My dear friends:

We are celebrating a special Year for Priests proclaimed by our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI and are invited especially to contemplate the love of the heart of Jesus which is the priesthood. It is the love with which an all loving and merciful God has blessed His Church. In the words of our Holy Father, “In his time the Curé of Ars was able to transform the hearts and the lives of so many people because he enabled them to experience the Lord’s merciful love. Our own time urgently needs a similar proclamation and witness to the truth of love.” (Deus Caritas Est, 1 John 4:8)

In every human heart is played out the drama of light and darkness. Christ is our light. And our world needs to see that light. The priest must be a witness and an Apostle of the love of the Heart of Jesus and of Mary. The call of the priest then, the call of all those who prepare to serve the Church as heralds of the Word and stewards of the sacred mysteries, is to walk in the light.

How does it happen? How can it be?

In God’s Divine Providence there is a plan; and central to the plan is a person, God’s special gift to each and every priest, his own Mother Mary, given to him from the Altar of the Cross. Mary was the first and most perfect of Christ’s disciples because the driving force of her life was love and service. In Jerusalem during the last week of His life, Jesus Himself revealed the characteristics of love and service thus giving concrete form to the image of priestly ministry.

In a recent episcopal ordination in the Vatican Basilica of St. Peter, our Holy Father spoke of these characteristics: faithfulness, prudence, and goodness as essential for all priestly ministry. These very characteristics are most especially evident in that “singular vessel of devotion” whose very soul magnifies the Lord. Hence Mary is the perfect model for all who seek to be faithful and passionate stewards of God’s holy mysteries.

In this Year for Priests, as we ask for God’s blessing on those who have been called to priestly ministry, we run to Mary, “For never was it known that anyone who fled to Her protection, implored Her help, or sought Her intercession was left unaided.”

The Missionaries of Charity, those joyful sisters, with words so close to those of their foundress Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, pray after Mass each day a beautiful prayer for those called to priestly service:

Mary, Mother of Jesus, throw your mantle of purity over our priests. Protect them, guide them and keep them in your heart. Be a mother to them especially in times of discouragement and loneliness. Love them and let them belong completely to Jesus. Like Jesus, they too are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal. Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips, so that He is the one they offer to sinners and to all they meet. Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother, loving them and bringing them joy. Take special care of sick and dying priests and the ones most tempted. Remember how they spent their youth and old age, their entire lives serving and giving all to Jesus. Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart. Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate, so full of love and humility so that they, too, may grow in the likeness of Christ. Dear Mary, make them humble like you and holy like Jesus. Amen.

May this be our own fervent prayer in this special Year for Priests as we ask our loving Lord to continue to bless His Church in love and service.

Mater mea, Fiducia mea!
FR. JEROME DITTBERNER HONORED WITH PROFESSOR EMERITUS DESIGNATION

On September 15, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity celebrated 39 years of dedicated service of Reverend Jerome Dittberner, professor of dogmatic theology and Latin. Faculty, students and friends gathered to honor this accomplished and much-esteemed professor.

Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in 1964, Fr. Dittberner joined the faculty of The Saint Paul Seminary in 1970. He received his B.A. and M.A. at Loyola University (Chicago) in 1959 and 1960 and went on to receive his S.T.L. at the Seraphicum (Rome) in 1964 and S.T.D. at the Pontificia Universitas Gregoriana (Rome) in 1966. He has established a legacy of engaging and challenging seminarians and lay students to a deeper understanding of theology in service of the Church.

Upon opening the formal program at dinner, University of St. Thomas President Fr. Dennis Dease remarked on Fr. Dittberner’s grand achievement as professor emeritus. He explained that “emeritus” meant an honor bestowed on someone of distinguished accomplishment in his or her profession. He then quipped that he searched the internet and found additional meanings for the word. “I found out that ‘emeritus’ can also mean a veteran of a given profession. It even holds the meaning of old and worn out!” After that delightful moment, Fr. Dease bestowed upon Fr. Dittberner the title professor emeritus for his four decades of contribution to the theological life of the community and, in particular, for the academic service to so many seminarians through his deep commitment to intellectual and spiritual formation.

