ANSWERING THE CALL TO EVANGELIZATION
“THE HIDDEN LIFE” – THE SEMINARY

My dear friends,

In this special year for priests we want to respond to our Holy Father’s invitation to realize a new springtime in the Church through the work of evangelization. So much has been written about evangelization! Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, speaking to a group of priests, was asked how she understood evangelization. Mother said, “Evangelization is such a big word! But for me evangelization is simply taking the Jesus who is in my heart and placing Him in your heart.” To do this we must contemplate the face of Jesus in company with our Blessed Mother.

We must look at our Lord!

“The soul of Jesus, hypostatically united to the Word, was the most perfect that ever existed. His penetrating intelligence, His quick perception, His tenacious memory, His unerring judgment and His flawless reasoning were without equal.” The character of Jesus is distinguished by a remarkable strength of body and admirable poise and an attractive grace. This is the God-man, the splendor of His heavenly Father, the perfection of created human nature. Yet with all these endowments, Christ spent thirty years preparing for His public ministry of three years.

The sheltered years of Christ’s earthly sojourn have many lessons for us:

1. **Thoroughness** – There is meticulous thoroughness in the way our Lord prepared Himself for the exercise of His priesthood. Each seminarian must emulate Him in this respect by a conscientious employment of his seminary days. This thoroughness is a quality to be carried into the priesthood. A professional pride in his work and a profound respect for its sacredness will never permit a candidate for priesthood to initiate any priestly activity without adequate preparation.

2. **Connection** – Everything that one does in the seminary is related to his future work in the priesthood. Every aspect of his training is intended to form him either intellectually or spiritually for his future life as a secular priest. The seminarian must constantly try to see this connection.

3. **Simplicity** – In His last years on earth Christ led a rugged, nomadic life. He must have conditioned Himself for that by a studied simplicity in His early home life. The secular priest takes no vow of poverty yet he follows the poor Christ. It is a mistake to cultivate exotic, expensive tastes in any area of life. A person will only be miserable if he cannot indulge them. Simplicity will take the form of holy indifference to the particular work that may be assigned to a man as a priest. Any assignment in the priesthood is a good one as long as one is working for Christ. Each appointment will hold its own spiritual adventure.

Our Blessed Lord’s hidden life can be summed up in this manner: He worked, He prayed, He suffered, and He got along with people. That then must be the hidden life for every man in priestly formation. That is the way a seminarian prepares to evangelize. He looks at the face of Jesus in the company of His mother, and thus comes to know Him by heart.

And so we pray “Sursum Corda.” “Lift up your hearts – we have lifted them up to the Lord.”

God bless you,

Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan
Rector and Vice President
BISHOP PAUL SIRBA TO SERVE
DIOCESE OF DULUTH

On December 14, seminary alumnus and former faculty member Bishop Paul Sirba was ordained to the episcopate and installed as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Duluth. Archbishop John Nienstedt of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis was the main consecrator along with two co-consecrating bishops, Bishop Peter Christensen of Superior and Bishop Lee Piché of St. Paul and Minneapolis; both are alumni of The Saint Paul Seminary.

The seminarians of The Saint Paul Seminary boarded buses to make the 150 mile journey to the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center auditorium for the ordination. During the ordination, Archbishop Nienstedt directed the congregation to take a look at the sign of hope seated in the front section of the auditorium’s balcony: 75 seminarians robed in cassock and white surplice.

For the seminary’s four seminarians from the Diocese of Duluth, the ordination brought great joy and gratitude. In an interview with The Catholic Spirit shortly after the announcement of Bishop Sirba’s appointment, Ben Hadrich, Theology II, said that he and his fellow seminarians were jumping for joy. “He’s one of the holiest men I’ve ever met, and probably the most humble man I’ve ever met,” Hadrich said. “Praise the Lord - that’s the man you want appointed as your next bishop.”

NEW APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED IN NOVEMBER

Congratulations to Fr. Peter Laird on his appointment as vicar general of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. For nine years, Fr. Laird has been a member of the faculty of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity and has served as vice rector since 2006.

In addition to their faculty appointments, Fr. Christopher Beaudet and Fr. Robert Pish have taken on vice rector responsibilities. As vice rector for administration, Fr. Beaudet is responsible for administrative operations as well as serving as administrative staff for the board of trustees. He continues his work as vicar judicial for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Fr. Robert Pish assumes the role of vice rector of student affairs in addition to his previous role as dean of men.

