Seminary Helps Form 33 Men in the Pittsburgh Permanent Diaconate Program

When thirty-three men from the Pittsburgh Diocese were ordained deacons on June 26, faculty members and administrators from Saint Vincent Seminary looked on proudly. That’s because the Saturday ceremony was the culmination of a year of planning and four years of education provided by the Diocese and the Seminary.

It’s the first time in 25 years that the Pittsburgh Diocese has ordained men to the permanent diaconate, and this year’s ordination coincides with the 25th anniversary of the first ordination, said Rev. David Bonnar, who oversaw the program for the diocese for the last two years.

“Our involvement with the Pittsburgh Permanent Diaconate Program began in 1994,” said Sr. Cecilia Murphy, R.S.M., Academic Dean. “Mrs. Marsha Kable and I developed a program for permanent deacons, which was revised and refined by the Permanent Diaconate Committee of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.”

As the men participating in the program held full-time jobs, their four years of training was completed through evening classes and Saturday workshops. Courses were offered in Sacred Scripture, theology, spirituality, Church history, pastoral counseling and homiletics. Academic preparation for pastoral leadership skills was also included. The Pittsburgh Diocese provided the training in ministerial practice and the spiritual formation component of the program. Classes were held at St. Paul Seminary, with Saint Vincent Seminary faculty members teaching.

Sr. Cecilia noted that Saint Vincent Seminary has provided permanent diaconate classes for the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese since the early 1980s; however, the seminary has never done the whole academic program for that diocese, as it did for the Pittsburgh Diocese.

“It’s a program of personal formation,” Father Bonnar explained. “Each person had a formation director, with whom they met three to four times a year to talk. It’s also pastoral.”

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Rector’s Message

As I complete my tenth year and begin my eleventh year as Rector of Saint Vincent Seminary, I certainly feel a great deal of gratitude. I would like you to join me in thanking God for his many blessings upon our Seminary. This past ten years has seen a dramatic increase in the total enrollment in the ordination program. Our facilities have been expanded and renovated, thanks to a great extent to your prayers and generosity. Likewise, we have begun to increase our endowment to support scholarships for seminarians, our theology collection in the Library, and faculty development.

But we continue to look forward to the future. Soon we will be announcing a new campaign intended to bring the Seminary’s endowment closer to an acceptable level to guarantee our future continues to prepare priests and ministers ready to meet the needs of the church in the coming millennium. Besides building this foundation, we are also looking to enhance the process of teaching and learning by implementing state-of-the art information technology in the classrooms of Aquinas Hall. The building itself is in much need of renovation, and we are taking this opportunity to complete the link-up of the Seminary with the Library, and to allow many steps in the learning process to take place in a way which will allow easier access and sharing of information in the teaching and learning process.

Allow me once again to thank you for the ways in which you have supported us, particularly by your prayers, as well as by your support. We have come so far, and feel as if we are just beginning. You, our friends, are very much at the heart of all we are hoping to do grounded in Christ.

New Development Director

For Archabbey, Seminary

(Continued From Page 1)

A 1987 graduate of Saint Vincent College, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude, Mr. Malloy majored in the liberal arts, with minors in economics, mathematics and biology. He was named to “Who’s Who Among American Colleges and Universities.”

“I am eager to return to Saint Vincent, and I consider myself very fortunate to get to work day in, day out with Archabbot Douglas, Mr. Marous and the rest of the Saint Vincent Archabbey and Seminary staff,” Mr. Malloy said.

His community activities include serving as President of Kiski Valley Enterprises; a member of Leechburg Rotary and Adelphoi Village, and as a YMCA Fitness Instructor. He is a member of St. Joseph Parish, Cabot.
Fr. Patrick Cronauer Named To Seminary Faculty

Father Patrick T. Cronauer, O.S.B., has been named to the faculty of Saint Vincent Seminary. The Summerhill, Pennsylvania, native, who recently received his doctorate in Sacred Scripture (S.S.D.) from École Biblique et Archéologique Française, Jerusalem, will be an assistant professor of Sacred Scripture and Biblical Languages at the Seminary. He was also named Director of Solemnly Professed Benedictine Seminarians.

He is a son of Harold Thomas Cronauer and Marion Gloria (McCartney) Cronauer of Summerhill and the fourth oldest of ten children.

He attended elementary school in the Triangle Area and Forest Hills school districts. He was enrolled in Saint Vincent Preparatory School from 1969 to 1971 and is a 1973 graduate of Forest Hills High School. Father Patrick attended Rider College, Lawrenceville, New Jersey, and graduated, cum laude, from Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts in 1981 with a bachelor of arts degree in religious studies and a minor in philosophy. He earned a master of divinity degree from Weston School of Theology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, with distinction, in 1984 and a Master of Theology degree, with a focus in Scripture, in 1985. He has studied at Saint Vincent Seminary, Centro Studi Italiani, and the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, Italy, from which he received a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture (S.S.L.) in 1994. He also did advanced studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1993-1994). From February of 1996 to May of 1999 he worked on his Doctorate at École Biblique. His dissertation is titled “The Stories About Naboth (in the Book of Kings): A Search for Sources and Origins,” and was directed by the Rev. Francolino Gonçalves, O.P.