Fr. Michael Kaluza, parochial vicar of the Cathedral of Saint Paul and a former student, took the time to reminisce on Fr. Dittberner’s wisdom:

“In teaching us about ourselves and how we are to shepherd the flock of God to the pastures of eternity, he has been a role model for so many. His focus was never directed to the look-it-up questions, but rather shaping character and helping his students to find God so that they can facilitate that experience for others. I think all of us will agree that he has taken that responsibility for training seminarians very seriously and devoted his entire career to fostering that inquisitive desire to learn so that holy and faithful priests might serve God’s chosen people.”
Fellow faculty member Dr. Thomas Fisch highlighted the honoree’s passions for tradition, theology, insight, and his students. He shared how Fr. Dittberner instructed his students to “get the Catholic Tradition right—and the Catholic Tradition is large, students need to understand that.” He also emphasized Fr. Dittberner’s passionate belief that “priests must be formed to think critically and speak intelligently about the Church’s dogmatic faith.”

Concluding the program, Fr. Dittberner reflected on his own personal realizations and career highlights. Remarking on his teaching, he stated that he is not a “period theologian. I am not a theologian who gets fixated on a particular period in the history of the Church. Human wisdom does not dry up.” Finally, Fr. Dittberner spoke of the important role of theologians in forming the future priest’s ability to teach, particularly through the homily. “The homilist need not necessarily rely on great oratorical skills but rather on the meaning and understanding of the scriptural text for the listener living in this new modern world.”

Thank you, Fr. Dittberner, for your many years of inspiring the intellect and the spirit of so many men and women at the seminary and beyond! Ad multos annos!

Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan presented the following commendation at Fr. Dittberner’s celebration:

The Board of Trustees, faculty, seminarians and staff of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity express sentiments of gratitude, high regard, and cordial best wishes to The Reverend Jerome Dittberner for the 39 years of dedicated service you have given as Professor of Dogmatic Theology and Latin.

As a priest, teacher and theologian, you have steadfastly striven to pursue in a particular way an even deeper understanding of the Word of God found in the inspired Scriptures, and handed on by the living tradition of the Church.

With your own personal gifts and skills and by your unforgettable, if not inimitable style, you have instructed, challenged, fascinated and at times charmed scores of men in their theological pursuits for their important and oft-times arduous journey of formation on the path to God’s Altar. And you have done so for almost four decades! In so doing you have helped so many to discern the authenticity of their call to service and assisted them toward a successful personal dialogue with God while discovering the ways God wishes them to advance.

Given on this 15th day of September, 2009

Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan, STL, JCD
Rector and Vice President
OATH OF FIDELITY, NEW STATUES MARK OPENING MASS

On September 9, Archbishop John Nienstedt joined the seminary community for its opening Mass and celebratory banquet. Two special events marked the occasion: the faculty oath of fidelity and the blessing of two statues.

The highlight of the opening Mass was the oath of fidelity ceremony. Faculty made a profession of faith and signed an oath of fidelity, pledging to be faithful to the Church’s Magisterium in their teaching. Each faculty member then presented their oath to Archbishop Nienstedt.

Prior to Mass, Archbishop Nienstedt blessed two new statues in the chapel: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. John Neumann. The Vincenzo G. Mussner studio in Ortisei, Italy, was commissioned to create the statues. They also carved two other statues that were installed in the chapel over the past few years.

*The statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was blessed by Archbishop Nienstedt before Mass.*

*Faculty processed into St. Mary’s Chapel where they made a profession of faith and took the oath of fidelity.*
NEW SEMINARIANS AND LAY STUDENTS JOIN SEMINARY COMMUNITY

Twenty men from seven dioceses were warmly welcomed by Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan and the seminary community in September. In total, 76 men from 15 dioceses are preparing for the priesthood at The Saint Paul Seminary. The average age of the seminarians is 29; the youngest is 22 and the oldest is 50.

