for Interracial Justice, conducted research on the hiring of minorities in all the Catholic dioceses in the United States.

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Rev. Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., a cathedral dean, attended the Catholic Biblical Association of America meeting in New Orleans in August. He was elected to be a consultant on the executive board of the CBA.

Father Pat also taught a two-weekend-long course on “Critical Reading” to the Permanent Diaconate Candidate Program for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

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Rev. Thomas Acklin, O.S.B., professor of theology, and Very Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B., rector, presented the reflections for the annual Diocese of Greensburg Priests’ Convocation, held on October 14 to 15 at the Chestnut Ridge Resort and Conference Center in Blairsville.

The topic was Pope Francis’ call for a “Year of Mercy,” examined from the perspectives of God’s mercy as it is described in the sacred scriptures and as it unfolds through the sacramental life of the Church.

The week of October 25 to 30 Father Tom and Father Edward attended the annual Diocese of Harrisburg Priests’ Convocation, held at the Hunt Valley Inn Conference Center near Baltimore.

From May 24 to 28, Father Edward gave the annual monastic retreat on the theme of “The Instruments of Good Works from the Rule of Saint Benedict” for the community of Assumption Abbey in Richardton, North Dakota.

From June 1 to 5 he offered the annual retreat for the Benedictine community at Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, on the topic of “The Second Vatican Council—Fifty Years Later”.

From July 6 to 10 he gave the retreat for the priests of the Diocese of Beijing, reflecting on the theme of “The mission of the Church in China in the Twenty-First Century.”

Father Edward wrote a review of Annette Schellenberg’s commentary Kohelet, from the Zürcher Bibelkommentare series; the review was published in the Catholic Biblical Quarterly.

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Rev. Maurus Mount, O.S.B., has joined the faculty as associate professor. Father Maurus recently completed his doctoral dissertation at the University of Vienna, Austria. The dissertation, in classical philology, was a commentary on the Sixth Book of the Vita Sancti Martini by Paulinus of Périgueux.
Saint Vincent Seminary has launched a new Master of Arts degree program in Catholic Philosophical Studies. The degree is a two-year, 62-credit academic degree, said Father Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., academic dean.

“The program responds to the requirements of the Decree on the Reform of Ecclesiastical Studies of Philosophy issued by the Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education in 2011,” Father Patrick said. In the decree, the Vatican has mandated significant changes to programs that have previously been called pre-theology programs.

The reforms, Father Patrick said, “have only just begun to be implemented and will continue to be implemented over the next couple of years. Because of our recent affiliation with the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’ Ansemo in Rome for the ecclesiastical S.T.B. degree, Saint Vincent Seminary, has been required to put the new requirements in place for those currently doing, or applying for, the S.T.B. degree.”

All schools, he said, will soon be required to bring their Philosophical Formation Programs into accord with the Vatican’s recent directives.

The Saint Vincent Philosophical Formation Program will now have two tracks from which bishops, vocation directors and pre-theologians may choose: the present non-degree track of 48 credits, and a new Master of Arts in Catholic Philosophical Studies track of 62 credits. Once the mandated changes take effect the non-degree program requirements will rise to 59 credits.

Students will take 62 credits, including 30 in philosophy, 15 in Catholic theology and Scripture, 12 in language studies, and 5 in auxiliary studies.

For more information on the program contact Father Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., academic dean, Saint Vincent Seminary, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650, email: patrick.cronauer@stvincent.edu.
Pre-Theologians Immersed In Special Olympics

For the second consecutive year, the Seminary’s director of Pre-Theology Formation, Deacon Lawrence Sutton, Ph.D., took a number of pre-theologians to Antiochian Village, an Orthodox Christian Camp, during the Special Olympics Camp in August. Close to 200 athletes attend the event, along with their aides and the coaches.

“This pastoral experience,” Sutton noted, “is an initial immersion for the pre-theologian into ministering, in imitation of Christ, to the real needs of teens and adults with developmental disabilities, some of the neediest of God’s children. This will serve as a springboard for ongoing discernment and reflection upon ministry in the Church and will give the pre-theologian a first-hand experience of actual ministry. Included will be the opportunity to pray and worship together and to engage in interactive sessions to gain the most from this experience for the discernment of one’s future priestly ministry.”

This year five pre-theologians took part, left, from top to bottom, Alex Godbey of the Diocese of Covington, playing volleyball; Joseph Rielage of the Diocese of Covington speaking with a camper at the flag football field; Brother Ignatius Camello, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, supervising a running event; Dr. Sutton timing a race; and above, Rev. Mr. Benton Clift of the Diocese of Covington, showing athletes how to play floor hockey. Other participants included Austin Keith and Mark Groeger of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

The seminarians’ participation in this event is made possible through the work of V. Rev. Anthony G. Yazge, camp director, Antiochian Village and Jennifer Tresp, training and unified sports director, Special Olympics of Pennsylvania.
Bishop Celebrates Mass For Ministry of Acolyte, Rite of Candidacy