“I am most grateful for the many contributions of Fr. Laird. At every turn, the fruits of his labors are evident at the seminary,” said Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan. “I look forward to working closely with Frs. Beaudet and Pish as we together carry out the Church’s plan for preparing holy priests and committed lay ministers for pastoral and ecclesial service.”
In late October, philosophers and theologians from four countries gathered at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity to discuss environmental stewardship in light of Catholic teaching. The three day conference, “Renewing the Face of the Earth: The Church and the Order of Creation,” attracted 35 scholars from the United States as well as Canada, England and Italy. They participated in workshops and delivered papers on Catholic theological and philosophical principles dealing with a range of topics related to the environment.

The seminary collaborated with the National Catholic Rural Life Conference (NCRLC) in planning the conference. Bishop Frank Dewane of the Diocese of Venice, Fla. and president of NCRLC, delivered one of the keynote addresses.

“Pope Benedict’s statement on World Day of Peace regarding cultivating peace by protecting creation underscores the importance of stewardship and responding to these demands in a theologically responsible way,” remarked Dr. Christopher Thompson, academic dean. “The conference was perfectly timed to grapple with important questions facing the Church and society.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO FALL SEMESTER GRADUATES

Six men and women completed their graduate studies this fall, each earning a Master of Arts in Theology. We extend well wishes and welcome them to the rolls of alumni of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity.

Thomas Guro
Sr. Sarah Hennessey
Manuk Malkhasyan

Susan Mulheron
Thomas Schulzetenberg
Ry Siggelkow
On New Year’s Eve, when many a college student is celebrating in a way most parents would advise against, 4,000 Catholic college students from colleges and universities around the country rang in the new year at a resort in Orlando being fed by the likes of Jeff Cavins, Fr. Benedict Groeschel and even Cardinal Seán O’Malley. FOCUS – Fellowship of Catholic University Students – brought these young people together, as it has since 1998, on college campuses around the country, to hear God’s call in their lives and support them in fully living their Catholic faith.

“I see so many people my age who are unafraid to live authentically Christian lives,” observed Alexandra Theis, a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Theology program at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. “My generation senses that our hearts are not going to be satisfied by instant gratification, immorality, violence and other characteristics which are featured so prominently in our society and media. St. Augustine’s guidance that our hearts are restless unless they rest in God resounds with us.”

PAPAL INSPIRATION
When asked what is fueling this youthful embrace of the faith, it doesn’t take long for one name to emerge: The Venerable Pope John Paul II.

“We just loved him,” proclaimed Andrew Brinkman, Theology I. “He was so personal and so engaging. He affirmed us in our youth and had a compassion for what it meant to be a youth in this age. He was on our side!”

In a lecture at the University of St. Thomas in 2006 about the rising generation of Catholics, Dr. Jonathan Reyes recounted the high percentage of youth among the 80,000 people who held vigil for the Holy Father in St. Peter’s Square the night before he died. “No man has ever so captivated youth,” said the former leader with FOCUS and 20-year veteran of campus ministry.
“Our generation prefers to be inspired to do the right thing rather than being told what to do,” said Ben Hadrich, Theology II, as he reflected on Pope John Paul II’s influence on his faith journey and that of his peers. “He faced the worst of things in his life and still held to the faith; my generation is fearful of many things and he told us ‘do not be afraid.’”

A SEARCH FOR STABILITY AND SUBSTANCE
As they grew up, the young adults of today were surrounded by a popular culture that holds moral relativism and materialism in high esteem. In interviewing many young people for her book “The New Faithful: Why Young Adults are Embracing Christian Orthodoxy,” journalist Colleen Carroll noted a growing number of Catholic young adults seeking truth and embracing a demanding practice of their faith in response to their disenchantment with the world around them.

“Our generation has grown up in chaos – broken families, the sexual revolution – and we want something to hang on to,” said Hadrich. “The Church and the truth can sustain us.”

“For my generation, there is zero cultural pressure for me to go to Mass,” reflected Brian Park, Theology I. “And while many young people are still far from the Lord, those who are involved approach their faith with a real zeal.”