In addition, eight lay students entered degree programs this fall. In total, 68 lay students are progressing toward advanced degrees in theology at The Saint Paul Seminary.

76 SEMINARIANS FROM 15 DIOCESES

St. Paul and Minneapolis 37  Rapid City 2
Sioux Falls 8  Pro Ecclesia Sancta, Peru 2
St. Cloud 7  St. Louis 1
Duluth 4  Anchorage 1
Navrongo-Bolgatanga, Ghana 4  Davenport 1
Rockford 3  New Ulm 1
Crookston 2  Grand Island 1
Des Moines 2
The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity announced a new John Ireland Scholarship program that annually will provide full tuition for up to three graduating University of St. Thomas seniors to pursue full-time graduate studies at the School of Divinity.

Dr. Christopher Thompson, academic dean, said scholarship winners have been selected on the basis of academic record, commitment to service, and enthusiasm for the school's mission to form men and women for service and leadership in the church and society.

“The scholarship is an excellent opportunity for those who wish to pursue this field,” Thompson said. “The close connection between the university and seminary is advantageous because it will allow students to build on the intellectual formation they already have received at the undergraduate level.”

This year’s winners are Andrew Allen, Sarah Farnes and Kyle Sellnow. Andrew majored in Catholic studies, Sarah in sociology and political science and Kyle in philosophy and Catholic studies. These students will bring much to the School of Divinity community.

Congratulations, John Ireland Scholars!
Beginning this fall season and throughout the 2009-2010 academic year, a series of musical and liturgical events will fill St. Mary’s Chapel at The Saint Paul Seminary to honor the 10-year anniversary of the Cyril F. Rotter Memorial Organ. On May 7, 2000, the 22-stop Noack mechanical pipe organ was dedicated as the Cyril F. Rotter Memorial Organ. With the renovation of St. Mary’s Chapel and installation of the new pipe organ in 2000, a new era in the liturgical life of the seminary began, renewing the seminary’s commitment to teaching the integral role of music in worship. Since then, the organ has been featured during the 2008 American Guild of Organists’ national convention and is renowned as one of the finest organs of its type in the Twin Cities area.

The public is invited to attend these events, which will delight music lovers of all ages. For more details about each event, visit www.saintpaulseminary.org or call 651-962-5050.

Dr. David Jenkins directed The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale at Lessons and Carols for Epiphany last January.

ORGAN RECITAL
Dr. David P. Jenkins, director of liturgical music
Friday, Oct. 9, 2009
7:30 p.m.

ST. THOMAS FACULTY RECITAL
Chris Kachian, guitar; Dr. David P. Jenkins, organ and harpsichord; with Michelle Nordtrop-Madsen, art historian
Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010
8 p.m.

CONCERT FOR BRASS AND ORGAN
University of St. Thomas Brass Choir, Chris Volpe, director; Dr. David P. Jenkins, organist
Sunday, March 21, 2010
4 p.m.

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT
The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale
Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009
4 p.m.

PIPE ORGAN DISCOVERY DAY
A workshop for young people featuring
MPR’s Michael Barone
To register: www.tcago.org
Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010
9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

SOLEMN VESPERS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale;
Michelle Plombon, organist; the Beacon Hill Brass
Sunday, April 25, 2010
4 p.m.
NEW SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE BRINGS MESSAGE OF UNITY TO THE HALLS OF SEMINARY

Last year, the Scholar in Residence program was inaugurated with the appointment of Dr. Janet Smith, nationally acclaimed ethicist and author, who taught a graduate seminar on John Paul II and *Humanae Vitae*. This spring, we welcome a new scholar to The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. Reverend Monsignor John A. Radano, a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark, will share his expertise in systematic theology and ecumenical studies and teachings focused toward worldwide Christian unity and cooperation. Msgr. Radano will teach a course in ecumenism. The local Catholic and academic communities are also welcome to take part in a featured public forum.