Five men were instituted in the Ministry of Acolyte and two admitted to Candidacy for Holy Orders on October 12 by Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic, J.C.L., Bishop of Greensburg. Instituted in the Ministry of Acolyte (top, left photo) were, from left, Brother Martinho Zevallos, O.S.B., of Vinhedo, Brazil, Saint Vincent Archabbey; Brother Joachim Morgan, O.S.B., of White Lake Michigan, Saint Vincent Archabbey; Brother Lawrence Machia, O.S.B., of Swanton, Vermont, Saint Vincent Archabbey; Brother Dominic Leo, O.S.B., of India, Saint Peter’s Abbey, Saskatchewan, Canada; and Andrew Boyd, of Erie, Diocese of Erie. Admitted to candidacy, photo at lower left, were Brother Matthew Nguyen, O.S.B., of Vinh Long, Vietnam, Saint Vincent Archabbey and Brother Canice McMullen, O.S.B., of State College, Saint Vincent Archabbey. Bishop Malesic, above, right, was the main celebrant and homilist.

Formation Series Speakers

Rev. Joseph J. Kelly, pictured at left, director of the Seminar for Seminary Spiritual Directors at the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University, spoke on “The Tools and the Practice of Spiritual Direction in Seminaries” on campus on September 30. At center is Rev. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B., headmaster of Saint Benedict’s Prep School in Newark, New Jersey, who spoke in October. At right is Rev. Jason Hesseling, captain of the U.S. Army, who discussed military chaplaincy.
With you, we give thanks to almighty God for the glorious increase of vocations in recent years. God knows the world needs devout and purposefully trained ministers. The Divine Call of each of these faithful Catholics has its origin in God, of course; the funds generated by our Appeal directly support the Lord’s design for their lives, assisting the Seminary with regular operating expenses, funding all the academic programs, and maintaining the Seminary buildings.

Each seminarian arrives at Saint Vincent with a unique and deeply compelling story. Today there is great diversity in their backgrounds, like the needs of the Church. Some hope to live out their lives as holy priests from their earliest days; others like me, never intended ordination. Marriage and family and a profession were my intended goals. And with the grace of God, I fulfilled each role successfully, though always imperfectly. However, after raising wonderful daughters with the full-spirited support of my blessed wife until her death, the seed of faith planted early in life produced unexpected fruit: I was called to the priesthood. What a surprise has been each twist and turn of my life; what a satisfying reality the Lord has given me through the good and bad days of my life.

With hindsight, however, I am most grateful to the priests throughout my life; they challenged me, culturing my interior convictions and my inner life, especially through the sacramental life. In conjunction with my faithful parents, priests taught me about God and His Church, about His Son and His redemptive work on my behalf. From them I have gained the clearest perspective on the good life, the model of Christian hope for here and beyond.

Day after day at Saint Vincent, we take up the daunting task of training devoted seminarians to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, their hearts configured to Christ, ready and willing and able to take up their cross each day and effectively serve as shepherds to their flocks. However, as we are indeed blessed with greater numbers of seminarians, this gift comes with increased costs.

So, we thank you for all that will be accomplished through your gift. Your donations to our Year End Appeal provide the resources needed for the comprehensive training of ecclesiastical ministers, deacons and priests at Saint Vincent Seminary. Your inspired contribution will touch the lives of each seminarian and all the people of God they will serve throughout their long and rewarding lives. God bless you for your prayerful generosity. God bless you always.

In Christ,

Fr. Bonaventure Curtis, O.S.B.
Director of Development

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Leaven 23 Fall 2015, Volume 24, Number 1

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Chair For Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Honors Rabbi Edelstein

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council’s Declaration, Nostra Aetate (Latin: “In Our Time”), Saint Vincent has established the Rabbi Edelstein Chair for Catholic-Jewish Dialogue. Rabbi Edelstein is a faculty member at both Saint Vincent College and Saint Vincent Seminary, where he teaches pastoral theology and counseling.

The Chair advances Saint Vincent’s commitment to mutual understanding and appreciation between the faiths, which share such a common spiritual heritage. Rabbi Edelstein has served on the faculty of Saint Vincent College for nearly five decades. The Chair honors his legacy—a man of deep faith, a scholar and highly regarded teacher who is widely respected by both faculty members and students.

In 1965 the first National Catholic-Jewish Colloquy was hosted at Saint Vincent College, when Father Campion Gavaler, O.S.B., was the chair of the Theology Department. Rabbi Edelstein was the chair of the Theology Department. With the appointment of Rabbi Edelstein to the position in 1968, the relationship between a rabbi and a priest began, and has continued to this day.

In their early dialogue, the two men discovered that they shared a compelling interest in the philosophy, theology, and psychology of Viktor Frankl—a Holocaust survivor. Frankl spoke about the ultimate meaning of life which all human beings seek. This was the same question raised in the Declaration from Vatican II: in this quest, we are all one. Rabbi Edelstein has said that the ultimate meaning of life is not something that we personally construct, but rather it is something we must discover. And if we seek divine help in this endeavor, we will find messages that are signs that point us in the direction to fulfill our own unique destiny.

