On
Becoming a
PRIEST
Dear Friends,

I remember hearing an elderly priest once say: “It is not our thoughts or feelings, not even our words – but our actions that get us to heaven or hell.” How we go about giving a real Christian witness depends very much upon how we take these sage words to heart.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has said what the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm hearts: “The ministers of the Gospel must be those who can warm the hearts of the people, who walk through the dark night with them, who know how to descend themselves into their people’s night, into the darkness, but without getting lost . . . they must also be able to accompany the flock that has a flair for finding new paths.”

In his book The Gospel of Priesthood, Hubert Van Zeller, O.S.B., quotes Père Ginhac: “Souls come to us priests in order to find Jesus. Give them Jesus, and in their turn they will give Him to their children, to their parish, to all with whom they come in contact.”

And so, as Pope Francis reminds us, “as in life, God accompanies persons so we must accompany them.”

Father Van Zeller warns, “If our Lord pointed to the highways and byways, if He spoke of fields white for harvest, if He wanted His disciples to be fishers of men and shepherds of sheep that have gone astray, it is a sad unconcern that keeps priests tethered to their desks, their armchairs, and their televisions.” Or their computers, I would add!

Pastoral solicitude calls for action. We must go out to our people, and, with joy and compassion, bring God’s people to the light of His face. We must help them to see that our God is rich in mercy.

With this in mind, the following pages will highlight the fourth pillar of our priestly formation program – pastoral formation. The goal of pastoral formation is to enable the candidate for the priesthood to acquire the mind and heart of an authentic shepherd of souls, modeled on the True Shepherd Jesus Christ. The core of this formation is the acquisition of the virtue of pastoral charity which integrates all aspects of priestly life and ministry.

Please pray for our men as they prepare to serve God’s people so that they might have in the words of Pope Francis – “A big heart open to God.”

God bless you,

Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan
Rector and Vice President
Joy filled the halls of The Saint Paul Seminary on October 11, 2013, when the official notice came from the Vatican: Pope Francis appoints Fr. Andrew Cozzens a bishop! And joy filled the Cathedral of Saint Paul on December 9, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, when Fr. Cozzens was ordained Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

The ordination was witnessed by three archbishops, 15 bishops, hundreds of brother priests, and an overflowing cathedral of family, friends, seminarians, seminary faculty and staff, and guests. Bishop Cozzens lay prostrate before the altar as a living symbol of his episcopal motto: “I am totally yours, and all that I have is yours. O Mary, give me your heart.” (Saint Louis de Montfort)

Bishop Cozzens was ordained in 1997 and served his first two parish assignments at the Cathedral of Saint Paul and Divine Mercy in Faribault. At the request of Archbishop Harry Flynn, Bishop Cozzens then spent four years in Rome completing his doctorate in dogmatic theology with a focus on the sacraments. Upon his return he was assigned to teach at the seminary in 2006.

While Bishop Cozzens initially desired to work on the “front lines” in a parish, he willingly accepted his assignment in the academic world. He found this time among the seminarians extremely rewarding. “I grew to love teaching,” he said. “The seminarians are so hungry to learn, not just facts but the deeper meaning behind it all…the spiritual and prayerful heart of Jesus Christ.”

Bishop Cozzens’ mother, Judy, knew all along that her son was destined to be a teacher. “From the time he was very young, Drew was a teacher,” she said. “He has always had the ability to make things understandable for people. That is a gift.”

Older sister Helen Healy recognized the same gift in her brother when he became a priest. “When you think of a priest, you think of a parish,” she said. “But it was clear God was going to use him in some way outside of the parish.”

After seven years as assistant professor of systematic theology and director of worship, Bishop Cozzens will be missed by the faculty, staff, seminarians and graduate students. In addition to his academic excellence in the classroom, Bishop Cozzens’ genuine desire to serve the Lord is evident. “Bishop Cozzens has a heart for bringing young people to the Heart of Jesus,” Msgr. Callaghan said. “In his own life he has striven to give awesome witness to the importance of authentic priestly fraternity.”