Father Patrick’s home parish is St. John, Summerhill. From May of 1972 until January of 1973 he lived and worked in a small Benedictine community in Israel, under the direction of Father Isaac Jacob, O.S.B., and from June of 1973 until June of 1974 he lived and worked in a small Benedictine community in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, under the direction of Father Maurice Rudiselle, O.S.B. From August of 1974 until May of 1976 he was a member of the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition, Mt. Zion, Jerusalem, Israel. He joined the Augustinian of the Assumption congregation in 1977. He made simple profession of Monastic vows on August 27, 1978 in Boston, and solemn profession of vows on August 28, 1982 in Worcester, Massachusetts. He was ordained a priest by Bishop Bernard Planagan in Worcester, Massachusetts on November 17, 1984. Father Patrick arrived at Saint Vincent Archabbey on July 1, 1989 and his official transfer of perpetual vows was made at Saint Vincent on May 26, 1992.

Prior to his arrival at Saint Vincent Archabbey, his service included working on archaeological digs in Mount Zion, Jerusalem, Israel (1972); teaching in the Diocesan Learning Center for Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children, Trenton, New Jersey (1973-1974); organizing and directing youth volunteers to work at St. Anne and St. Patrick Parish/Shrine, Fiskdale, Massachusetts (1978); organizing, recruiting and assisting in the directing of the Lay Volunteer program at St. Peter in Gallicantu, Mount Zion, Jerusalem, Israel (1981); volunteering at Samaritans: A Suicide Prevention and Crisis Intervention Center in Boston, Massachusetts (1982-1983); spending his diaconate summer at St. Anne and St. Patrick Parish/Shrine, Fiskdale (1984); serving as associate pastor of St. Anne and St. Patrick Parish (1985-1989) and as a member of the Assumptionist Vocation Team (1985-1989). Father Patrick taught at Saint Vincent College and Saint Vincent Seminary (1990-1992), worked in Campus Ministry (1990-1992), was a senior dormitory moderator (1990-1992) and was a member of the Monastic School (1990-1992). He also served as a member of the Monastic Ridge Committee (1992) and a member of the Formation Committee.

Pittsburgh Permanent Diaconate Program

(Continued from Page 1)

They are expected to undertake a pastoral experience in the third and fourth years, including 25 to 30 hours of different experiences each semester. There are also spiritual retreats and days of recollection, and they have a spiritual director. Then there is the academic portion of the program and finally the integration seminars, in which they integrate the different aspects of their formation and what they learned in the classroom. Father Bonnar noted that the new deacons have made a large commitment of time, but added that there are also other commitments in the men’s lives.

“Of the 33, 30 are married, so marriage and their families come first, then their jobs, and then the deaconate. It’s a part-time ministry involving from five to ten hours a week,” he said. Following ordination, each deacon was given an assignment, classified into four categories. The first is parish-based, which is rooted in the parish. The second, also rooted in the parish, is deanery or cluster-based, where ministry is in the deanery, such as in health care. The third category, once again rooted in the parish, is institutionally based, such as ministry at the county prison or campus ministry. Finally, there is diocese-based ministry, where the deacons will work with the diocesan office.

“The focus from the beginning has been to develop the mindset of charity and justice in their ministry,” Father Bonnar said. “The deacons are called to preach the Word, and also to minister to Word and Sacrament. Their assignments reflect that process.”

Father Bonnar notes that in his eleven years as a priest, being involved with the diocesan program has been one of his most exciting experiences because it is built on one of the thrusts of the Second Vatican Council and involves building the Church through collaboration.

Other persons involved with the program, which was instituted by Bishop Donald Wuerl, are Sr. Patricia Rogan, Rev. Edward Burns, Rev. Joseph Klepner and Mr. John Flaherty, of the Pittsburgh Diocese.

The men ordained deacons, and their home parishes, are: Ralph W. Bachner, Jr., St.

(Continued on Page 8)
Bishop William Curlin of the Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina, ordained ten Saint Vincent seminarians to the diaconate on April 19 during a Mass at the Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica. Ordained were Brother Philip M. Kanfush, O.S.B. and Brother Matthew T. Laffey, O.S.B. of Saint Vincent Archabbey; John T. Conway, Michael Heninger and Eric J. Hill of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Georgia; Jeffrey E. Tigyer of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio; John-Michael Lavelle of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio; David T. Brzoska and Luis Salvador Osorio-Salazar of the Diocese of Charlotte and Brother Brendan Rolling, O.S.B. of Saint Benedict’s Abbey, Atchison, Kansas.