Over nearly five decades, thousands of students have enrolled in courses taught by Rabbi Edelstein at Saint Vincent. His classes include American Judaism, History of Jewish Thought, Holocaust Questions. Students report that their experience in his class was invaluable, a formative influence on their lives. Raised in New England, Rabbi Edelstein attended the University of New Hampshire, graduating with bachelor’s and master’s degrees. He went on to receive a Doctor of Divinity at Hebrew Union College, where he was ordained, and received another doctorate from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He also received a master’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh in clinical psychology from the Graduate School of Social Work.

Beyond his teaching responsibilities throughout the years at Saint Vincent College and Seminary, together with his commitment to serving the congregation of Temple David for more than 35 years, he also was chaplain at the V.A. Hospital in Pittsburgh. In 1982 he was awarded the top honor from the United Jewish Federation for outstanding service to the community of Greater Pittsburgh. He resides in Monroeville with his wife and best friend, Eva.

To make a gift in honor of Rabbi Edelstein, please fill out and return the form at left.

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To make a gift to Saint Vincent Seminary, please use the enclosed envelope or contact us at 724-532-6740. You may also visit us online at:

www.stvincentstore.com/seminary.html
Erie

Rev. Michael Polinek, S’10, has been named full-time director of vocations by Bishop Lawrence Persico. He was recently featured in an issue of FaithLife. He previously served at Saint Joseph Parish in Warren and Saint George Parish in Erie.

“We’ve all heard Bishop Persico promoting ‘a culture of vocations’,” Father Polinek said. “The bishop has asked that I promote awareness about vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, in addition to working one-on-one with prospective candidates.”

As part of his new role he is encouraging priests in the diocese to tell their vocation stories in a Sunday homily, and hopes each parish will establish a vocation committee.

“Before we can even think about nurturing vocations in our parishes and our homes,” he said, “we have to make sure each of us is committed to our relationship with God.”

Seminarian David Whiteford was admitted to candidacy for Holy Orders by Bishop Persico on August 8.

Bishop Persico also made the following appointment:

Rev. Lawrence Richards, S’88, to Saint Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, Erie, reappointed as pastor for a six-year term.

Bishop Persico ordained seminarian David Carter to the diaconate on April 25.

John Paul Kuzma, who studied for two years at Saint Vincent Seminary prior to joining the Capuchin Franciscans as a postulant, was ordained to the priesthood June 6 by Cardinal Sean O’Malley, O.F.M. Cap., at Saint Augustine Church, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh

In the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Most Rev. David Zubik made the following appointments:

Rev. James G. Young, S’69, who is retired, served as administrator, pro tem, of Saint Joseph Parish, Roscoe and Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, California this summer.

Rev. Michael Peck, S’11, has been named sacramental minister at Saint James Parish, Pulaski, and Christ the King Parish, Bessmer/Hillsville. This is in addition to his responsibilities as pastor of Saint Camillus Parish and chaplain of Westminster College.

Rev. Nicholas M. Mastrangelo, C 60, S64, to full-time parochial vicar at Saint Therese of Lisieux Parish, Munhall, effective August 31.

Rev. Thomas J. Lewandowski, S’99, to pastor at Christ the Light of the World Parish and Saint Joseph Parish, both in Duquesne, effective April 13.

Rev. Kevin G. Poecking, S’02, to a second six-year term as pastor of Saint Peter Parish, Slippery Rock, and as director of campus ministry at the Slippery Rock Newman Center, effective April 20.

Rev. Michael L. Yaksick, S’94, to a second six-year term as pastor of Saint Blaise Parish, Midland, effective May 18.

Rev. Matthew R. McClain, S’01, to pastor of Saint John Parish, Fenelton, for six years, effective July 13. He remains pastor of Saint Wendelin Parish, Carbon Center.

Rev. John M. Bachkay, S’83, to a second term as pastor, Saint Sylvester Parish, Brentwood, effective June 29.

Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, S’91, to pastor of Saint Ursula Parish, Allison Park, and part-time chaplain at LaRoche College, effective July 13.


Rev. Edward L. Yuhas, S’97, to moderator of Team Ministry at Saint Agnes Parish, Richenville; Ave Maria Parish, Bentleyville/Ellsworth; Saint Joseph Parish, Roscoe; Saint Oliver Plunkett Parish, Fredericktown/Marianna;

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and Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, California, effective August 31.

Rev. Michael A. Zavage, S’09, to chaplain to the students and staff at California University of Pennsylvania, Waynesburg University and Washington and Jefferson College, with residence at Immaculate Conception Parish, Washington, effective July 13.

Rev. J. Francis Frazer, S’75, to moderator of team ministry at Saint Ann Parish, Waynesburg; Saint Hugh Parish, Carmichaels; Saint Ignatius of Antioch Parish, Bobtown; Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Nemacolin; and Saint Thomas Parish, Clarkeville, effective July 13.

Rev. John M. Bauer, S’73, to team ministry at Saint Ann Parish, Waynesburg; Saint Hugh Parish, Carmichaels; Saint Ignatius of Antioch Parish, Bobtown; Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Nemacolin; and Saint Thomas Parish, Clarksville, effective July 13.

