

ORACLE



The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity

Spring 2005

Fourth Year Men at the Border

by Deacon Michael Rudolph

The Theology IV class recently spent five days at the Mexico-United States border as part of our J-term class on mission and ministry. In this class we learned that mission is not something missionaries do “over there,” but is of the essence of what it means to be Church, and so ought to be part of the life of every parish. The reason we went to the border was to learn what mission means in the context of the overlap of cultures that is so much a part of American life, to equip us to better serve our diverse future parishioners, and to help the People of God minister to each other with greater understanding and compassion. The excellent instructor for our class, Deacon Mickey Friesen of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, accompanied us on the trip.

We stayed in Juárez, a city of over a million people, at the “Casa de Migrantes,” which means “House of Migrants.” Our hosts, Scallabrini (*not a pasta*) missionaries, were very hospitable, providing us with everything we needed. Our able guide around town was West Cosgrove, a Maryknoll lay missionary (or missioner, as many missionaries prefer to call themselves). He was helped by Mary Jo Commerford, another wonderful lay missioner from Minnesota, now living in Oregon, who generously flew down to the

border just to accompany our group. We spent most of our time in Mexico, but made several excursions into El Paso, Texas, as well.

The best part of the trip was our interaction with the locals. Our residence in Juárez is also used to house and help men who hope to find work in the United States or have just been deported. We ate meals with them and heard some heartbreaking stories about their not being able to find work in their home countries, and being unable to support their families. One of them asked me (in Spanish) “Why don’t you want us in your country?” It was painful to answer him. The people we met also told us that it is impossible for Latin Americans to legally emigrate to the U.S. unless they are financially well-off, which very few are.

But people can be well off in a more important way—spiritually! And we found abundant spiritual wealth in many folks who have few material resources. Even in the poorest parts of town, where people live in homes made of shipping pallets and boards nailed together, we found many individuals with a strong trust in God and generosity in serving their neighbors. For example, we met a woman named Cristina who tutors 180 children who live in shacks. Many come from homes where there is abuse, alcoholism and drug use. She said she just wants the children to be able to have

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Seminarians attend Mass in Juárez parish.



a different life for one hour a day. This impressed upon us that ministry is, for the most part, not trying to change the whole world, but rather serving one person at a time in the name of Jesus.

We also had the opportunity to meet with missionaries from the United States, Australia, Italy, and Ireland who are serving the poor with great love and gratitude. These missionaries include Maryknoll and Columban priests as well as religious sisters and lay people. They offer the sacraments and work in strengthening family life, educating the young, defending the poor from oppression, evangelizing, improving living conditions, and helping victims of various kinds of abuse. They spoke to us about projects in the community, issues around poverty, justice, immigration, and about the importance for ministry of inculturation, collaboration, humility, trust in God, patience, and relationships.

Another remarkable person we met was Frank, a retired letter carrier from El Paso and a member of a Catholic charismatic community. He runs a complex built on top of an old dump that includes a school and medical and dental clinics for the poor. The school children have pets such as parrots, peacocks, fish, geese, ducks, rabbits—these are for food too—as well as a *big* pig and a burro.



One of the most poignant experiences of our journey was a visit to a chain-link fence that separates Juárez from the United States. We were on the American side and chatted with children through the fence. They

seemed cheerful but it was somber for us to think about the fact that we could cross over to them but they couldn't legally cross over to us. It is as if they are being treated like dangerous animals rather than human beings, our brothers and sisters, greatly loved by God.

Many of the concepts we heard about on our trip had been previously covered in our seminary courses, but hearing about and living it are two different things. Being with the people in Juárez was an invaluable experience. It can be easy for us “wealthy” Americans to think in terms of what we can do for “the poor,” but “they” have a great deal to give “us,”—including the insight that “they” and “us” are not helpful categories for Christians. Every daughter or son of God is one of “us;” we are one in our Lord Jesus Christ. We Americans can *talk* about this reality. The people of Juárez, and the missionaries who serve them, can *show* it to us by how they live with and for each other.



Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, along with other saints, have spoken of finding Christ in the distressing disguise of the poor. I believe that this wonderful experience on the border has begun a transformation deep in our hearts and minds that, in living out our call to make Our Lord Jesus Christ known and loved every day, will conform us more closely to Him.