Atlanta seminarians ordained to the priesthood were Rev. Fernando Molina-Restrepo, S’98 (top), Rev. Kevin J. Hargaden, S’98 (above), and Rev. Adrian C. H. Pleus, S’98 (left). Father Hargaden and Father Molina-Restrepo were ordained June 12 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Kennesaw. Father Pleus was ordained on June 5 at Holy Spirit Church, Atlanta. Father Hargaden is assigned to St. Joseph Church, Marietta, Georgia, while Father Molina-Restrepo is at Holy Trinity Church, Peachtree City, Georgia. Father Pleus is assigned to St. Catherine of Siena Church, Kennesaw, Georgia.

(Photos courtesy of The Georgia Bulletin)
Rev. Anthony J. Grossi, O.S.B., S’98, was ordained by Greensburg Bishop Anthony G. Bosco on May 22 at the Archabbey Basilica.

Rev. Michael P. Ferrick, S’97 (right), was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Donald W. Troutman on April 23, 1999 in the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, Erie, Pennsylvania. He is now the parochial vicar at St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish, North East, Pennsylvania. (Photo courtesy of the Lake Shor Visitor)

Rev. Mr. David Hereshko (above) of the Diocese of Harrisburg was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Nicholas C. Dattilo on May 22. (Photo courtesy of the Catholic Witness.)

Pittsburgh Bishop Donald W. Wuerl (in photos above and below, left) during the June 26 ordination of 33 men to the diocesan permanent diaconate program. (Photos courtesy of Pittsburgh Catholic)

Rev. Mr. William M. Calabrese of the Diocese of Erie was ordained a deacon in November and is assigned to Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex, Pennsylvania. His ordination to the priesthood is scheduled for September 24, 1999. Rev. Mr. Richard Tomkosky was ordained a deacon on May 22 in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. He is assigned to St. Stephen Church, Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Rev. Paul Weckert, O.S.B., of St. Martin’s Abbey, Lacey, Washington, was also ordained.

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Gilbert I. Sheldon ordained Rev. Mr. Thomas F. Hamm, Jr., to the diaconate on May 22. (Photo courtesy of the Steubenville Register).
Saint Vincent Seminary

Twenty-Six Graduates,
FR. DEMETRIUS HONORED

Twenty-six students received degrees at Saint Vincent Seminary’s 153rd annual commencement ceremonies held Friday, May 7 at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

The Archabbot and Chancellor of Saint Vincent, the Rt. Rev. Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., presided at the Solemn Vespers. Archabbot Douglas conferred the degrees on the candidates who were presented by Saint Vincent Seminary Rector, the Very Rev. Thomas P. Acklin, O.S.B., and given academic hoods by Seminary Academic Dean, Sister Cecilia Murphy, R.S.M.

The Rev. Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B., received an honorary Doctor of Sacred Theology Degree, honoris causa.

Seventeen students received Master of Divinity degrees, eight received Master of Arts degrees and three received Master of Religious Education degrees.

Receiving the Master of Divinity degree were Joseph B. Codori, Jr., Diocese of Pittsburgh, with high honors; John T. Conway, Archdiocese of Atlanta, Georgia, with honors; Rev. Justin D. Dywal, O.S.B., St. Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio, with highest honors; Thomas F. Hamm, Jr., Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, with highest honors; Kevin J. Hargaden, Archdiocese of Atlanta, with highest honors; Michael B. Heninger, Archdiocese of Atlanta, with high honors; David M. Hersehko, Diocese of Harrisburg, with high honors; Eric J. Hill, Archdiocese of Atlanta; John Hou Tianxiang, Diocese of Beijing, China; Thony Roody Jean, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Matthew T. Laffey, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, with highest honors; John-Michael Lavelle, Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, with high honors; Thomas J. Lewandowski, Diocese of Pittsburgh, with high honors; Luis Salvador Osorio-Salazar, Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina; Paul Shi Hui Min, Diocese of Beijing; Jeffrey E. Tigyer, Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, with honors. Receiving the Alumni Master of Divinity degree was Rev. Jerome J. Purta, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey.

Awarded Master of Arts degrees were David T. Brzoska, Diocese of Charlotte, with highest honors; Philip M. Kanfush, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, with highest honors; Charles T. Kelly, Friedens, Pennsylvania, with high honors; Dr. Linda S. Rockey, Pittsburgh, with highest honors; Brendan P. Rolling, O.S.B., Saint Benedict’s Abbey, Atchison, Kansas, with high honors; Georgia Rush, Greensburg, with high honors; Paul Hui-Min Shi, Diocese of Beijing; Donald A. Walczak, Jr., Greensburg, with highest honors.