Rev. John E. Forbidussi, S’94, to sacramental minister, Saint Bartholomew Parish, Penn Hills, effective July 13. He maintains his responsibilities as chaplain to the Catholic patients and staff of UPMC East and Forbes Regional Hospitals with continued residence at Saint Bernadette Parish, Monroeville.

Rev. Vincent F. Kolo, S’95, to continuing education and formation studies during a six-month sabbatical while maintaining his residence at Holy Trinity Parish, Robinson Township.

Rev. John D. Nanz, C’68, S’71, to retirement on July 13. He was the chaplain at Canonsburg General Hospital.

Rev. Garrett Dorsey, C’55, 559, to retirement on July 13. He was most recently the pastor of Saint Ursula Parish, Allison Park.

Rev. Donald A. Bischof, S’83, to retirement. He most recently served as pastor of Saint John Parish, Coylesville.

Rev. Lawrence R. Smith, S’76, to retirement. He most recently served as pastor of Saint Gregory Parish, Zelienople and Saint Matthias Parish, Evans City.

The following priests celebrated jubilees this year:

Rev. Michael Vecchio, S’50, 65

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Saint Vincent Gains New Priest

Father Isaac (Paul) Haywiser, O.S.B., C’09, S’15, was ordained to the priesthood on May 2 by the Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, J.C.D., Ph.D., Bishop of Greensburg. He has been assigned as parochial vicar of Saint John University Parish, the Catholic parish for West Virginia University, and associate director of Campus Ministry.

Erie Priesthood Ordination

Bishop Persico ordained Thomas N. Trocchio, S’15, to the priesthood on June 5. He has been assigned to parochial vicar, Saint Luke Parish, Erie, effective June 26.

Ordination was a lifelong dream for Trocchio, whose sister recalled in FaithLife, that he was always playing priest as a child. Baptized a Lutheran, Trocchio, who grew up in Plum, near Pittsburgh, lost his mother at age six and lived with his father and grandfather. At age 14 he converted to Catholicism, and while a student at Edinboro University a few years later, he became involved in the Newman Center and its campus ministry program. In his junior year he decided to enter seminary and finished undergraduate work at Gannon University before beginning studies at Saint Vincent Seminary.

“I’m very happy,” Trocchio told FaithLife. “I’ve said this before when people ask me about my vocation: It’s the best decision that God has ever made for me.”

Above, Bishop Lawrence T. Persico during the ordination of Rev. Thomas Trocchio, S’15. Below, Bishop Persico, left, with Father Trocchio and Most Rev. Donald Trautman, bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Erie.

Photos by Austin Keith.
Seminary News & Notes

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Atlanta Priest Ordained

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory ordained five men to the priesthood in Atlanta on June 27 at the Cathedral of Christ the King, including Father Jorge Carranza. Father Carranza said in The Georgia Bulletin that he looks forward to a ministry where he can focus on “breaking open the Word.” He has been assigned to Church of the Good Shepherd in Cumming as parochial vicar. Pictured above Father Carranza reads from the Eucharistic Prayer during the ordination ceremony.

Georgia Bulletin Photo by Michael Alexander. Used with permission.


Rodgers participated in the Rite of Candidacy August 9 before Bishop Foy at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. Andriot, Picchioni and Schaeper were ordained to the diaconate this March 28. Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, D.D., has made the following appointments:


Rev. Jacob E. Straub, S’13, to parochial administrator at Saint Matthew Parish and Mission, Kenton, and part-time instructor at Covington Latin School, Covington, effective July 6.

Rev. Ryan L. Stenger, C’09, has been named parochial vicar, Saint Joseph Parish, Cold Spring, effective August 7.

Rev. Matthew A. Cushing, S’09, to chaplain, Covington Catholic High School, while continuing his other duties.

Rev. Trinity P. Knight, S’14, to chaplain, Saint Henry District High School, while continuing his other duties.

Jordan Hainsley, C’11, who has served as graphic designer for Leaven, photographer for the Seminary, and Seminary Facebook® manager for the past four years, has become a seminarian.

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Three Seminary Alumni Ordained In Harrisburg

Father Donald Bender, S’15, Father Ryan Fischer, S’15, and Father Matthew Larlick, S’13, were ordained to the priesthood on June 6 by Most Rev. Robert W. Gainer.

Bender, who left the Church after his best friend was killed in a car accident, sought the Lord’s help after 20 years away, and he heard one word: priest.

“It kept coming up in my prayer life. It came to a point where I was trying to force myself not to hear it,” he told The Catholic Witness.

“God had called me, I had heard it, and I ignored it, until it finally became almost a nuisance.”

Attending RCIA he rediscovered the beauty of the faith, writer Jen Reed noted.

“Even in the years that I was away from the Church, Our Lady never left my side,” Bender said. He has been assigned as parochial vicar of Saint Patrick Parish, Carlisle, and said he hopes to bring compassion, humility and joy to his ministry.

Larlick, while living in the Diocese of Metuchen, heard a letter read by his pastor from the bishop encouraging the faithful to offer prayers for vocations. Mass had become a central part of his life, and he decided to pray that a particular young man he saw at Mass would go to seminary. Instead, it opened his own mind to a vocation.