Msgr. Radano is an adjunct professor of theology at Seton Hall University’s Department of Religious Studies and was a full-time professor from 1965-1984, and department chair from 1977-1984. Recently, he was appointed visiting professor at the Pontifical University St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome. From 1984-2008 Msgr. Radano served as a staff member of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, Vatican City, and head of its Western division. He was also the Pontifical Council’s liaison with the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches (WCC), and a member of the Joint Working Group between Catholic Church and the WCC. Msgr. Radano’s articles have been published in various ecumenical journals and his book, *Lutheran and Catholic Reconciliation on Justification*, will be published by Eerdmans Publishing Company.
“At the seminary, every year is a year for priests,” reflected Fr. Jeff Huard, director of spiritual formation. “But there is a special joy this year that the Church universal is taking time to pray for and ponder the priesthood.”

Just as seminarians scattered for their summer formation experiences in parishes, hospitals and missions, Pope Benedict XVI offered these men a beautiful gift and opportunity for reflection as he proclaimed a Year for Priests on June 19, 2009. On the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Mary Vianney, Curé of Ars, the universal patron of priests, Pope Benedict called for a deepening of “the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today’s world.”

A few days later on June 24, 2009, the pope, in his general audience in Rome, shared with all the faithful his purpose in initiating this Year for Priests:

“…to encourage every priest in this striving for spiritual perfection on which, above all, the effectiveness of their ministry depends, and first and foremost to help priests and with them the entire People of God to rediscover and to reinforce their knowledge of the extraordinary, indispensable gift of Grace which the ordained minister represents for those who have received it, for the whole Church and for the world which would be lost without the Real Presence of Christ.”

For priests and lay people alike, the Year for Priests presents a beautiful opportunity to consider anew the gift of priesthood and its unique role in the priesthood of all believers.
PRIEST AS A MAN FOR OTHERS

“A poor peasant who became a humble parish priest and carried out his pastoral service in a small village” is the way Pope Benedict described St. John Vianney in his general audience address on June 24. Yet this humble priest became the example for priests throughout the world and articulated well the greatness of the priestly vocation:

“Without the Sacrament of Holy Orders, we would not have the Lord. Who put him there in that tabernacle? The priest. Who welcomed your soul at the beginning of your life? The priest. Who feeds your soul and gives it strength for its journey? The priest. Who will prepare it to appear before God, bathing it one last time in the blood of Jesus Christ? The priest. The priest, always the priest….” “…God obeys him: he utters a few words and the Lord descends from heaven at his voice, to be contained within a small host….”

“To some modern ears these words might sound excessive in their praise of the priesthood,” said Fr. Andrew Cozzens, assistant professor of systematic theology. “But the Holy Father is inviting us to see who priests really are, and who they are called to be.”

Not long after he arrived at the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis’ mission in Estado Bolivar, Venezuela, Deacon Erik Lundgren, Theology IV, read Pope Benedict’s letter to priests. For Deacon Lundgren, the Pope’s frequent references to St. John Vianney brought to mind the saint’s establishment of an orphanage for young girls in Ars. Deacon Lundgren’s experience at an orphanage in Venezuela gave him an instant connection to the Curé of Ars.

“Working in the orphanage magnified for me the role of priest as father,” reflected Deacon Lundgren. “I felt a spiritual link with the children and them with me.” He explained that while a priest doesn’t have biological children, by virtue of his vocation is open to spiritual children. “I wonder if this spiritual link between priest and orphan drove St. John Vianney to establish the orphanage.”

Joe Backowski, Theology II, experienced the intensity of a priest’s life in ministering to people in crisis. He spent his summer in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at St. Cloud Hospital in St. Cloud, Minn. With two priests assigned to spiritual care at the hospital, Backowski had the opportunity to spend much time with them as they ministered to people in spiritual, emotional and physical crises.

Backowski prayed alongside a family that requested the sacraments for their 24 year old son prior to taking him off life support. The priest baptized, confirmed and administered last rites shortly before the young man’s death. “God cares for us so much that when we need the sacraments, a priest is there,” said Backowski as he reflected on the experience.
THE CALL TO INTERIOR RENEWAL
To pray and to love is how St. John Vianney described the role of the priest. His profound simplicity gets to the core of the foundation of a priest’s life: his spirituality.