HOW WIDESPREAD IS THIS MOVEMENT?
The trend in church attendance for Catholics has, unfortunately, been on a downward slope since the 1950s. A 2009 Gallup Poll, measuring church attendance in the last seven days, showed a decline from 75% in 1954 to 45% in 2008. Over the past decade, however, the level of church participation has remained fairly constant. Particularly interesting is that only one age group showed an increase in church participation - the age group 21-29 – from 25% in 1995 to 30% in 2008.

Noting from both statistics and experience the number of Catholic young adults who are not engaged in their faith, Reyes justified his optimism about this movement toward a deeper engagement of Catholic youth in recounting that “history in not made by majorities.” Rather than focusing on the statistics that demonstrate the majority opinion, Reyes said it is “necessary to identify and understand that subculture of committed, zealous and visionary men and women in the rising generation, the ones who may very well change the face of the world.”
Katie Schaitberger, a campus minister and graduate student in the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry program, is surrounded daily by a cross-section of college students. “There are small groups of young people living out their faith on campus and providing a witness to their peers,” noted Schaitberger. “Young people are letting people know that they are active in their faith and not afraid to say that they are going to Mass or involved in a bible study.”

Acknowledging that many people have a sense of despair about the low participation of young people in the faith, Tom Schulzetenberg said, “There are many reasons to hope and rejoice if you just let yourself see them.” A December graduate of the Master of Arts in Theology program and administrative chancellor for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Schulzetenberg ticked off a list of signs of progress: record numbers of seminarians at Saint John Vianney College Seminary; the Catholic Studies program at the University of St. Thomas, the university’s fastest growing program and largest of its kind in the country; and Theology on Tap in many cities around the country.

FRUITS OF THE NEW SPRINGTIME
In 1999 during his visit to St. Louis, Pope John Paul II both charmed and challenged the youth of America, calling them to love Jesus and spread the Gospel: “Even though you are young, the time for action is now! It is time to let your light shine! Remember, Christ is calling you; the Church needs you; the Pope believes in you, and he expects great things of you!”

Pope John Paul II spoke often of a new springtime in the Church and particularly saw the role of young people in bringing about that renewal. There is much evidence that little by little young people are responding.
In 2007, Dean Hoge and Marti Jewell conducted a study of Catholic college students and young adults regarding their interest in ministry in the Church. Those surveyed had some connection to either a campus ministry or a diocesan young adult program. The results reflect the deep commitment that this segment of young people has to the Catholic faith:

- Of the college students, 48% of the males had seriously considered becoming a priest and 39% of the females had considered becoming a sister. For young adults (ages 20-39) 55% of the males had considered priesthood and 37% of the females religious life.

- There was also significant interest in lay ministry among both segments: 35% of the college students and 54% of the young adults have seriously considered becoming a professional lay minister.

It is also interesting to note that many of those surveyed have been encouraged by others to consider a vocation to priesthood or religious life. Of the college students, 70% of the males and 33% of the females reported that someone had encouraged them. The figures were similar with young adults: 71% of males and 39% of females.

“Beyond the influence of my family in the formation of my faith, Archbishop Robert Carlson provided me with great kindness and support as I discerned God’s call in my life,” said Jonathan Venner, Theology III.

Hadrich, who went to the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth to pursue teaching, was encouraged by his pastor to consider the priesthood. “He hired me to do youth ministry and then said I needed to go to seminary,” recounted Hadrich.

Other influences played a part in helping seminarians and lay students hear God’s call to ministry. For Park, his involvement with NET Ministries “shored up his call to priesthood,” which had been popping in and out of his life throughout his college years. World Youth Day influenced many others, especially Schaitberger. “The message of World Youth Day was to be light to the world,” she said. “This drew me to ministry given my gift for building relationships with people in groups and individually. Why wouldn’t I use this talent for ministry?”

And what will be the focus of this generation’s ministry? In a word, evangelization. They will take it on in their way, a way that intersects with the things of this world.

“This generation can engage the world in a new way that will forever touch the relationship between Church and popular culture,” remarked Brinkman. “We can find new missionary opportunities in creative ways, such as film, radio and print media. We will engage the world as it is, then call it forth to an encounter with Christ.”
Deacon Barnes received the Book of Gospels from Archbishop Nienstedt during his ordination to the diaconate last spring.

"We are surrounded by good and gifted priests as models for our priesthood," said Deacon Patrick Barnes about the many and varied priests who serve on the faculty of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. "With the help of my formation advisor, Fr. Paul, I have grown significantly in self-knowledge. He brings to me the way the seminary was in me and helps me see how I am perceived as a public person.