I close by sharing with you the plea of a Mexican man I met. He had one request of me: to pray for the healing of his son David. I met David. He is a sweet, gentle, friendly, sixteen year old young man who is very sick. Please pray for David, and for all the people of God on the border. And let us pray that all of us Christians will live the mission we are called to by God.

From the Interim Rector

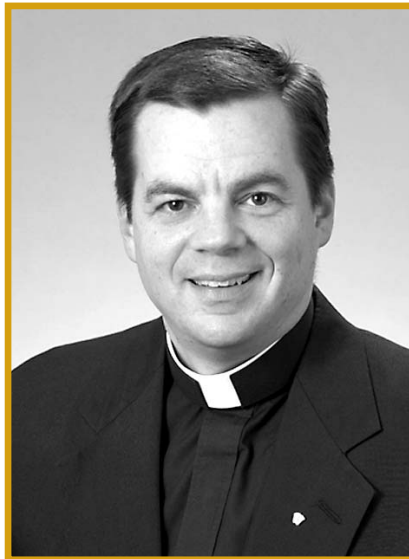
“There Goes my Life”

As I drove back to the seminary in the early evening of December 21, 2004 following my brief meeting with Archbishop Flynn in which he asked me to serve as Interim Rector, I was a bit stunned. So, I did what anyone might do in such a situation. I turned on the stereo in my Ford Escape and hit the play button. To my great amusement, the first song that played was a country song (yes, I am an inveterate country fan) by an artist named Kenney Chesney. This good ‘ole boy from Tennessee recorded a hit song that began playing as I meandered down Summit Avenue. The title of the song was, “*There Goes my Life.*” Indeed, I guess that the Lord has a great sense of humor!

In reality, I am both honored and humbled by the confidence shown to me by Archbishop Flynn in asking me to lead the seminary community in this time of transition. In the nearly sixteen years since my ordination to the priesthood in 1989, I have spent a good deal of that time in educational institutions. This occurred primarily at the secondary level, but also at the collegiate level, while simultaneously living at Saint John Vianney College Seminary and serving in the Vocation Office.

In all of those experiences, I have come to love the academic world. I love to teach, to read, and to discuss current events in light of theology and ethics. Yes, I even still love the first day of class. I recently confessed to the seminarians that I was indeed the kind of kid who laid out his school uniform the night before the first day of school, making sure that the shoes were polished and ready to go. There might even be a word to describe that type of child today (*nerdy* comes to mind), but I am utterly without shame in this regard!

It is a singular privilege to be able to read, study, and reflect on important themes as they relate to one’s future ministry. The love of learning must be instilled at an early age if it is to have a reasonable chance of sticking. Our world is completely caught up with finding shortcuts to everything. Why read a book when an internet article can be found? Who would take the trouble to check a book out of a library unless it is required for a class?



The intellectual formation of our students must stand at the forefront of our entire seminary program. Undoubtedly, our students do a remarkable job balancing the many demands placed upon them. Our lay students must balance work, study, and family commitments. Our seminarians participate in a rigorous program of studies, pastoral formation, liturgical participation, and prayer. It may not be possible this side of the grave to find the perfect balance among the demands, but I still maintain that these are precious years in which to read, study, and reflect.

There is an old Latin adage which reads, *Nemo dat quod non habet*. Translated, this essentially means - *No one gives what he does not have*. One of my initial fears upon entering into the priesthood was that I might struggle with finding new things to say week after week. While to some extent this fear was unfounded, in another sense it has validity.

Without consistent study and a lifelong commitment to learning, I think it is a real possibility that our priests will simply run out of things to say. Their preaching will no longer be informed by fresh insights and even the best lessons learned in the seminary begin to fade with the passage of time. To be blunt, if a seminary student has not taken the time to be thoroughly imbued with sound theology and spiritual reading, what will he be able to offer God’s people?

I hope to continue to highlight the importance of the appreciation for lifetime theological education in my time as Interim Rector. This will be done with an eye to the important pastoral implications for strengthening the Catholic faith in today’s Church. *There goes my life?* No, I think not. Rather, here continues a new chapter in my life, one filled with excitement for a future full of hope in the service of God’s people.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. John L. Ubel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. John L. Ubel
Interim Rector

Alumnus Archbishop Sheen Designated “Servant of God”

By Noreen Waters

The majority of the priests ordained from The Saint Paul Seminary live out their priesthood serving their parishioners in quiet dedication to God’s call on their lives. However, a certain number are chosen to serve in more public ministry as bishops, educators, scholars, diocesan administrators and even as TV personalities. One unique and beloved alumnus of The Saint Paul Seminary proclaimed the Gospel message in a very public and influential capacity both nationally and internationally for most of his 60 years of priesthood.