Bishop Cozzens sees that his time at the seminary will shape his new role as bishop, saying, “Serving the Church in the seminary has increased my love for the priesthood and my admiration for my brother priests. I will always have a deep concern for the priests I am serving.”
By the time Theology II seminarian Matthew Northenscold and Fr. John Mitchell ('96) finally sit down to pray together on a bitterly cold December day, they had put in a full-day’s work and have a full agenda ahead of them. The Psalm they recite from the Liturgy of the Hours include the words that fit the moment: “In your house I am a passing guest, a pilgrim like all my fathers.” (Ps. 39)

And so begins another Wednesday session for the seminarian and his supervisor.

Matthew works with Fr. Mitchell every Wednesday and one weekend each month as part of The Saint Paul Seminary’s highly regarded Teaching Parish Program (TPP). This is when Matthew and more than 80 Theology I-IV seminarians step out of the classroom and into the four-year priestly internship, designed to thoroughly prepare a man for priesthood.

As Dr. Charlotte Berres, Associate Director of Pastoral Formation, puts it, “The TPP is our ‘behind the wheel training’ so the seminarians have practical experience in how to run a parish.”

Originally from St. Timothy’s in Maple Lake, Minnesota, Matthew was assigned to Immaculate Conception in Columbia Heights as a Theology I seminarian and will remain there until he is ordained at the end of Theology IV.

For Fr. Mitchell, Matthew is the fifth seminarian he has been assigned through the TPP. Father considers this task a privilege. “I enjoy supervising the seminarians during their formation,” he said. “I can see how God is guiding them, and I get to watch their confidence grow.”

A FORMULA FOR SUCCESS
The TPP format is simple. Guided by the four pillars of priestly formation – spiritual, human, intellectual and pastoral – the TPP has been an integral part of The Saint Paul Seminary’s curriculum and formation since 1983. The program was established with the underlying belief that it is through His people God forms ministers and calls them to leadership. Or as Fr. Mitchell puts it, “The formation of our future priests is everyone’s responsibility.”
According to Msgr. Callaghan, this approach is the key to the TPP’s success: “The genius of our Teaching Parish Program is that it offers an effective immersion into the life of parish ministry in a way that meets all of the criterion for authentic pastoral formation.”

In addition to the seminary’s year-round academic and spiritual formation program, seminarians participate in the TPP throughout their four years in seminary, engaging long-term in parish life and developing pastoral skills that are essential to the life of a priest.

Each year of the TPP is designed to expose the seminarian to an important aspect of parish and priestly life, dedicated to one of four important themes:

Service
Seminarians spend the first year in their assigned teaching parish getting to know the pastor and parishioners. More specifically, they delve into the mission and worship life of their parish in the fall, followed by a concentration in pastoral care in the spring.

Word
This year focuses on faith formation within the parish, with youth faith formation in the fall and RCIA and adult faith formation in the spring.

Worship
A seminarian spends his third year learning the intricacies of pastoral leadership. He is exposed to the administrative side of parish life by attending committee meetings with the pastor in the fall, while he assists with the sacramental life of the parish in the spring.

Shepherd
Finally, Theology IV Deacons focus on initiative and responsibility by spearheading a parish program in the fall. By spring, parishioners are now well acquainted with their seminarian and have the opportunity to see their Deacon presiding and preaching during the weekend Masses.

According to Fr. Allen Kuss, Director of Pastoral Formation, considers this the practical application of what the seminarians are learning in the classroom. “The TPP helps the seminarians apply what they learn,” he said. “This is where the academic and theological aspects of formation and reality meet.”
TEACHING PARISH COMMITTEES
Another crucial element of the TPP is the Teaching Parish Committee. After a Teaching Parish is selected, the pastor then invites a group of parishioners to serve on this committee for four years. Committee members actively and faithfully build up the Body of Christ by investing in the future of the Church and Her priests.

The roles of the supervising pastor and the committee complement each other. “The pastor and the committee are assisting in the formation of a priest. They have something at stake in the future of the Church,” says Fr. Kuss.

Dr. Berres likens a seminarian’s Teaching Parish Committee to his first “mini parish,” saying, “This is an excellent time for the men to build relationships in the parish, giving him an opportunity to lead parishioners in prayer, hear their concerns and build community.”

TEACHING PARISH WEDNESDAYS
After Fr. Mitchell and Matthew finish their prayers and weekly conversation, they enjoy a meal in the rectory. Father then presides at the parish Advent Reconciliation service, while Matthew leads his committee in a school meeting room.