Deacon Barnes is finishing his final year of formation for the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Looking back on his time at the seminary, he says the diligent and beautiful way that, with God's help, seminarians are transformed into men ready to serve God's people as good priests is "amazing."/n

Close to Deacon Barnes’ heart is his fraternity with other seminarians. “They have been significant in my own formation,” he observed. “Through conversation over meals, shared prayer and even, at times, the usual seminary schedule. “Prayer, classes, meals, Wednesday formation, summer placements and more; all help to give us the discipline required in the life of a priest.

Part of Deacon Barnes formation program included a visit to the Holy Land. “The emphasis on the seminarian’s formation program is humble. ‘Visiting the Holy Land was an incredible opportunity, not to mention the breathtaking experience of praying where Jesus preached!’

Overall, Deacon Barnes is grateful for the variety of learning opportunities available at the seminary and knows that he is being well-formed to serve the Church as a priest. “We have so many opportunities, inside and outside the classroom, to study theology and learn about the Church. What a gift this is!”

The annual cost to house and educate a seminarian is $50,000. Tuition, room and board covers half the cost, leaving $25,000 per seminarian to be raised through gifts to the seminary.

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Dear Friends,

Our partnership with St. Paul, leaned large and so this past year, both figuratively and literally. Just as Pope Benedict XVI named The Year of St. Paul, an impressive statue of this great saint was installed in the courtyard of the seminary. With St. Paul in our guide, we began a year filled with hope and good news!

Our seminary enrollment continues to grow. 68 seminarians from 62 seminaries in the previous year. The rigorous formation program took them from classroom to prayer and prayer to outpatient placements. The fruits of this comprehensive formation were witnessed by people in 7 dioceses as 11 men were ordained for the priesthood last spring. As the new year began, 76 men from 14 dioceses and one institute of consecrated life, including men from Ghana and Peru, were in formation for the priesthood.

Our programs for our students, too, point to a bright horizon for the Church. Many lay people and religious are enrolled in our four graduate programs in theology. The Archdiocese Harry J. Pritzker Canons’ Institute finished its first year with a capacity enrollment of 150 students. Almost all these students are continuing on for a second year. There are 1,200 students at The Saint Paul Seminary.

We continue the building the best formation programs possible for our seminarians and lay students. Our foundation is solid and the enrichment of our programs continues due in great part to the generosity of our donors.

During the year, our Board of Trustees continued to provide strong leadership in support of the seminary’s mission. Our board of trustees includes 23 members representing a diverse range of skill sets and perspectives.

In 2008-2009, the annual report of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, we reported our formation program for theology III; not since 2001 have seminarians had the opportunity to experience the Holy Land as part of their formation. We also established the Mega Jerome D. Quinn Institute of Biblical Studies, memorializing the legacy of this renowned scholar and enabling the seminary to strengthen its biblical studies program. The Scholar in Residence program brought Dr. Janet S. Smith to campus for a semester. She packed both classroom and auditorium as students and the broader community sought her wisdom on important issues in the field of human sexuality and bio-medical.

Because of your support, the Saint Paul Seminary continues to grow and thrive. You make it possible for men to answer God’s call to serve in his Church as good and holy priests. Your generosity ensures that lay people and religious have access to faithful and rigorous formation as they prepare to work alongside priests in various ministries in the Church.

Let us continue to pray for one another and for our seminarians and lay students. Together, we are answering God’s call to build his kingdom on earth by sharing the Good News.

Cordially yours in Christ,

Very Reverend John C. Nienstedt, S.T.D. Rector and Vice President
The seminar’s financial situation remains solid, due in large part to the generosity of so many committed donors. Our sustaining fund continues to form a stable support for the seminary by providing ongoing operating revenue. Individuals and families have joined in praying, encouraging, and financially supporting the mission of priestly and lay formation.

For the past three years, annual fundraising efforts have achieved established goals, showing an increasing number of benefactors to support the work of priestly formation. Unrestricted gifts, which had previously been used to support annual operations, are now being designated as capital reserves and used for ongoing maintenance and capital improvement projects.

The opportunity to worship where she learns is something Mah cherishes. “I love going to Mass here to be part of such a rich faith community.” Mah notes that she will be well-equipped to serve the Church when she graduates in December. “To know that I have had access to professors who have been hand-picked to form future priests gives me great assurance that my theological formation has been both rigorous and with the heart of the Church.”