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, through his effective use of the electronic media and his many books, strengthened the faith of Catholics worldwide and taught many famous and lesser known converts about the love of Christ. In addition, his work for the Propagation of the Faith resulted in an increase in support for the missions and enabled him to reach out to the world with the message of the Gospel. In 2002, the Congregation for the Cause of Saints in Rome was formally petitioned by Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C. of the Diocese of Peoria to open the cause for his canonization. On September 14, 2002 he was declared a Servant of God. The process of reviewing his writings for anything contrary to faith and morals, interviewing witnesses to his life and previewing possible intercessory healings is being conducted by diocesan and Vatican officials.

Archbishop Sheen was born in El Paso, Illinois in 1895 and knew from an early age that he was called to be a priest. He completed studies for his A.B. and M.A. degrees at St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Illinois and shortly thereafter he received a three-year university scholarship. In his moment of joy he sought out his former teacher Fr. William J. Bergan to share his good news. In his autobiography, *Treasure in Clay*, he recounts his friend’s response:

“Fulton, do you believe in God?” I replied: “You know that I do.” He said: “I mean *practically*, not from a theoretical point of view.” This time I was not so sure, and I said: “Well, I *hope* I do.” “Then tear up the scholarship.” “Father Bergan, this scholarship entitles me to three years of university training with all expenses paid. It is worth about nine or ten thousand dollars.” He retorted: “You know you have a vocation; you should be going to the seminary.” I countered with this proposal: “I

can go to the seminary after I get my Ph.D., because there will be little chance of getting a Ph.D. after I am ordained, and I would very much like to have a good education.” He repeated: “Tear up the scholarship; go to the seminary. That is what the Lord wants you to do. And if you do it, trusting in Him, you will receive a far better university education after you are ordained than before.” I tore up the scholarship and went to the seminary. I have never regretted that visit and that decision. [Note: Sheen went on to receive his S.T.L. and J.C.B. degrees from Catholic University of America, his Ph.D. from the University of Louvain, Belgium and his S.T.D. in Rome.]



Archbishop Sheen on the set of his television series.

Bishop Edmund Dunne of the Diocese of Peoria sent him to The Saint Paul Seminary in 1917 to complete his theological studies for priesthood and he was ordained in 1919. He remembered the courses as extremely good, “especially in Sacred Scripture, history and moral theology.” During his first year of studies he received a number of academic prizes in the Department of Theology – third in Apologetics, third in Fundamental Moral Theology, second in Church History and third in General Excellence. In the 1918-1919 school year he was selected as a member of the Seminar group that was for students with an average of 85 or above. This designation allowed students to meet with professors for advanced work once a week.

Upon his ordination Archbishop Sheen made two

resolutions that he was to keep throughout his long priesthood. The first was to offer the Holy Eucharist every Saturday in honor of the Blessed Mother to enlist her protection over his priesthood and the second was to spend a Holy Hour every day in front of the Blessed Sacrament. This second resolution took root during the last year of his studies at the seminary and was recounted in his autobiography: “The big chapel in St. Paul’s Seminary would be locked at six o’clock; there were still private chapels available for private devotions

and evening prayers. This particular evening during recreation, I walked up and down outside the closed major chapel for almost an hour. The thought stuck me – why not make a Holy Hour of adoration *in* the presence of the Blessed Sacrament? The next day I began, and the practice is now well over sixty years old.” The reasons for his commitment to this practice were that he saw it as a personal response to Christ’s request in the Gospel of John for the apostles to spend an hour with him to combat evil and to be His companions in His time of Agony. In addition, this time was a way for him to grow more into the likeness of Christ and to transform his priesthood through this personal encounter in the Blessed Sacrament.