Earning Master of Religious Education degrees were Somar P. Ryan, Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, with honors; Joseph Codori, Jr., Diocese of Pittsburgh, with highest honors; Thomas F. Hamm, Jr., Diocese of Steubenville. Not pictured are Thony Jean, Archdiocese of Atlanta and Rev. Justin Dywal, O.S.B., Saint Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio.

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degrees were John-Michael Lavelle, Diocese of Youngstown, with highest honors; Sr. Jane Nadackal, Sisters of Mary Immaculate, Greensburg, with highest honors; Fernando Molina Restrepo, Archdiocese of Atlanta, with honors.

Receiving the Diakonia Award, a service award presented annually at commencement, was Br. Brendan P. Rolling, O.S.B. Receiving the American Bible Society Award for excellence in the study of Sacred Scripture was Br. Philip M. Kanfush, O.S.B. The Omer U. Kline Award for excellence in preaching was presented to Michael B. Heninger. David T. Brzoska received the Honorable Bernard F. Scherer Award.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA
John T. Conway earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

Kevin J. Hargaden earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics at Georgia Institute of Technology in 1994. He received a Master of Arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary, with highest honor, in 1998. He received the American Bible Society Award and the Omer U. Kline Award in 1998.

Michael Heninger received a bachelor of arts degree in speech communications from the University of Georgia. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

Eric J. Hill has attended Bradley University, Purdue University and Saint Vincent College, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

Thony R. Jean received a bachelor of arts degree in international affairs and French from St. John’s University, New York, and a certificate in business French from Computec/Université de Sorbonne, France.

Fernando Molina Restrepo studied economics at the Military University in New Granada, Colombia. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1998.

DIOCESE OF BEIJING
John Tian-Xiang Hou studied at Beijing Philosophical and Theological College in Beijing from 1989 to 1994, and at Saint Vincent Seminary from 1995 to 1999.

Paul Hui-Min Shi studied at Beijing Philosophical and Theological College from 1990 to 1994 and has been at Saint Vincent Seminary since 1995.

DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE
David T. Brzoska earned a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry at the Pennsylvania State University. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

Luis Osorio earned a degree in political economics at the Universidad Libre de Pereira, Colombia. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
Jeffrey E. Tigyer earned a bachelor of arts degree in history from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG
David M. Hereshko received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH
Joseph B. Codori Jr. earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering and economics from Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh. He also studied at Duquesne University.

Thomas J. Lewandowski earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology at Wheeling Jesuit College, Wheeling, West Virginia.

DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE
Thomas F. Hamm, Jr. earned a bachelor of science degree in biology and physics at Wheeling Jesuit College, Wheeling, West Virginia, and a master of science degree in physics at Texas A&M University. He was ordained a deacon May 22 in Steubenville.

DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN
John-Michael Lavelle received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

SAINT ANDREW ABBEY
Rev. Justin D. Dyrvall, O.S.B. earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio in 1994, and also attended Saint Vincent College. In 1998 he received a master of arts degree, with highest honor, from Saint Vincent Seminary and the Bernard F. Scherer Award.

SAINT BENEDICT’S ABBEY
Br. Brendan P. Rolling, O.S.B. is a 1993 graduate of Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas, with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and philosophy. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

SAINT VINCENT ARCHABBEY
Br. Philip M. Kanfush, O.S.B., earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1985, and a master of business administration degree in 1991 from the University of Pittsburgh. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College in 1996. He was ordained a deacon on April 19.

Brother Matthew T. Laffey, O.S.B., has attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the Community College of Allegheny County and Saint Vincent College, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 1999.

Rev. Jerome J. Purta, O.S.B., received a bachelor of arts degree in classics from Saint Vincent College in 1961, a master of arts degree in music from the University of Scranton in 1980, and a master of arts degree in theology from the University of Scranton in 1997. He was ordained a deacon in 1960 and ordained a priest in 1961 by the late Bishop William G. Connare in the Archdiocese Basilica.

MASTER OF ARTS
Charles T. Kelly is pastor of Christian Community Church, Boswell. He attended Mount Aloysius College for two years and received a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

Linda S. Rockey is a clinical psychologist at the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, Shadyside. She received a doctorate in psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1996, a master’s degree in psychology from Duquesne University and a bachelor’s degree in psychology and English from Duquesne.

Georgia Rush earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from California University of Pennsylvania in 1995.

Donald A. Walczak, Jr. received a bachelor of arts degree in liberal arts from Saint Vincent College and is a Protestant minister.

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Sr. Jane Nadackal, S.M.I. earned a B.Sc. degree in botany from Kuriakose Elias College in Kottayam, Kerela, and studied at St. Xavier College in Calcutta, India. She also received a B.Ed. from the University of Calcutta. She earned a Master of Religious Education degree with highest honors and has returned to India to continue her ministry in her community there.
Duo Does Twice The Work For Dual Degrees

If Paul Hui-Min Shi and John-Michael Lavelle seemed to be putting in twice the effort to earn their degrees this year -- they were. That's because each seminarian earned not one, but two master's degrees in May.