Mah considers taking a class from the seminar’s first Scholar in Residence one of the highlights of her formation. “It was incredible to learn about the writings of John Paul II and Pope Francis,” Mah recalled. She adds that the seminar’s enrichment program has greatly added to her understanding of theology and her personal faith. “It was incredible to learn about the writings of John Paul II and Pope Francis,” she reflected. Mah says that she knows that she will be well equipped to serve the Church when she graduates in December. “I love going to Mass here to be part of such a rich faith community.” Mah notes that she will be well-equipped to serve the Church when she graduates in December. “To know that I have had access to professors who have been hand-picked to form future priests gives me great assurance that my theological formation has been both rigorous and with the heart of the Church.”

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GOD CAN CALL AT ANY AGE

PROFOUND PEACE CONFIRMED PURSUIT OF THE PRIESTHOOD

From Wall Street to the seminary, God called Jonathan Kelly, Theology III, to a radical change in direction. And it all happened fairly quickly.

“I made a retreat that had a significant impact on my life,” said Kelly. “I quit my job six weeks after the retreat, and through daily Mass, adoration, and increased silence, I was able to hear God’s call for me to the priesthood.”

Fr. Michael Becker, now a spiritual director at Saint John Vianney College Seminary, was one of the priests on the retreat. He invited Kelly to live with him and three other priests at their rectory. “I joined them in their daily life of prayer and immediately felt at home. I was able to enter the seminary a few months later,” Kelly said.

His life and career prior to seminary offered a helpful point of reference as he discerned the priesthood. “The peace that I experience pursuing priesthood is so real. It is much deeper than I had ever experienced previously,” reflected Kelly. “This comparison helped me discern much quicker than I might have otherwise.”

While acknowledging that today’s culture often appears to be more secular, Kelly is hopeful as he reflects on the new springtime in the Church. “Many people are rediscovering their Catholic faith and they are taken by the beauty of the Church.”

“It is a bit of a paradox, but we know that when the culture is often very secular, God raises up great saints to encourage us to ‘be not afraid’, to remind us that only God is Eternal, and only He can fill the human heart.”

COMFORTABLY IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF IT

Shellee Lambrecht’s faith was formed and nurtured in the charismatic renewal movement and in the ecumenical covenanted community of People of Praise, giving her “practical experience of being in the world but not of it.” A student in the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry Program and a business person, Lambrecht takes seriously her call to evangelize “by building and sustaining relationships between people of all ages and backgrounds, including the workplace, home and neighborhoods.”

Woven beautifully into Lambrecht’s life has been her answering God’s prompting toward leadership in ministry, all the while continuing her professional career, most recently as a business analyst with Ergotron, Inc. Helping to start the Twin Cities women’s chapter of Christians in Commerce led her to the young adult group at St. Olaf Catholic Church in Minneapolis. There, her eyes were opened to more of the “treasures of our Catholic faith and catechesis that my generation missed.” Later, she participated in the core team for the Evangelization Initiative at Nativity of Our Lord in St. Paul which eventually led to enrollment in graduate studies at the seminary to gain a firmer foundation in the Catholic faith. Just three courses into the program, Lambrecht said, “I know I am in the right program.”

Lambrecht feels drawn “to help build a culture of discipleship in our Catholic parishes and am discerning whether I may be called to be a spiritual director.” She knows that the skills she has developed in the business world related to teaching, writing and public speaking, as well as administration and situation analysis will be “useful for finding new ways to communicate and teach the faith to people at all stages of the Christian life.”

ORACLE | 9
A DEFEAT FOLLOWED BY A VICTORY

While the Sons of Thunder from The Saint Paul Seminary started strong, they could not overcome the football prowess of the Saint John Vianney College Seminary team, which tallied a 43-26 victory in the 10th annual Rectors’ Bowl on October 3. Not to be outdone completely, The Saint Paul Seminary’s soccer team defeated the SJV team the next day.

Robert Abotzabire, Theology II, carried the ball with determination.

BISHOP KINNEY INSTALLS NEW ACOlyTES

On October 13, Bishop John Kinney of the Diocese of St. Cloud presided over the installation of 19 seminarians from Theology II to the ministry of acolyte. In addition, eight permanent diaconate candidates from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis were also installed as acolytes. As acolytes these men take on more responsibility in serving at Mass and caring for the Blessed Sacrament.