Another spiritual awakening he experienced at the seminary

occurred during a conference with his spiritual director. “I was paying the usual amount of attention this particular day, when suddenly I stopped listening. My mind seemed to be suffused with light. I heard not a word he uttered, but during the experience – I don’t know how long it lasted – there came to me an illumination of soul, a light that suffused my intellect, bringing with it an overwhelming conviction of the certitude of the Faith. The Creed and the affirmation ‘I believe’ became not only an intellectual assent: I was momentarily possessed of the absolute and irrefutable character of Faith. As a result of that experience, I never in my life had any doubts about the Faith. My faith centered not just in the Creed, but in the Church, and it became personalized in the Pope as the Head of the Church and the Vicar of Christ.” During his many years of service to the Church he came to know and revere the Popes he served as he witnessed their



On his October 2, 1979 visit to New York, Pope John Paul II embraced Archbishop Sheen and said: “You have written and spoken well of the Lord Jesus. You are a loyal son of the Church.”

struggle with the great social and political issues of their time while always bringing Christ to the World.

Following his ordination, Archbishop Sheen returned to the Twin Cities on numerous occasions for retreats, as head of the Propagation of Faith and as a popular speaker. He often took time to visit the seminary, speaking to the students and faculty and presiding at Mass. In November 1977 he was the featured speaker at the President’s Council of the then College of Saint Thomas. On his way to the airport, he asked his escort Fr. Vincent Yzermans to drive by the seminary so he could pay a visit to the chapel. Unfortunately, the chapel was locked for renovation. He walked along side the chapel and remarked how strange the ways of God that he would find himself locked out of the chapel just as he had in his seminary days when he first pledged his commitment to the Holy Hour. It was to be an even more poignant occasion because this was his final visit to St. Paul before his death just two years later. His niece Joan Sheen Cunningham stated in a recent *Catholic News Service* interview that he died alone in his apartment and was found to have collapsed as he made his way into his private chapel. His faithfulness to the Holy Hour with Jesus that he pledged so many years ago during his seminary days had continued even to the hour of his death.

Biographical Notes on Archbishop Sheen

Regular speaker on the *Catholic Hour*, NBC radio 1930-1952

Rector of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith 1950-1966

Television series *Life is Worth Living* 1951-1957 reached 30 million viewers a week

Consecrated a Bishop in Rome on June 11, 1951

Received an Emmy Award for “Most Outstanding Television Personality,” 1952

Attended all the Vatican II sessions in Rome 1962-1965

Appointed Bishop of Rochester, New York in 1966

Appointed as Titular Archbishop of Newport (Wales) in 1969

Died on December 9, 1979 and buried in the crypt of St. Patrick’s Cathedral, New York City

Photos courtesy of the Diocese of Rochester, New York

Please pray for the Cause for Canonization

For further information visit the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation website at www.archbishopsheencause.org

Graduate Student

Lori L. Guzmán

My name is Lori L. Guzmán. I am a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Theology program. I graduated over a decade ago from the University of St. Thomas with an undergraduate degree in theology. My interest and passion for the study of theology was one of the many courses in my life that was never planned. My life's course has always taken detours. Indeed, my life had taken several detours before I found myself enrolled in the undergraduate program. Interestingly, in the past my life's detours, whether positive or negative, always came by the way of an adverse event.

My first occupational goal was to fly for a major airline. I spent many hours dancing in the clouds in control of a small aircraft, only to suffer a head injury in an automobile accident that ended my hopes for a career in flying. My path turned to aircraft maintenance (I was at least around airplanes) and I worked for several years as an aircraft mechanic for a regional and then a major airline. My career path also included teaching aircraft maintenance at a technical college. The course of my life's path was apparently not yet determined, for another turn of events soon took place that would change the direction of my life forever. . . .

In 1988 my daughter, Alexandra, was born with a severe brain dysfunction and multiple disabilities. She required ventilator support to breathe. And, in an instant my family's world appeared to have crashed in around us. We found ourselves struggling with professionals who lacked compassion or empathy, a dysfunctional service system, and professionals and agencies who did not have the slightest idea what type of support persons with disabilities and their families really needed. Alexandra's physicians suggested immediately after her birth that we not feed her and simply let her die. The physicians claimed she would have a short and horrific life. We decided against the physicians' advice and chose life for our daughter. Our reasons were simple: she was our daughter, she was alive, she was breathing, and she was born to us for a

purpose. We did not believe, despite the physicians' claims, that we had a "choice" or a right to kill our infant daughter.