Pope Benedict called priests to focus anew on “interior renewal” and “striving for spiritual perfection” during this Year for Priests. Fr. Huard welcomed this emphasis as a priest needs “a solid grounding in spiritual direction, personal prayer, balanced living” to live out his vocation. “These must be in place so the priest need not fight vulnerabilities and challenges on his own.”

Spiritual direction is an important part of seminarian formation. Msgr. Stanley Srnec, longtime spiritual director for seminarians, hopes that during this Year for Priests “seminarians take special notice that their vocation is a gift from God – ’you have not chosen me, I have chosen you’.”

As a spiritual director, Msgr. Srnec, ordained in 1942, helps seminarians to “know thyself and see what you bring to the priesthood, both the good and the junk.” Through prayer and discernment, men grow deeper in their love for God and understanding of His call of them for priesthood.

Jordan Samson, Theology III, was blessed with the opportunity to spend extended time in prayer and reflection this summer. Following a short parish assignment at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in his home diocese of Sioux Falls, Samson journeyed to Broom Tree Retreat Center in Irene, SD, for a silent retreat in July. He clearly experienced the sort of “internal renewal” called for by Pope Benedict.

“The retreat gave me the chance to move from head to heart, to integrate my head knowledge into my spirituality,” reflected Samson. “I experienced God’s subtle but very powerful movement. Each day, God worked in small ways and at the end I saw the power of his working in my life.”

For Backowski, the Year for Priests provides an opportunity to reflect on the great pearl that is the priesthood. Being present to people during times of crisis brought to Backowski the image of a fireman. When a building is burning, the fireman puts the lives of others before his own. “Not everyone can be a fireman,” said Backowski. “It takes one who is willing to rely on the strength and courage provided by God to go and be the man who runs into the burning building. So, too, with the priesthood.”

Backowski acknowledged that the lived experience, through CPE, of a priest’s role with people in crisis increased his understanding of the priesthood.
Reflecting on the joy of his anticipated ordination to the transitional diaconate during the Year for Priests, Samson is grateful for the Pope’s emphasis on priestly identity and spirituality. “Seminarians and priests need the prayers of the laity to help us persevere and sustain a deep spiritual life. We can’t give what we don’t have and, therefore, need to keep Christ at the center of our lives.”

**ONE PRIESTHOOD, TWO UNIQUE ROLES**

At the seminary faculty’s annual workshop prior to the opening of the school year, participants focused their time considering the Year for Priests in light of seminarian formation. Dr. Stephen Hipp, assistant professor of systematic theology, offered a reflection on the relationship between the royal and ministerial priesthood.

Christ is the one unique and eternal Priest, accomplishing once and for all by his death and resurrection the Priesthood, communicating: (1) the sanctification of the Spirit to God’s people who therefore constitute a holy and royal priesthood, offering by their entire lives spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ; and (2) a special calling to ministers within the People who perform (and are) a priestly service, in order that the offering of the nations be acceptable to God, because it is sanctified in the Holy Spirit. Together, they share with him for eternity the title of priests, offering a single priestly worship, which is the action of the One High Priest exercised in and through his priestly people.

For the exercise of the total priesthood of Christ on the part of the whole body, Head and members, the coordinated activity of both kinds of priesthood is necessary. (This is always the case, even when the Mass is celebrated in private — for the royal priesthood of the ministerial priest stands in a similar dynamic relationship with his own ministerial/hierarchical priesthood). In this we observe a mutual subordination of each form of priesthood to the other in differing respects. While the properly Christian dimension of the sacrifice of God’s People is fundamentally dependent upon the sacramental role of the ministerial priest, the very reason for being of the latter is the former.