Many Saint Vincent seminarians receive dual degrees, usually a master of arts and a master of divinity degree. What is unusual is to have a student or students earn them in the same year.

"I did not have too difficult a time in passing the courses," said Shi, a seminarian from China. "I had the most difficult time in preparing for 'comps'."

He was referring to the comprehensive examinations each degree candidate must pass in order to earn a diploma. Comprehensives, as the name suggests, are exams covering coursework in the degree program.

For Lavelle, the long road to his degrees was just that. He became very familiar with his car and the roads between Latrobe and Ohio's Youngstown Diocese.

"I applied (for the M.R.E. program) after my first semester," he said. "I didn't start until the summer before my second year. I spoke to my bishop and he allowed me to study during summers. He was very generous with them in the same year."

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In order to complete the required coursework for his master of divinity degree (75 credits) and master of religious education degree (48 credits), he stayed at Saint Vin-

**Pittsburgh Permanent Diaconate Program**

(Continued from Page 3)

John Vianney, South Pittsburgh; Stephen J. Byers, St. Bonaventure, Glenshaw; Joseph A. Cercinzie, St. Patrick; Canonsburg; Richard R. Corsar, St. Bonaventure, Glenshaw; Joseph Compomizzi, St. John of God, McKees Rocks; Francis J. Dadovski, Jr., St. Mary Assumption, Glenshaw; Stephen M. Deskevich, St. James, Sewickley; Dale J. DiGanto, St. Patrick, McKeesport; James R. Grab, St. Basil, Carrick; David J. Gruseck, St. Patrick, Canonsburg; Fr. Brian Cicora, St. Andrew, Bethel Park; S. Daniel Kielar, Mary, Mother of Hope, New Castle; Tim M. Killmeyer, Holy Trinity, Robinson Township; Joseph J. Kosko, Jr., St. Winfred, Mount Lebanon; Louis H. Kriston, Jr., St. Mary Assumption, Glenshaw; Elbert A. Kuhns, St. Thomas the Apostle, Clarksville; David E. Lamm, Good Samaritan, Ambridge; James F. Leonard, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin, Whitehall; John F. Manion, St. Benedict the Abbot, Peters Township; Leon F. Miles, St. Pamphilus, Beechview; Thomas J. O'Neil, St. Louis de Marillac, Upper St. Clair; Stephen C. Pika, St. Martin de Porres, McKeesport; Robert C. Sabatelle, St. James, Sewickley; Victor P. Satter, St. Francis of Assisi, Finleyville; James M. Shell, St. Ann, Waynesburg; William F. Strathmann, Jr., St. Louise de Marillac, Upper St. Clair; Lawrence R. Sutton, St. Bernard, Mount Lebanon; Reynold Wilmer, St. Benedict the Moor, Hill District; David R. Witter, St. Teresa of Avila, Perryville; Patrick G. Wood, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Natrona Heights.

"They have a shortage of professors," said Shi, so "they are waiting for me to go back soon." But in the meantime, he's not resting on his laurels -- he's continuing with independent studies in preparation for teaching at the seminary.

"I started in the M. Div.," he recounted. "At first it was my plan to only do that, but Sister Cecilia (Murphy, R.S.M., Academic Dean) and Father Tom (Acklin, O.S.B., Rector) after one year encouraged me. They knew my future was going to involve teaching, so they encouraged me to work on the M.A. program. The whole process pushed me to learn more, which is very practical for my future teaching."

Looking back, he said, it was not always easy, especially with the language difference.

"I studied English in high school, but I was not ready to study theology according to the language I knew," he explained. After he came to the United States in January of 1995 he spent one semester at Duquesne University and one semester at Point Park College learning more English. Then he began theology studies at Saint Vincent Seminary.

Lavelle also hopes to use his second degree in the education field. He has a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education and spent five years as a teacher before entering the seminary.

"As a priest you work very closely with people," he said. "You can learn a lot from the people in the parish, but you yourself are an educator. I thought I could benefit from the practical skills offered in the M.R.E. program as well as the academic formation."

Lavelle notes there was very little overlap in the two degree programs, so his biggest hurdle was time management. The most difficult scheduling feat was the practicum required for the M.R.E. degree, which requires students to create and implement a catechetical project. That's where his bishop, Most Rev. Thomas Tobin, assisted.

"Bishop Tobin assigned me to the vocation office in a project involving recruitment, and that project became my practicum," Lavelle said.

This summer, he's going back to his roots in education, in more ways than one. He is completing a diaconate internship at Little Flower Parish in Middle Branch, Ohio. His role will be to develop the diocesan curriculum into an educational program for the parish.