Alexandra's birth and life has forever changed and determined my life's course. In her early years, I set out to personally ensure that every moment of her life was as perfect as possible for however long she lived. I fought with public service systems, health care systems, medical providers, school systems, and even at times, the rest of my family. Over the years, I discovered that I didn't have to fight any more. My daughter and my family were happy. My daughter was safe. She was going to school. She had lived beyond the expectations of her physicians. Now, with my daughter and my family's experiences with a disjointed service

system behind me, I returned to college. I was driven to correct the dysfunction in the service system so that other children and families would have an easier time providing for their children with a disability. My original plan was to major in social work and then go on to law school.

Well, once at St. Thomas, my plans detoured again. I discovered that the social work program did not fit my needs. I had spent way too much time fighting the social service system to become a part of it. Law school remained my ultimate goal. My plan was to

start a law practice that specifically provided legal services to persons with disabilities and their families. And, to get to law school, I had to earn an undergraduate degree. Theology courses were the most interesting courses I had taken while a student at St. Thomas. So, when my advisor suggested a major in theology, it was a natural choice. My family, however, thought I was going off the deep end. Admittedly, there is quite a difference between aircraft maintenance and theology. I have, however, never regretted my choice. My studies in theology really helped me understand my faith and God at a different level. My experiences with my daughter had caused me to lose a considerable amount of faith in God. Both my studies in theology and simply being on the St. Thomas campus provided me with a great sense of peace that



Lori Guzmán and daughter Alexandra

helped me return to a loving relationship with God and deepened my understanding and respect for others.

I graduated and went on to law school. I did start my own law firm. And, consistent with my plans, the law firm specializes in providing legal services to seniors and persons with disabilities and their families. I also serve as an adjunct professor in clinical programs at a local law school. In my practice and in my teaching, I use my faith and theology on an almost daily basis. My clients are often facing adverse events, such as a disabling condition or an eminent death. I am asked to counsel them as a lawyer. Granted, as lawyer, my counsel is often related to issues of what happens to their worldly possessions. Yet, I do have the opportunity to meet with seniors and persons with disabilities and their families in hospitals, care facilities, and in their homes. I often advise my clients on the legalities of living wills and the legal choices involved at the end of life. End of life choices always

involve consideration of an individual's faith and I find it extremely important that, as their lawyer, I recognize and respect an individual's religious beliefs and tradition. Although the study of theology is my passion, I truly believe I am answering my calling as a lawyer. I enjoy my clients and my law practice. I cannot imagine a different career. And, it is my work as a lawyer that now leads me back to the Master of Theology program at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity.

Alexandra is now 17 years old. She goes to school, plays and is happy. My daughter, without speaking a single word, has directed the course of my life more than any other person. She is my special gift from God. My daughter's birth and life directed me to the practice of law. And now as I return to an advanced degree in theology, I take my direction from many: my daughter, my law practice, my clients, my family, and my faith in God.

Special Events

Lector Installation

The Theology I Lector Installation was celebrated on February 11 in St. Mary's Chapel with Bishop Richard Pates as celebrant. Family and friends joined the class at a reception following the ceremony. Front row: Bennet Tran, Oscar Echandi, Jeffrey Dobbs, William Thompson, Fernando Ortega, Gary Kasel. Middle row: John Bauer, Tyler Dennis, Rodney Allers, John Meyer, Kirk Slattery. Back row: Alejandro Serrano, Bishop Pates, Fr. John Ubel.



Farewell Dinner

The seminarians, faculty and staff gathered to extend their thanks and blessings to rector Bishop Frederick Campbell at a special community dinner in January before he left for his new assignment as Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus.



Bishop Campbell was presented with framed photos for his new office and a spiritual bouquet of personal support in his new responsibilities.



The last four rectors of the seminary pose for a picture at the dinner. L to R: Fr. Phillip J. Rask (1993-2002), Bishop Frederick F. Campbell (2002-2004), Fr. Charles L. Froehle, (1980-1993), Msgr. William L. Baumgaertner, (1968-1980).

Lessons and Carols



Dr. David Jenkins directs The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale during the January 9 Lessons and Carols concert.



Guests enjoy the reception following the concert.