The royal priesthood is instrumental in bringing about the ministerial priesthood, and in more ways than one. There are no ordained priests without families who provide them. This gift to the Church is more than a biological fact. By the raising of children in the faith, through their constant prayer, sacrifice and example, parents mold the personalities of young men whom God wishes to ordain, and whom he wills to bring to that fulfillment through the instrumentality of family life. In the norm, it is the supernatural life of one’s family that bears the fruit of a priestly vocation. In this light, the ministerial priesthood can be said to grow out of the royal priesthood and to be engendered by it.
REMEMBERING ARCHBISHOP SHEEN

On December 9, 2009, The Saint Paul Seminary community will remember a most esteemed alumnus, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria in 1919 after completing his seminary studies at The Saint Paul Seminary, Archbishop Sheen was best known for his national television series, “Life is Worth Living,” which reached more than 30 million people weekly. His cause for canonization is currently underway; information is available at www.archbishopsheencause.org.

All are invited to join the seminary community and the Twin Cities chapter of Cause for Canonization of Archbishop Sheen on December 9 at 11:35 a.m. for Mass in St. Mary’s Chapel.

RESOURCES FOR YEAR FOR PRIESTS

Resources abound in support of the Year for Priests. Here are just a few:

Vatican “Year for Priests” documents
www.vatican.va/special/anno_sac/index_en.html

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/

Brief biography of St. John Vianney
www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2008-08-04
Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan presided at the opening Mass marking the second year of the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute. On September 14, returning students from the Class of St. Paul were joined by new students in the Class of St. John Vianney; 230 people are enrolled in the two classes.

The highlight of the Mass was the oath of fidelity ceremony during which the institute’s instructors pledge fidelity to the Magisterium in their teaching. Following Mass, students gathered to purchase books, visit with fellow students and participate in the opening session.

*Institute students participated in Mass in St. Mary’s Chapel.*

*Following Mass, students gathered for the institute’s opening session.*
BISHOP HOEPPNER ADMITS 34 MEN TO CANDIDACY FOR ORDINATION

On September 17, Bishop Michael Hoeppner of the Diocese of Crookston accepted 34 men into candidacy for Holy Orders. The group was exceptionally large this year as the seminary introduces new timing for this ceremony; men will now be admitted as candidates for Holy Orders as they begin their Theology I studies.

The celebration of admission to candidacy has been done at different times in the history of The Saint Paul Seminary since shortly after the Second Vatican Council, when Paul VI instituted this ritual. Most recently it was done about six months before ordination to the diaconate. After some study of common practice in seminaries, it seemed appropriate to use this ritual as a solemn mark for the man who begins studies in major seminary.

Joining the 33 seminarians in the ceremony was Joseph Michalak, Jr., a candidate for ordination to the permanent diaconate.

SERRANS HOST ANNUAL STEAK FRY FOR SEMINARIANS

Following Mass in St. Mary’s Chapel on September 21, 100 Serrans from nine clubs hosted seminarians and faculty to a delicious steak dinner. The seminarians were especially grateful for the opportunity to enjoy time with Serrans and thank them for their ongoing support of vocations and The Saint Paul Seminary.
Five young people were confirmed and one received first Communion at the Mass for Persons with Disabilities on September 13 in St. Mary’s Chapel. The event included a pre-Mass sing-a-long and an outdoor reception after Mass. Seminarians assisted Bishop Lee Piché during the Mass.

Supported by his family and sponsor, a young man was confirmed by Bishop Piché at the Mass for Persons with Disabilities.

Seminarian Fabian Moncada read a book about St. Francis with a man prior to Mass.

Photos: Dianne Towalski, The Catholic Spirit
PARTNERSHIP STRENGTHENS SEMINARY AND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

This past June, after months of careful deliberation, The Saint Paul Seminary made a decision to move its endowment investments to the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF).

At first glance, the decision seems to be fairly insignificant. It did not directly change the seminary’s formation program; it did not involve a change in investment strategy; it did not involve an increase in cost to manage. Looking more closely, though, there are several reasons why the decision is noteworthy for the seminary and our friends and benefactors.