For Lavelle, who will be ordained May 27, 2000, he would like to teach in the future, but he's ready to go wherever the diocese needs him. "I just welcome the opportunity to be involved," he concluded.
Eleven seminarians and one priest from Saint Vincent Seminary attended the Third Annual National Diocesan Seminarian Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. The conference was held April 9-11 at St. Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology in Wickliffe, Ohio. The Diocese of Cleveland operates the Seminary.

Those attending were Jim Caldwell and Carl Kerkmeyer, Diocese of Tulsa; Paul Molchany, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; Doug Dorula, Diocese of Greensburg; Eric Filmer, Diocese of Savannah; Jonas Christal, Archdiocese of Campinas, Brazil; Ricardo de Silva, Diocese of Charlotte; Peter Do, Diocese of Harrisburg; Tony Gargotta, Tom Burke and Mike Burchill, Diocese of Pittsburgh and Rev. Richard B. Michel, O.S.B., Director of Field Education.

Seminarians from across the United States and Canada came to the event. A highlight was Saturday night Mass, celebrated by Bishop Edward Pevec, auxiliary bishop, Diocese of Cleveland, at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Cleveland. Rev. John Coropi, S.O.L.T.; Scott Hahn and Bishop Anthony Pilla of Cleveland were among the speakers. The theme was based on God the Father in conjunction with preparing for Jubilee 2000 as set by Pope John Paul II. After the conference, on Sunday, Saint Vincent seminarians stopped at Saint Andrew Abbey in Cleveland to visit and tour. Rev. Justin D. Dyrwal, O.S.B., S’98, hosted the seminarians and Father Richard for the afternoon. A tour and lunch was provided by Father Justin. * * * *

The following deaths were reported:
Rev. Emmeran A. Retterg, O.S.B., P’29, C’34, S’38, on June 10, 1999.
Rev. Ambrose Eberz, P’31, C’36, S’40, on July 18, 1999. * * *

Condolences are offered to:

Rev. Robert G. Duch, C’61, S’64, on the death of his mother Agnes M. Bauer on April 12, 1999.
Rev. Nicholas A. Pesanka, S’75, on the death of his mother Irene Pesanka on March 5, 1999 and his father Nicholas on March 12, 1999.
Rev. Michael M. Camara, O.F.M., C’84, S’88, on the death of his father Anthony M. Carara, Jr. on May 30, 1999.
Rev. Daniel E. O’Keefe, O.S.B., S’93, on the death of his father Edmund O’Keefe on May 23, 1999. * * *

In news of alumni:
M. Brian Biggins, P 68, C’73, S 77, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of Lance A. Masters, Ph.D., as 17th president of Thiel College, Greenville, Pennsylvania, on May 8, 1999.
Terrence M. Flaherty, Ph.D., C’85, S’91, accepted a scientist position at CellGate, Inc. in Sunnyvale, California.
Rev. Justin D. Dyrwal, O.S.B., C’86, S’88, was ordained to the priesthood on December 19, 1998 by Bishop Edward Pevec, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio, at the Church of the Assumption. * * *

Seminarians on summer assignment this year include: William G. Berkey of the Diocese of Greensburg, St. Regis Parish, Trafford; Michael E. Burchill of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Alexies Parish, Wexford; Thomas J. Burke of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Ferdinand Church, Cranberry Township; James A. Caldwell of the Diocese of Tulsa, Christ the King Parish, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Joseph B. Codori of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. John the Baptist Parish, Plum; Rev. Mr. John T. Conway, Archdiocese of Atlanta, Church of St. Jude Apostle, Atlanta, Georgia; Stuart W. Crevcoure of the Diocese of Tulsa, St. John Church, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.


James A. Reardon of the Diocese of Erie, St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie; Matthew A. Reese of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Christ the King Parish, Barnesboro; Michael J. Stumpf of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Sebastian Church, Pittsburgh; Rev. Mr. Jeffrey Tigyer of the Diocese of Columbus, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Pickerington, Ohio; Robert J. Vular of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Gabriel of Sorrowful Virgin Parish, Pittsburgh; David G. Weikart of the Diocese of Youngstown, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Austintown, Ohio; Clinton P. Zadroga of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, St. Frances Cabrini Church, Aliquippa; Michael Zimcosky of the Diocese of Greensburg, St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning.
The Saint Vincent Seminary has a Memorial Gift and Tribute Gift Program, which allows donors to honor individuals via a Tribute Gift for special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, retirements or holidays, or with a Memorial Gift in memory of a friend or loved one.

The Seminary Tribute and Memorial Gift Roster for the period from March 1, 1999, to May 31, 1999, includes the following:

**IN HONOR OF:**

- AUGUSTINE A. FLOOD, O.S.B.
  - Ms. Joy Dolores Jensen

- REV. THOMAS J. KRAM, D.D.
  - Mrs. Patricia M. Coghlan
  - Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Hager

**IN MEMORY OF:**

- +VINCENT AMBROSE
  - Mrs. Margaret L. Ambrose

- +DARLENE DALEY BENSON
  - Mr. and Mrs. James S. Daley

- +ALPHONSO J. DECOSI
  - Mrs. Kathryn DeCosi

- +RT. REV. EGBERT H. DONOVAN, O.S.B.
  - Mr. Wendel B. Kleehammer

- +PAUL DUGGAN
  - Mrs. Helen M. Duggan

- +JOHN A. AND SUSAN E. FATORA
  - Rev. Joachim R. Fatora, O.S.B.