Memories of Mother Teresa

By Deacon Thomas Joseph



I am deacon Thomas Joseph originally from the parish of Kalladithidal in the state of Tamilnadu, India. My parents are farmers and I admire them greatly for having been wonderful parents who made a number of sacrifices for their children. I enjoyed my childhood in helping my parish priest, Fr. Alex, with his parish duties and serving God as an altar

server, helping my parents on the farm, playing soccer, volleyball and kabadai (a local game), climbing trees for fun, occasionally going with friends for movies, swimming in the ponds, and sometimes chatting and solving the problems of the entire world. All my family members are Catholics, though our ancestors were Hindus. Based on our tradition we believe that through the coming of the Apostle St. Thomas, the original seed of Christianity was sown in India in the first century A.D. Up until the time of the Counter Reformation, Christianity had not grown significantly. During the time of the Counter Reformation many missionaries went to India to evangelize. As a result many Hindus were converted to Christianity.

Even though I had so many bridges to cross on my journey to priesthood, God has blessed me in so many ways during all these years of my life. The most significant of all these times was the period I spent with Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta who indeed taught me “What does it mean to see the face of Christ in each and every person - Saint and the sinner?” I met Mother Teresa for the first time in the year 1996. As I greeted her in a typical Indian way, taking hold of my right hand, folding my five fingers down one by one she asked me to repeat the words, “You – did - it – to – me,” which is the short form of Matthew 25:40 which reads, “Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” Followed by this on

my left hand she once again folded my five fingers one after another and asked me to repeat the words, “I will – I want – with God’s blessing – be – Holy.” It was typical of Mother Teresa to repeat the same sayings again and again. However, no one would get tired of hearing her again and again. Yes, she had such a command, sincerity, attentiveness, and radiated holiness on her face. Everyone who met her, even amidst the big crowd, always felt that she was there just for that person. Yes, she was able to be present for that particular person with an undivided attention.

She had a deep devotion to our Blessed Mother. Giving me a rosary she said, “Cling to our Lady like a child that clings to the mantle of its mother’s saree.” She taught me the richness of priesthood in her simple theology, “No priests, no Eucharist.” Mother Teresa was also the most stubborn woman that I ever met in my life. Yes, she was stubborn for good things, holy things. She was indifferent – indifferent not to God and His people, but to anything that is not God. Mother Teresa often reminded we all are Mother Teresa’s in our own ways: each time we say hello to people, a simple smile, a visit to the sick, being a faithful parent, teacher, priest, sister, or whatever. She was an ordinary human being like any of us. The mystery of her life was that, “She did small things with great love.” I can gratefully say even though I forgot most of the things that I did in my life, one experience that always remains fresh in my memory is the time that I spent with this holy woman.

As along with my classmates I am preparing to leave the Seminary to start the priestly ministry for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, I take this opportunity to thank Archbishop Harry Flynn, Bishop Richard Pates, Bishop Frederick Campbell, the Seminary community, and especially my fellow seminarians for accepting me as one of you and with whom I was able to laugh, live and let go. May we always thirst for the Jesus that Mother Teresa thirsted for. God bless.

Deacons on the Air

Several of the Deacons to be ordained to priesthood in May for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis will be interviewed on the early morning Catholic radio show of 1330AM Twin

Cities Relevant Radio™. The 6:30 a.m. interviews began on Thursday, March 3 and will air every Thursday morning through the month of May.

Development



Dear Friends:

The best part of my job here at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity is having the opportunity to meet and get to know you, our benefactors. I am always very impressed with the generosity and open support that there is in the Catholic community for the Seminary and its work. I want to

share with you the impact that your support has.

Each year, hundreds of committed benefactors give to The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity to support today's seminarians and graduate students as they work to become effective ministers and Church leaders. Your generosity allows The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity to meet its ongoing need for flexible, unrestricted income that is crucial to sustaining the school's excellence in educating and forming tomorrow's church leaders. **Tuition, room, and board accounts for less than 50% of the funds necessary for us to operate.** Your unrestricted giving allows us to perform the important work that we do.

Your annual support allows us to:

- Provide scholarships to support students in their academic pursuits
- Attract and retain talented and dedicated faculty members
- Make additions of books, and journals and ensure that we maintain the quality of our library, one of the finest theological collections in the country
- Offer a variety of formation and retreat programs to supplement students' academic studies
- Provide for our innovative Hispanic ministry programs that is training our students to minister to the growing Hispanic population here in the upper Midwest and throughout the country
- Allow our students to experience a wide variety of field placements including hospital chaplaincy, prison ministry, work with the poor and homeless, and Catholic education
- Continue our teaching parish program where each seminarian is placed in a parish community to experience the workings and faith life of a parish community
- Operate and maintain our physical plant

The real gauge of the importance of your support is realized by the selfless work that our alumni are doing. Whether it be as a parish priest, an educator, a church administrator, or in working with the sick and the poor our alumni witness to the Church and its mission.