Seminarians and permanent diaconate candidates gathered for a photo with Bishop Kinney following their installation as acolytes.
RECTOR’S DINNER BRINGS TOGETHER FRIENDS, OLD AND NEW

With the room filled to capacity, friends of The Saint Paul Seminary gathered for the fourth annual Rector’s Dinner on October 22 at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul. During the program, Deacon Joseph Jiang, Theology IV, and Luke Marquard, Theology I, shared their vocation stories with 250 guests.

Archbishop John Nienstedt addressed a capacity crowd gathered to celebrate the work of the seminary.

Msgr. Callaghan with Susan Steadman and Erica Faulkner at the Rector’s Dinner.

IRELAND MEMORIAL LECTURE ADDRESSES ECUMENISM

Dr. Christian Washburn, assistant professor of theology, delivered the Ireland Memorial Lecture on October 19 titled “Condign Merit, the Council of Trent and Ecumenism.” He addressed the development of the Tridentine discussions on the doctrine of merit and the implications of the council’s teachings for current ecumenical dialogue. Ecumenism is a special area of expertise for Dr. Washburn; he is a participant on the International Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commission on Unity and the U.S. Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue.

Dr. Christian Washburn
WOMEN GATHER TO PREPARE THEIR HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan offered a morning of reflection for women in preparation for Christmas. Held on December 5, 134 women from around the archdiocese had the opportunity to pray and reflect on the coming of Jesus through Mary’s eyes for, in Msgr. Callaghan’s words, “who better than Mary can tell the Christmas story? She knows it by heart!”

Fr. Robert Pish distributed communion during Mass.

SEMINARIANS PROVIDE WITNESS TO CAMPUS COMMUNITY DURING BORROMEO WEEKEND

On November 6, more than 225 seminarians from The Saint Paul Seminary and Saint John Vianney College Seminary processed across the University of St. Thomas campus with the Blessed Sacrament. The procession marked the start of the fifth annual Borromeo Weekend, which centered around 40 hours of Eucharistic adoration and included rosaries, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Stations of the Cross, meditations and other opportunities for worship. The seminarians were joined by many UST students for prayer at various times throughout the weekend.

Seminarians processed across campus during the opening ceremony for Borromeo Weekend.
LESSONS AND CAROLS CELEBRATES ADVENT SEASON

St. Mary’s Chapel was filled with people and beautiful prayer and music on December 6 for the celebration of Lessons and Carols for Advent. Dr. David Jenkins was joined by organist Michelle Plombon and The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale for this festive and prayerful gathering.

Deacon Doug Pierce led the seminarian chorale during Lessons and Carols for Advent.

ALUMNUS ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN REMEMBERED

On December 9, The Saint Paul Seminary community remembered a most esteemed alumnus, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. The 11:35 a.m. Mass was celebrated in memory of Archbishop Sheen. Seminarians, faculty, staff and lay students were joined by the local community, including members of the Twin Cities chapter of Cause for Canonization of Archbishop Sheen. During Mass, Msgr. William Baumgaertner, former rector, shared memories of his interactions with Archbishop Sheen.

John Dick, left, from the Twin Cities chapter of the Cause for Canonization of Archbishop Sheen visited with John Thomas following Mass.
At more than 100 years old, The Saint Paul Seminary has a history filled with evolving approaches to accomplishing one goal: to raise up holy priests after the heart of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd. Today, there is continuing progress taking place here, establishing this seminary as a leader in priestly and theological formation.

As our enclosed annual report illustrates, tremendous progress is being made: numbers are up, the caliber of students is impressive, a stellar faculty is in place, and first-rate study abroad and visiting scholars programs have been established. The most notable reason for this, and the focus of this issue of Oracle, is the new springtime taking place in the Church. Ultimately, all renewal comes about by the hand of Providence. Without it even the best run organizations would fail.

Another reason of a more practical nature has been the success of the I Will Give You Shepherds endowment campaign. Begun in January 2004 and publicly announced in December 2006, this historic effort has made a substantial impact. Contributions received thus far have enabled the seminary to launch several study abroad programs, supplement diocesan support so seminarians can be ordained without incurring debt, and establish three endowed institutes that will ensure an outstanding academic curriculum. We have come a long way since the inception of the campaign, yet we still have work to do. Funding is needed for two of the four campaign priorities: $3 million for the Spiritual Formation Program and $2 million for lay student scholarships.