“Seminary is the only place where you can really discover if God is calling you to be a priest,” he said. “The people that I found most important in supporting me through seminary are priest friends. These are the folks who have had many of the same successes. The better your network of priests, the better off you’re going to be. The more people you can ask to pray for you, the better off you’re going to be.”

He has been assigned as parochial vicar of Saint Catherine Labouré Parish in Harrisburg.

Fischer had a career in retail and was considering entering a service program such as the Peace Corps when he felt God directing him down another path.

“I was totally surprised,” he said. “Up until that point, I’d really never been convicted about what I was supposed to do, and now, for some reason, I was. Yes, there was some confusion, but something within was finally sure. There was a sense of peace, and a sense that this was a direction, because before, I wasn’t really sure in what direction to go.”

He will serve as parochial vicar at Saint Joseph Parish in Hanover.

“The preparation has been all towards this,” Fischer said. “God’s work is always incremental. He’s forming a priestly character and a priestly heart in me, and in the men who are in seminary. There is a definite sense that something changes in the Sacrament of Holy Orders, but God has been working in me, and I’m just excited to be a priest, to do everything that the priest does, and be in cooperation with the Holy Spirit and what God calls me to do in every moment.”
**Three Ordained Deacons**

Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, left; The Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, J.C.D., Ph.D., Bishop of Greensburg, fourth from left, and Abbot Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Saint Andrew Abbey, at right, congratulate the three newly-ordained deacons, Brother Matthew Lambert, O.S.B., second from left, and Brother Pio Adamonis, O.S.B., third from left, from Saint Vincent Archabbey; and Brother Thomas Sanders, O.S.B., of Saint Andrew Abbey, fifth from left, following their ordination to the diaconate on April 25.
First Abbey Priest In 30 Years

When Bishop Anthony Taylor of the Diocese of Little Rock ordained Father Patrick Boland, O.S.B., to the priesthood on June 20, it was a day of great celebration at Subiaco Abbey, Arkansas. Father Patrick was the first monk ordained a priest at the abbey in 30 years.

Concelebrating at the Mass were Abbot Leonard Wangler, O.S.B., former Seminary rector Father Timothy Whalen, Academic Dean Father Patrick Cronauer, O.S.B., and Father Isaac Haywiser, O.S.B., of Saint Vincent Archabbey, a classmate.

“While I was completely happy being a brother in community; helping on the farm, in vocations, teaching and giving retreats, I always wanted to bring the sacraments to people,” Father Patrick told Arkansas Catholic. “Being ordained will enable me to actually bring the sacraments to those I meet. Identifying myself in the personhood of Christ as a priest, that’s a pretty awesome concept. You’re a minister on the altar, you’re an instrument through which God’s grace works,” he said. “It’s a pretty awesome idea being Christ to others beyond a lay person. Just like a baptism does something, it may not be visible on the outside but it’s real.”

Subiaco Abbey has 40 monks, 23 who are brothers and 17 who are priests.

Rev. Trinity Knight, S’14, of the Diocese of Covington, left, and Rev. Christopher Barkhausen, S’14, of the Diocese of Paterson returned to campus this spring to talk to seminarians about their first year as priests.

Rev. Robert T. Lubic, S’95, was honored at the 10th annual Geibel Catholic Spring Auction Gala. He is presently serving as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Connellsville, and administrator of Saint John the Evangelist Parish and Saint Rita Parish, Connellsville.

Msgr. Raymond E. Riffe, S’79, has been named delegate in cases of clergy and church personnel misconduct. He remains managing director of Catholic Charities for the diocese and rector of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.

Msgr. Larry J. Kulick, C’88, S’92, has been named vicar general and moderator of the Curia; judge, defender of the bond and advocate on the Diocesan Tribunal, while remaining pastor of Saint James Parish, New Alexandria.

Msgr. William R. Rathgeb, S’67, was appointed judicial vicar of the Diocese of Greensburg while remaining chaplain to the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, Greensburg.

Rev. Daniel C. Mahoney, S’70, as vicar forane of Deanery IV while continuing as pastor of Holy Family Parish, Latrobe, and bishop’s delegate for matters pertaining to the celebration of Mass in the Extraordinary Form.

Msgr. James T. Gaston, C’67, S’71, as vicar forane of Deanery III while continuing as pastor of Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville.

Msgr. Michael W. Matusak, P 67, S’75, as vicar forane of Deanery V while continuing as pastor of Saint Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Uniontown, and administrator of the parishes of Saint Joseph, Uniontown, Saints Cyril and Methodius, Fairchance, and Saint Hubert, Point Marion.

Rev. Kenneth G. Zaccagnini, C’78, S’82, as vicar forane of Deanery I while continuing as pastor of Saint Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell.

SAGINAW

Bishop Joseph R. Cistone made the following appointment:


WHEELING-CHARLESTON

In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Bishop Michael J. Bransfield has made the following appointments:

Rev. Christopher M. Turner, S’04, to associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarksburg. Turner was also appointed chaplain to the Serra Club of Clarksburg.