Through your support you make a difference. Please introduce a friend to the Seminary and our work by passing this newsletter along. We will continue to need your support. Thank you.

Bill Hickey

✠ THE SAINT PAUL SEMINARY
SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

Hold the Date ...

July 2005

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22nd Annual
Golf Tournament

Call 651-962-5795 for more information.

Professional Notes

Rev. Michael Byron, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, was the keynote speaker and homilist at a Mass for about 400 religious educators and Catholic schoolteachers of the Diocese of Venice, Florida in December. The occasion was the 20th Anniversary of the Diocese, and the theme was, "To Serve With Mercy." In January he was the keynote speaker at the Annual DIOCORE gathering of catechists and Catholic schoolteachers of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. It was held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and the theme was focused on the need for ministry to be broadly inclusive.

Fr. Byron presented two talks to groups at Mary Mother of the Church parish during January and February. The first, to the parish Bible study group, focused on the early development of Christian Eucharistic rituals. The second, to the parish men's group, which was a Lenten retreat reflecting upon the meaning of suffering in the Christian life.

Dr. Thomas Fisch, Associate Professor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy, edited the book *Primary Readings on the Eucharist* published by Liturgical Press of Collegeville, Minnesota, which is a collection of previously published essays. Among the authors included are Robert Taft, S.J., Brevard S. Childs, Kallistos Ware and John Zizioulas.

Dr. David Jenkins, Director of Liturgical Music, performed organ and harpsichord in a UST Music Department faculty recital with Chris Kachian guitarist on February 12. The duo specializes in making their own arrangements of Baroque music. They are recipients of a 2005 Research Assistance

Grant from the Faculty Development office of UST to make a recording this coming summer of sonatas of J.S. Bach.

Mr. Jan Malcheski, Reference Librarian at Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library, is the author of a recent article: "Assessing Library Performance in a New Landscape, or 'How Did We Do Today?'" in *Theological Education* (Vol. 40, No. 1, 2004:113-126). The entire issue centers on "New Directions for the Timeless Quest - Theological Libraries in an Era of Change."

Dr. Deborah Organ, Asst. Professor of Homiletics/Coordinator of Hispanic and Multicultural Ministries, spent part of the January Term in San Cristobal, Mexico, working with Mayan indigenous women from highlands villages in finding their public voices. She also addressed the Indigenous Assembly in San Cristobal on the importance of and a methodology for drawing the Word out from various members of their communities when they gather. Enroute back to the United States she addressed the annual meeting of FADICA, a group of Catholic Foundations in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Dr. Kenneth Snyder, Assistant Professor of Church History, gave a presentation in January entitled: "Nicea to Chalcedon: Early Church Councils and the Development of Doctrine" at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

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Calendar of Events

- April 3** Easter Procession, a Devotional Service for Paschaltide from Byzantine sources, presented by The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale, David Jenkins, director and Michelle Plombon, organist. St. Mary's Chapel, 4 p.m., Free and open to public.
- April 12 & 14** Masters in Theology Information Night, Central Conference Room, 5:30 p.m. For information call Catherine Crowell at 651-962-5786.
- April 25** Ireland Spring Lecture Series, Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library, 7:30 p.m. Sr. Mary Christine Athans, B.V.M., Professor Emerita on Church History, "*Religious Liberty — A Gift and a Challenge: The Contribution of John Courtney Murray, S.J.*" and Rev. Jerome Dittberner, Professor of Systematic Theology, on Bernard Lonergan, entitled "*Lonergan for Non-Lonerganians*"
- April 28** Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony and Reception following the Mass at 5 p.m.
- May 7** Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate for Theology III, St. Mary's Chapel, 9:30 a.m.
- May 28** Ordination to the Priesthood, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Cathedral of St. Paul, 10 a.m.
- June 13** Summer Academic Session Begins
- July 18** The Saint Paul Seminary Annual Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. For information call Lezlie Jarpe at 651-962-5795.

Degrees Offered

For more information:

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Web: www.stthomas.edu/spssod

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- Master of Divinity

School of Divinity

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- Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies
- Certificate in Pastoral Leadership
- Master of Arts in Theology
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