- +GEORGE M. GAVIN
  - Dr. and Mrs. George Gavin

- +THEODORE M. HAMERSKI
  - Charles and Anita Manoli

- Sr. Cecilia Murphy, R.S.M.

- +GORDON AND KEVIN HARVEY
  - Ms. Mildred Harvey

- +MR. AND MRS. FRANK HEID
  - Mr. Francis Heid

- +JEAN LAI
  - Mr. Thomas E. Cooper

- +RICHARD LATSKO
  - Dr. and Mrs. George Gavin

- +WILLIAM C. MARTIN
  - Ms. Evelyn R. Martin

- +JOSEPH AND KATHERINE MATTY
  - Mr. Melvin J. Matty

- +REGIS MICHELANGELO
  - Mr. Thomas E. Cooper

- +STEVE AND LEONA MILAN
  - Mr. Callistus W. Milan

- +REV. GILES L. NEALEN, O.S.B.
  - Mr. and Mrs. Augustino Mastroianni

- +NICK AND IRENE PESANKA
  - Mr. and Mrs. Robert Luczak

- +JULIA AND STEPHEN PETROSKY
  - Miss Dorothy M. Petrosky

- +DAVID H. RANKIN
  - Mr. and Mrs. John F. Rankin

- +REV. MR. DAVID W. RAUTH
  - Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Beraducci
  - Mr. and Mrs. Ron B. Collins
  - Mrs. Frances Rauth Crumpler
  - Flour Daniel Telecom and Bell South Telecommunications
  - Georgia Baptists Medical Center, Pathology Department
  - Inventory Management Institute, Inc.

- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lane
- Mr. and Mrs. Tim R. Nord
- Mr. and Mrs. Dain P. Nott
- Mr. Paul A. Rauth
- Mrs. Phyllis Rauth Sells
- Mr. and Mrs. Don Spedale
- Mr. and Mrs. David M. Thomas
- Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Whitman
- Mr. and Mrs. David S. Whitman

- +REV. NORBERT A. RUPPRECHT, O.S.B.
  - Ms. Joy Dolores Jensen

- +NICK AND ESTER SARGENT
  - Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sargent

- +JOHN STEIN, FATHER
  - Mrs. Ruth E. Stein

- +JOHN STEIN, SON
  - Mrs. Ruth E. Stein

- +HELEN LOUISE TESTA
  - Ms. Roseanne Mancini
  - Marge Yuhouse

- +GRACE TRANCONE
  - Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nervegna

- +CLARENCE M. WARGO
  - Mr. Walter Hobart, Jr.

- +BLANCHE WEGRZYNEK
  - Ms. Helen Rymarowicz

- +OLGA YENCH
  - Mr. Cyril M. Yencha

- +JOSEPH E. ZAJAC
  - Mrs. Marian Zajac

For details on the gift program, contact the Seminary Development Office at 724-532-6740.

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Recognized

Fourth-year theologians recognized at a dinner held at the end of the spring semester were, front, from left, Rev. Mr. Richard B. Tomkosky, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown; Rev. Mr. William M. Calabrese, Diocese of Erie; Rev. Fernando Molina-Restrepo, Archdiocese of Atlanta; back, from left, Rev. Kevin J. Hargarden, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Rev. Paul M. Weckert, O.S.B., St. Martin’s Abbey, Lacey, Washington; Rev. Anthony J. Grossi, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey; Rev. Adrian C.H. Pleus, Archdiocese of Atlanta; Rev. Mr. Benedict E. Kapa, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Not pictured but also recognized was Rev. Justin D. Dyrmal, O.S.B., St. Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio, who graduated in December 1998 and Br. Alban Nunn, O.S.B. of Ealing Abbey, London.
Three springs ago, Pittsburgher Linda Rockey may have considered receiving her doctorate in clinical psychology the pinnacle of her educational endeavors. But it wasn’t to be. She felt called to go on a spiritual journey and for the past three years has attended classes alongside dozens of men studying for the priesthood in pursuit of a masters of arts degree from Saint Vincent Seminary.

This year she graduated, along with two other women and two men, who also felt called to pursue studies of theology and spirituality even though they will not become priests. They are in the non-ordination or “lay” program at the Seminary, which has been growing as quickly as the ordination program in the last few years. The five non-ordination students were among 26 May 7 graduates fit double last year’s commencement class.