Both these priorities are very important to the work of the seminary. The Spiritual Formation Program is the “soul” of seminary formation. It deepens the interior life of each seminarian by imparting the discipline of daily prayer and guidance from weekly formation meetings and regular retreats to help form the heart of the seminarian into the heart of the Shepherd. Lay student scholarships will provide needed support for men and women studying here in preparation for service in the Church.

We are profoundly grateful for the generous support of our benefactors. You and your intentions are remembered in our daily prayers. We look forward to the season ahead and to working together in fulfilling the seminary’s mission of training and forming gifted, holy shepherds for the Church of today and generations to come.
Sr. Paul Therese Saiko, SSND, conducted a day of recollection for the School Sisters of Notre Dame at their motherhouse in Mankato, Minn. The July 10, 2009 event was titled “The Year of Paul: An Afterword.” In addition, she delivered a number of presentations to various groups including “How Do Catholics Read the Bible” on Sept. 28 for teachers at San Miguel Middle School in Minneapolis and a six-part series titled “The Psalms – our Discourse with God” at Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Fr. Scott Carl attended the Society of Biblical Literature Conference held this year in New Orleans Nov. 20 – 23. In addition to hearing numerous papers on various topics in biblical studies, it was a good opportunity to promote the seminary’s new Monsignor Jerome D. Quinn Institute of Biblical Studies. Moreover, the papers from the inaugural conference sponsored by the Quinn Institute entitled “The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church: Integrating Biblical Studies and Theology in the Formation of Priests” have been posted on the seminary website (www.stthomas.edu/spssod/continuing/quinninstitute/default.html).

On Jan. 5, Dr. David Jenkins offered a noon-time organ recital at the Church of St. Louis King of France in St. Paul, Minn., as part of the parish’s weekly music series.

Fr. Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV, designed and taught the School of Divinity’s first ever hybrid online/in-person course. This introduction to the Old Testament, which was conducted primarily online and included students from as far as New Jersey and Florida, is a major step toward using new technologies to expand the seminary beyond its geographical confines. Also, Fr. Betancourt has joined the board of coordinators for the International Conference for Seminarians in Hispanic Ministry and represented the seminary on the board’s meeting at Mundelein Seminary on Nov. 7. Additionally, on Nov. 8, Fr. Betancourt attended the annual conference for the American Academy of Religion in Montreal where he participated in a discussion on teaching led by the Wabash Center and was recognized as an important new teacher in his field.


IN MEMORIAM
Fr. Joseph Bauschka ‘55
Fr. John Clarke ‘45
Fr. Robert Fox ‘55
Kenneth Lenzmeier ’50
Fr. Lawrence London ’53
James McCarthy ’62
Fr. Donald Molumby ’56
Louis Noll ’61

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Alumni are invited to submit nominations for the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award. The award will be given to two alumni - ordained and lay - who have made significant contributions in the area of vocations. To submit a nomination, visit www.saaintpaulseminary.org or call 651-962-5795 for a nomination form.

The Distinguished Alumni Award event will be held on May 10, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in St. Mary’s Chapel.
# Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Institution of Lectors, Theology I</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Graduate Studies Information Night</td>
<td>5:15 P.M.</td>
<td>The Saint Paul Seminary Administration Building</td>
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<td>March 11-14</td>
<td>Institute for Priestly Formation Symposium “The New Evangelization: Implications for Priestly Formation”</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity campus</td>
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<td>March 21</td>
<td>Concert for Brass and Organ</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Public Declaration for Diaconate, Theology III</td>
<td>5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Friends Mass and Breakfast</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Archbishop Ireland Memorial Lecture</td>
<td>7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Msgr. John Radano, Seton Hall University, on Ecumenism 3M Auditorium, Owens Science Hall</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>Rector’s Council Mass and Dinner</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Solemn Vespers for the Third Sunday of Easter</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>“Vianney” Starring Leonardo Defillippis</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>O’Shaughnessy Educational Center Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Public Declaration for Priesthood, Theology IV</td>
<td>5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Ordination to the Diaconate, Theology III</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
<td>Basilica of Saint Mary</td>
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-For more information on any of these events, please call 651-962-5050