Again, a simple format follows. Matthew warmly welcomes each couple as they come in from the cold. The meeting begins with prayer and casual conversation. On this particular evening, Matthew has prepared a homily for the committee. Matthew leads the discussion and concludes with night prayer.

While the topics and agendas vary, group interaction is invaluable. Matthew has an opportunity to get to know parishioners of all ages, backgrounds and faith experiences, while the parishioners play a role in his formation. An Immaculate Conception committee member values this exchange, saying, “We share what we can with Matthew, while he teaches us what it is like to be a seminarian.”

URBAN AND RURAL EXPERIENCES
Although Teaching Parishes and committees can be vastly different, seminarians reap similar rewards. While Matthew is immersed in a 90-year-old urban parish, Theology III seminarian Billy Dodge from the Diocese of La Crosse sets out every Wednesday and one weekend each month to work in three rural parishes in Wisconsin. On a Teaching Parish weekend, he and Fr. Kevin Louis, Billy’s Teaching Parish Supervisor, travel 50-60 miles between Sacred Heart in Elmwood for the Saturday night Mass, Sacred Heart in Spring Valley for the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, and St. Luke’s in Boyceville for the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Shortly after his assignment, Billy witnessed first-hand as Fr. Louis and the three parishes worked through the challenges of becoming a “cluster” parish. “Each
parish has different needs,” he observed. “Fr. Louis did a great job listening to each community while helping them understand that everyone would have to sacrifice something. It is beautiful to watch the parishes work together.”

Also assigned “across the border” is Theology III seminarian Adam Laski who works with Fr. Andy Anderson (’05), Pastor at St. Anne’s in Somerset, Wisconsin. As Adam anticipates that he may be assigned to a rural parish someday in the Diocese of Superior, he appreciates the hands-on experience he has at St. Anne’s. He even helped the men of the parish re-roof the school garage last summer. “It was a great way to build relationships and open the doors to moments of evangelization. I’ve been able to invest in the people.”

Adam believes the TPP has helped him grow as a seminarian: “This program has taught me to stand on my feet as a man of the Church and to give myself as a gift.” He also added, “While I enjoy learning about Church teaching, dogma and doctrine in the classroom, the TPP gives me traction. I’m getting comfortable in my own skin. Fr. Anderson and my committee have done a great job guiding me in this process.”

Theology II seminarian Michael McClellan only travels 1.1 miles from the seminary to Nativity of Our Lord Church in St. Paul for his Wednesday and weekend obligations. This native of Faribault, Minnesota, gets a taste of urban parish life with Fr. Patrick Hipwell and his Teaching Parish Committee, meeting in a member’s home each month. “Because we focus on so many aspects of parish life, seminarians get a 360° view of what it takes to run a parish.”

Msgr. Callaghan considers the TPP the “hallmark” of pastoral formation at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity: “Pastoral formation has as its goal the development of a faithful priest. Progress is judged by a seminarian’s understanding of priestly ministry, his acquiring a habit of pastoral charity, his demonstrating the practical skills necessary to minister effectively, and his commitment of service to the local church.”

Funding for the Teaching Parish Program is supported by an endowed fund established by Dick and Maureen Schulze and the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation.

“Our vocation is not to be a seminarian. God willing, it is to be a priest. The Teaching Parish Program helps keep that goal in front of everything we do.”

– Michael McClellan, Theology II
OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS GROW

Throughout the fall semester, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity’s graduate lay students were not only immersed in classwork, they were enriched with additional opportunities for personal formation.

Following the closing Mass of the 9th Annual Borromeo Weekend, lay students started a tradition of their own by gathering for a family luncheon. The November 3 event provided a casual atmosphere for students to deepen their relationships with one another and faculty members.

Students then paused for a Day of Recollection on November 23. This event, led by Fr. John Floeder, Instructor of Moral Theology and Director of Seminarians, was entitled “Living Out the Three-Fold Office of Christ: Lay Ministry and the Call to Communion.” The day began with Mass in St. Mary’s Chapel and included time for personal prayer, confession, and spiritual conferences.