As the largest community foundation in the U.S. serving Catholic philanthropy, CCF has a wealth of investment experience in its staff, board of directors and retained advisors. The cost to employ this expertise independently would be extremely cost prohibitive. But, because this cost is shared by all the institutions using the foundation, the seminary will greatly strengthen its expertise in the area without incurring extra cost. Using CCF also provides another level of accountability, ensuring benefactors that the seminary is doing its very best to be good stewards of the generosity that providence sends our way. And because the Catholic Community Foundation directly serves individuals and Catholic institutions in achieving their philanthropic goals, our newly formed relationship will also help the broader Catholic community as a whole.

Ultimately, the greatest impact of the move is that less time will be required on the management of our investments so that more time can be focused on carrying out our core mission – forming more good priests and lay leaders for the Church.

And that is why all of us at the seminary are looking forward to collaborating more closely with the Catholic Community Foundation and are confident that the new partnership will produce good and lasting fruit for the seminary and for the Church.

HILL SOCIETY

Named after the founding benefactors of the seminary, James J. and Mary Hill, the Hill Society is comprised of friends and alumni who have remembered the seminary in their estate plans, made a planned gift to the seminary, or contributed $5,000 or more to the I Will Give You Shepherds campaign.

If you have included The Saint Paul Seminary in your estate plans, please contact the Institutional Advancement office so that you can be included in Society mailings and events. Your notification will also help the seminary designate the funds appropriately when your gift is realized.

If you would like general information on estate planning or the Hill Society, please contact us at 651-962-5795 or hillsociety@stthomas.edu.
**Faculty Notes**

**Fr. Tom Margevičius** took the last of his courses for the Doctor of Ministry degree at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He will be writing his dissertation over the next year to complete the degree.

**Fr. Scott Carl** was the faculty representative on Theology III’s trip to the mission parish of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in Venezuela August 4-14, 2009. Fr. Greg Schaffer, priest of the archdiocese and pastor of that mission parish (Jesucristo Resucitado), was their host with the help of Fr. Tom McCabe, priest of the archdiocese and parochial vicar of the mission parish, and Deacon Erik Lundgren, Theology IV, who spent his summer in the mission. From June 3-10, 2009, **Sr. Katarina Schuth, OSF**, mentored new seminary formation faculty and presented conferences on “Trends and Transitions in Seminary Formation” at the Ninth Institute for the Preparation of Seminary Formation Advisors, St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park, CA.


**Fr. John Klockeman** took a 30-day Ignatian silent retreat with the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University, Omaha, NE. The retreat provided a thoughtful and spiritually deep preparation for his new position as assistant spiritual director at the seminary.

**Alumni Notes**

**Dr. Gene Scapanski ʼ64** received the Cardinal Bernardin Medal from Theological College at Catholic University of America, where he graduated in 1968 with a Licentiate in Sacred Theology. The medal is awarded to a lay alumnus who has had a distinguished professional and volunteer career and is an active Catholic and lay leader in the church.

Scapanski taught at The Saint Paul Seminary from 1977 to 1982 and was named dean of its Division of Pastoral Studies and an assistant professor of systematic and pastoral theology in 1986, at the time of its affiliation with St. Thomas. Most recently, he was appointed the University of St. Thomas’ vice president for mission in 2003, a position he held until his retirement on June 30, 2008.

**In Memoriam**

Fr. John M. Birdsall ʼ56
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>GRADUATE STUDIES INFORMATION NIGHT</td>
<td>The Saint Paul Seminary Administration Building</td>
<td>5:15 P.M.</td>
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<td>November 10-12</td>
<td>SEMINARIAN FUNDRAISING PHONE-A-THON</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>December 9</td>
<td>ARCHBISHOP SHEEN MEMORIAL MASS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
<td>11:35 A.M.</td>
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<td>December 12</td>
<td>WOMEN’S AUXILIARY ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
<td>8:00 A.M.</td>
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<td>January 6</td>
<td>J-TERM BEGINS</td>
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<td>February 6</td>
<td>FACULTY RECITAL</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
<td>8:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>LECTOR INSTALLATION, THEOLOGY I</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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