Rev. Douglas A. Ondock, C’02, S’07, to pastor of Saint Alphonsus Parish, Wheeling.

(Continued on Page 30)
Brother Rafael Quesada, O.S.B., and Brother Matthew Nguyen, O.S.B., who attend Saint Vincent Seminary, professed solemn vows on July 11.

Rev. Jeremiah Lange, O.S.B., S’13, has been named pastor of Saint John University Parish, the Catholic parish for West Virginia University, and director of Campus Ministry.

Father Isaac (Paul) Haywiser, O.S.B., C’09, S’15, who was ordained to the priesthood on May 2, has been assigned as parochial vicar of Saint John University Parish, the Catholic parish for West Virginia University, and associate director of Campus Ministry.

Rev. Brian Boosel, O.S.B., C’96 S’02, has joined the faculty of Saint Vincent College full time for the 2015-2016 academic year. He will serve as assistant professor of history. After graduating from Saint Vincent Seminary, he earned a master of arts degree in Medieval and Renaissance Europe from Slippery Rock University, and is completing his Ph.D. in early modern European history from The Catholic University of America. He previously taught at Saint Vincent Archabbey, College and Seminary and served as director of campus ministry and archivist.

Rev. Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., S’07, earned a master of science degree in library science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. He completed the degree program in July. Father Matthias has been serving for five years as assistant to the director of libraries at Saint Vincent College.

Rev. Maurus Mount, O.S.B., S’05, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in July at the University of Vienna, Austria. The dissertation, in classical philology, was a commentary on the Sixth Book of the Vita Sancti Martini by Paulinus of Périgueux. He is now on the Seminary faculty, teaching Latin and Greek.

HARRISBURG

The following priests celebrated jubilees this year:

Msgr. Vincent J. Topper, S’35, 79 years;
Rev. Paul R. Shuda, S’60, 55 years;
Rev. James F. Podlesny, O.S.B., S’80, 35 years;
Rev. David M. Hereshko, S’99, 15 years.

Rev. Michael Messner, S’97, continues his recovery from a fall in February. He has returned to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lancaster to continue his recovery.

Bishop Ronald V. Gainer made the following appointments, effective June 22:

Rev. Paul M. Clark, JCL, S’02, to judicial vicar of the Diocese of Harrisburg, effective June 15. He continues as pastor, Saint Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist Parish, Dauphin.


Rev. Thomas J. Rozman, S’97, to pastor, Saint Joseph Parish, Mechanicsburg.

Rev. Norman Hohenwarter, S’95, to chaplain, Saint Anne’s Retirement Community, Columbia.

Rev. Mark E. Weiss, S’02, to pastor, Holy Infant Parish, York Haven.

Rev. Paul C. Helwig, S’74, to pastor, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish, Harrisburg.

CHARLOTTE

Most Rev. Peter J. Jugis appointed Rev. David Brzoska, S’99, to ministry outside the diocese. He had been serving as pastor of Saint Elizabeth of the Hill Country Church in Boone and Epiphany Mission in Blowing Rock. Brzoska celebrated 15 years in the

(Continued from Page 31)

Mimika Garesché, who most recently served as associate director of human formation at Saint Vincent Seminary, was appointed to assist in the coordination of the Institute for Catholic Pastoral Leadership, with responsibility for collaborating in the planning and oversight of formation for pastoral leaders, effective September 7. The position is within the diocesan Secretariat for Leadership Development in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Mimika Moving On

When Father Lukasz Iwarczuk was ordained along with 13 other priests in the Diocese of Paterson this year, he was part of the largest class of ordinands in the nation in 2015, it was reported in The Beacon, diocesan newspaper. They were ordained by Most Rev. Arthur Serratelli. The bishop challenged the men to become “true priests of the New Testament, preaching the Gospel, shepherding His people and celebrating the Lord’s sacrifice.” Father Iwarczuk, pictured in the last row, third from left, has been assigned as parochial vicar of Our Lady of the Magnificat, Kinnelon. Photo Courtesy of The Beacon, Newspaper of the Diocese of Paterson, N.J. Used with permission.
priesthood this year, and Rev. Brian Cook, S’85, celebrated 30 years.

Rev. Christopher Roux, S’01, rector of Saint Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte, saw the parish through its 75th anniversary year. Bishop Jugis celebrated a special Mass to mark the closing of the anniversary.

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

Most Rev. Mark Bartchak made the following appointments:


Rev. Alan E. Thomas, V.F., former dean of students at Saint Vincent Seminary, to pastor of Resurrection Parish in Johnstown and dean of the Cambria Deanery, appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Bellwood and vicar general of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, effective August 19.

Seminarian Peter Crowe was admitted to Candidacy for Ordination by Bishop Bartchak on July 25 at Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College. In addition to the presence of Very Rev. Edward Mazich, O.S.B., seminary rector, at the Mass, Rev. Matthew Reese, S’01, diocesan director of vocations, was also in attendance.