“I’ve had a lot of schooling in my life,” Dr. Rockey said, “but of all the education I’ve received this has been the epitome of learning…. What made it most beautiful is that it wasn’t like studying, it was like a spiritual journey.”

Dr. Rockey is a clinical psychologist at the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, Shadyside, so she deals with spiritual issues along with psychological ones.

“God was very much behind it,” she says of her decision to enroll in the Seminary. “When you love someone you want to know more about them. I felt drawn to God.”

“It’s been a wonderful experience and the faculty at the Seminary is superb,” said Dr. Rockey, who majored in systematic theology and minored in monastic studies, taking classes part- time year-round in order to finish in three years. She graduated with highest honors. She also has a master’s degree in psychology and bachelor’s degrees in English and psychology from Duquesne University.

While lay students aren’t as common in class as ordination students, she noted the “student body of the Seminary was immensely hospitable. I was included in everything fully and made to feel entirely welcome.”

Georgia Rush of Greensburg earned her bachelor of arts degree in psychology from California University of Pennsylvania in 1995 and thought she would further her studies in that field with the aim of “helping people who needed assistance,” she said. She also developed a background in education while at California, and after graduation she incorporated that and her desire to help people by teaching CCD classes to youth groups at Our Lady of Grace Parish in her hometown.

She eventually felt “prompted by the Holy Spirit” to enroll in the Master of Arts Program, graduating with high honors.

She began in the summer of 1997, taking a job at a local restaurant so she could schedule herself to attend classes full- time.

“While I am not preparing for the priesthood, the experience of being in class with the seminarians was very rewarding,” said Ms. Rush, who hopes to teach religion and philosophy at the high school level. “We are all preparing for something and using our gifts and our sense of call for service. We are all listening to the call and hoping to respond to it.”

Donald A. Walczak, Jr. of Greensburg was very familiar with the Saint Vincent campus, having earned a bachelor of arts degree in liberal arts at Saint Vincent College before going on to minister at a local church. A non-Catholic, his aim was to further his Scripture studies to better serve in pastoral ministry.

He stepped down as pastor to enter the Master of Arts program at the Seminary in January of 1996, while also working a full-time job. He graduated with highest honors.

Concentrating in Scripture, Rev. Walczak said he gained “ excellent insight” and would recommend the program to anyone, regardless of their religious denomination.

He said he would like to serve in pastoral ministry again, but when it will happen, or where, he will “trust in God.”

Sometimes word of mouth is the best way to learn about something good, and this was certainly the case with Charles Kelly of Friedens. Pastor of an independent church in Boswell, Somerset County, he credits his friend Rev. Michael Henkel, S’90, who was taking classes as a lay student at the Seminary, in his decision to earn his own Master of Arts degree there.

“It has been one of the highlights of my life,” Rev. Kelly said of his three and a half years at the Seminary. He graduated with high honors. He had spent two years at Mount Aloysius College and two years at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, where he received a degree in sociology.

His first class was a seminar taught by Br. Elliott C. Maloney, O.S.B., which he said was one of the more demanding courses he took. “It helped prepare me for what was coming up.” His classes on spirituality “enhanced my life as a believer and enhanced my faith in the power of faith and prayer. It was an extremely good experience.”

The other non-ordination student was Sr. Jane Nadackal of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Community, Greensburg. Shortly after graduation she returned to India to continue her ministry in her community there.

“If you ever get a chance, do it,” said Dr. Rockey, reflecting on her time at the Seminary. Aside from the programs, she said, “the setting, with the beautiful mountains and the monks, there is a certain tenor, a certain milieu here. There is nothing like it.”
It’s a long way from Russia to Latrobe, Pennsylvania, but recently two Russian artists and a Massachusetts musician paid a visit to the Saint Vincent campus, through their connection with Br. Alban Nunn, O.S.B. Br. Alban, of Ealing Abbey, London, England, was a fourth-year theologian at Saint Vincent Seminary this past year.

Over a decade ago, Br. Alban met Karl Henning of Woburn, Massachusetts through their common interest in music. They’ve continued their friendship and their collaborative efforts to write music together. Karl is married to Russian artist Maria Babiyak, daughter of Irina Pisarenko, an artist and an architect. Their fascination in church architecture, along with Br. Alban’s ties to Saint Vincent, prompted a visit this spring.

Both artists have studied at the Baron Stieglitz Academy of Fine and Applied Art in St. Petersburg, and come from a long line of artists. They are currently involved in a church restoration project in Boston, and were especially fascinated by the Archabbey Basilica. Aside from their interest in the campus, they noted the surrounding area and its hills reminded them of Russia. That, they said, coupled with the traditional Benedictine hospitality, made them feel “like home.”

Two well-known Russian artists, at top left, Irina Pisarenko and at top, right, her daughter, Maria Babiyak, paint different views of the Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica during a recent visit to the Latrobe campus. Above is a view of Maria’s work.