ATLANTA

Rev. Feiser Muñoz was mentioned in a Georgia Bulletin feature on dedication of a new home for the Hispanic mission in the archdiocese, a 12,000-square-foot space. Bishop Luis R. Zarama celebrated the Mass of inauguration with Father Muñoz, parochial vicar of Christ the King Parish, among the concelebrants. Father Muñoz leads Hispanic ministry at the mission and the cathedral.

“Now that we’ve moved into Buford (Highway), we are getting new

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“The Christian as Pilgrim, The Church as Home,” is the title of an article published in issue 27 of Sacred Architecture by Rev. Kurt Belsole, O.S.B., P’69, C’74, S’78. Father Kurt, who now serves as director of liturgical formation and formation advisor at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, has previously served as rector and faculty member at Saint Vincent Seminary.

“Appreciating the church building as a place where the Christian is at home is to enter into the already and the not yet of Christian existence. Already the Christian has been baptized into and shares the very life of the Trinity, but the fullness and permanence of that life is not yet realized,” he wrote. “At the same time, appreciating the church building as a place where the Christian is at home means entering into the kaiρός (the time of salvation), and not the χρόνος (the measured time of the clock).”

Writing that we are pilgrims in a temporal world, on the way to the kingdom of God, Father Kurt writes that “so often people think and act as if what they do outside of the church is the real world, and what they do in church is just a break from that reality.”

But looking at it liturgically, “what happens in church is not a break from the real world, but a break from distractions in order to enter consciously into what is really real.” In so doing, he writes, there are consequences for the construction of churches. Most importantly, a church should feel like home.

Father Kurt cited the example of visiting the church where he was baptized, Saint Mary Church in St. Marys, Pennsylvania, built in 1852.

“A church is a place for both public and private prayer,” he wrote. “It is the place of the sacred liturgy, the public prayer of the Church, and often enough it is the place of the private prayer that flows from and leads back to the liturgy.”

To enter Saint Mary Church, he said, “is truly to come home in the most profound Christian sense.” Integrating art and architecture in the church means that “when one is distracted in the sacred liturgy in a church like that, one is distracted into the mystery and not out of it…. Entering into a church means being willing to be immersed in and embraced by the kaiρός.…. We attest to the fact that the Christian story is our story, that the Paschal Mystery includes our own personal mystery, and that God in His love and mercy has chosen to transfigure us as His beloved sons and daughters in a glory beyond all imagining.”

The complete article is available at this link: http://www.sacredarchitecture.org/articles/the_christian_as_pilgrim_the_church_as_home/.

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people and their neighbors," he said. "They walk, many of them. You can see them walking to Mass every Sunday at 9:30. It’s like a key location … in the heart of Buford."

Campinas

Marcel Gustavo Alvarenga, S'14, was ordained to the priesthood on August 1, by Archbishop Airton José dos Santos in the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Campinas, Brazil. Father Earl Henry, O.S.B., prior of Saint Vincent Archabbey, represented the Archabbey at the ordination.

Condolences to:

Seminarian David Whiteford on the death of his grandmother, Barbara Yeager, in May.

Nancy Sobota, assistant to the Academic Dean, on the death of her cousin, Curtis L. Maxwell, Sr., on August 7, 2015, and of her brother-in-law, Mark Sobota, on August 31, 2015, both after battles with cancer.

Seminarian Brother Lawrence Machia, O.S.B., on the death of his grandfather, Ephraim Machia, on September 4, 2015.

Most Rev. David Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, on the death of his father, Stanley, on August 12, 2015.

Dr. Kathleen Borres, associate professor of Systematic and Biblical Theology on the death of her father, Donald Emidio Contini, on September 20, 2015, and her father-in-law, Frank J. Borres, on October 11, 2015.

Marvin Glover, a Seminary employee, and his wife, Marge, on the death of his mother, Pauline, on October 12, 2015.

Rev. Matthias Martinez, O.S.B., on the death of his cousin, Susan Noll, on October 16, 2015, after a years-long fight with ALS.

Remembering Our Alumni

Deaths

Msgr. Robert G. Barcio, P.41, a priest in the Diocese of Erie, died September 30. Ordained in 1947 he served as pastor at Saint Mark the Evangelist Parish in Erie prior to being named diocesan historian, a position he held from 1986 to 2010, when he retired. He authored three volumes of diocesan history as well as a pictorial history of the Diocese of Erie and a history of Gannon University.

Rev. George Jackovic, S'46, on October 1 at age 95. He retired from active ministry in 1994. His longest ministry was as pastor of Holy Family Parish in Creighton in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, where he served from 1966 until his retirement. He also served as Northeast Deanery spiritual director for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, and was involved with Knights of Columbus.

Msgr. John J. Seli, S'46, retired pastor in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, died July 3 at age 93. His most recent pastoral assignment had been at Saint Joseph Church in Verona (1979-1996). He founded and became chairman and director of the Natural Family Planning Federation of America in Washington, D.C. From 1974 to 1979 he was the director, education department, Human Life and Natural Family Planning Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Rev. Charles D. Skinner, C'50, S'53, died September 16. A priest in the Diocese of Erie, he served in the Pacific Theater in the U.S. Army prior to his ordination in 1953. He taught at Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie for 15 years, many of which were spent as assistant headmaster. He served as pastor of Saint Stephen Parish in Oil City until his retirement in 1993.

Msgr. Stephen A. McCarren, C'52, S'55, a retired priest from the Diocese of Greensburg, on August 30. In addition to pastoring in the diocese, he served as a chaplain for the Archdiocese of Military Services in Martinsburg, West Virginia, and was chief of chaplain service at the Newton D. Baker Medical Center in Martinsburg. He served a two-year term as president of the National Conference of Veterans Affairs Catholic Chaplains. He retired in 1997.

Msgr. Thomas K. Mabon, S'57, a senior priest of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, died July 28. Ordained a priest on May 25, 1957, he retired from active ministry in 2001. At the time of his retirement he was pastor of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish and Saint Michael Parish, both in Johnstown. He had been a

Student Leadership Forum Officers

Saint Vincent Seminary Student Leadership Forum officers for 2015-2016 are front, from left, Brother Joachim Morgan, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, evangelization; Samuel Rodgers, Diocese of Covington; Panji Ren, Diocese of Beijing, vice president; back, from left; Austin Keith, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, activities and outings; David Whiteford, Diocese of Erie, house operations and Peter Crowe, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, president.

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Prior to answering his call to priesthood, he was a featured dancer with the Ziegfeld Follies in New York. He later encouraged by Bishop John Wright to use his talents to spread the "Good News," and he appeared on many variety shows, including "Mike Douglas Show," "Phil Donahue Show," and "Late Show with David Letterman." He retired in 1994, and assisted in several Pittsburgh area parishes.

Rev. Jacques Daley, O.S.B., C'66, S'71

Father Jacques DePaul Daly, O.S.B., C’66, S’71, a monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey, died October 25. Following studies at Saint Vincent College and Seminary, he earned a master’s degree in French literature from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont in 1972; a Diplôme Supérieur in French literature from La Sorbonne, Paris; a Licentiate in Spiritual Theology from the Pontifical Angelicum University, Rome, in 1989; and a doctorate of Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Angelicum University, Rome, in 1991, on the writings and spirituality of Saint Therese of Lisieux.

Ordained a priest in 1971, was well known for his work with Mother Angelica of the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) from 1995 to 2006.

He was an instructor in French and Religious Studies at Saint Vincent College, (1973–1977), and adjunct faculty member of Saint Vincent Seminary (1993-2011). In addition to parish work, he was a hospital chaplain, preached numerous retreats to religious communities and parishes and was a spiritual director to many seminarians, priests and members of religious orders.

Msgr. William Charnoki, C'61, S'65


After studying at Saint Vincent, he earned a licentiate degree in canon law from The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

In addition to parish work, he served as assistant chancellor and diocesan secretary to Bishop William Connare; judicial vicar of the Marriage Tribunal; a member of the Priests Council and Board of Consultors; and vicar forane of Deanery 4 in Westmoreland County and Deanery 2 in Indiana and Armstrong counties. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2013.

He was assistant pastor of Saint Mary (Nativity) Parish, Uniontown, and its former mission, Saint Cecilia Parish, Lemont Furnace; pastor of the former Saint Stanislaus Parish, Calumet; Saint Mary Parish, Export; Holy Family Parish, Latrobe; Saint Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana and Holy Trinity Parish, Ligonier; administrator pro tem of the former Saint Louis Church, Lucerne Mines; and administrator of the former Saint Boniface Parish, Chestnut Ridge.

Remembering Our Alumni

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Rev. Blane L. Resko, O.S.B., P’48, C’53, S57, on August 7, 2015. He served as pastor of Saint Bruno Parish, Greensburg from 1997-2007 before retiring to the Archabbey. He was also on the faculty of James Barry-Robinson School, Norfolk, Virginia (1958-1967) and was assistant headmaster and faculty member of Benedictine High School, Savannah (1967-1974) before serving parishes in Patton and Carrolltown.

Rev. Cuthbert Jack, O.S.B., S’90, on May 29, 2015. He taught French at Saint Vincent College from 1993 to 2015, while also serving as pastor of Saint Mary’s Holy Protection Byzantine Church in Homer City and administrator of Saint Anne Byzantine Catholic Church in Clymer.

Francis Cardinal George, D’01

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., D’01, Archbishop of Chicago, died April 17, 2015 after nearly a decade battling cancer. He was 78.

Cardinal George received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary and gave the commencement address in 2001.

Cardinal George was head of the nation’s third-largest archdiocese. He came to Chicago after serving as archbishop of Portland, Oregon.

He was head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for three years, and voted in the conclaves that elected both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

Upon the Cardinal’s passing, Pope Francis commended Cardinal George for his “witness of consecrated life” as a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate, and for his “service to the church’s educational apostolate” and his years of Episcopal ministry.
SAVE THE DATE!

In Concert

Maestro Manfred Honeck
The Pittsburgh Symphony
The Mendelsson Choir of Pittsburgh

Performing

THE SAINT JOHN’S PASSION
Johann Sebastian Bach (1727)
A sacred oratorio and masterpiece of classical sacred music

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