For the first time, the School of Divinity offered lay students additional spiritual formation in a three-day silent retreat. Students from the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry, Master of Arts in Religious Education and Master of Arts in Theology programs gathered at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, Minnesota, to experience a weekend of silence January 24-26. Under the direction of Fr. Chris Manahan, S.J., and guided by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, students were provided Scripture passages for prayer and reflection and an exposition of the theme of each conference.

fides quaerens intellectum – faith seeking understanding

Over the past five years, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity has granted 14 full tuition scholarships to graduating seniors from the University of St. Thomas through the John Ireland Scholarship Fund. We are pleased to announce that this opportunity will be extended to recent UST alumni for the 2014-2015 academic year. Eligible students include those who graduated in 2012 and 2013, in addition to those who will be graduating in 2014. Up to three full-tuition scholarships are granted annually.

For more information about the John Ireland Scholarship, please contact:
Admissions Counselor Amy Burback: 651-962-5069 or amy.burback@stthomas.edu
This fall, the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute opened its doors to all in the archdiocese to present talks by Archbishop Emeritus Harry J. Flynn and Fr. Jacques Philippe. Both talks were part of Learn & Live, an ongoing series by Catechetical Institute instructors or guest speakers geared to teach, encourage and inspire all to live their Catholic faith with renewed conviction. Both events were free and open to the public.

In early November, Catechetical Institute history was made as the man for whom the institute was named took center stage and humbly showed how we can “Develop a Friendship with Jesus.” Archbishop Emeritus Harry J. Flynn captivated the crowd as he taught from Scripture and personal experience about the importance of developing a life-long friendship with Christ.

In December, the Catechetical Institute hosted best-selling Catholic author Fr. Jacques Philippe. During a hectic Christmas season, over 700 people attended the presentation, entitled “Inner Peace,” in which Fr. Philippe provided beautiful examples of finding peace. He encouraged listeners to place their confidence in God and abandon themselves to His loving care.

In addition to the Live & Learn lectures for the public, the Catechetical Institute offered the first Life Skills Class for graduates. The four-week course, entitled “Jesus the Rabbi: Following Him Day by Day,” was taught by Catechetical Institute Director Jeff Cavins and was attended by alumni from all four classes.

In January, over 150 alumni and current students attended the first Catechetical Institute J-term class. The two-day event was a collaborative effort between the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute, the Catherine of Siena Institute and the Cathedral of Saint Paul.

Applications for the upcoming Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute class are now being accepted. This two-year session begins September 2014 and will be held at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. For more information, visit: www.CIstudent.com.
On October 22, 2013, Archbishop John Nienstedt installed 15 candidates into the Ministry of Acolyte in St. Mary’s Chapel. The primary responsibilities of an acolyte are to carry the candles in procession and during the solemn singing of the Gospel; to prepare wine and water for the sacrifice of the Mass; and to assist the sacred ministers at the Mass and other public services of the Church.
OCTOBER REDISCOVER EVENT A SUCCESS

On October 12, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity joined more than 5,000 Catholics for a day-long celebration of faith at the St. Paul RiverCentre. The 2013 Rediscover event was the culmination of a year of speakers, book clubs and outreach throughout the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Director of the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute Jeff Cavins was emcee for the day, introducing a powerful lineup of keynote speakers that included Matthew Kelly, Fr. Robert Barron and George Weigel. Priests from the seminary celebrated Mass and heard confessions throughout the day, while seminarians staffed a seminary exhibit and attended presentations.

Planning is already underway for the Second Annual Rediscover Celebration on October 3 and 4, 2014, at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

FR. CARL PRESENTS FALL IRELAND LECTURE

Fr. Scott Carl, Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture and Director of the Msgr. Jerome D. Quinn Institute of Biblical Studies, presented the Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library Lecture Series on October 21, 2013. Entitled “Honey in the Comb: Towards an Allegorical Reading of the Psalms in the 21st Century,” the lecture was attended by seminarians, graduate students, faculty, and members of the public.

The Ireland lecture series is presented twice a year by The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. Mark your calendars for Monday, April 28, 2014, 7:30 p.m. Fr. Peter Ryan, S.J., will be presenting the spring lecture in the Owens Science Hall at the University of St. Thomas. This event is free and open to the public.
FRIENDS GATHER FOR RECTOR’S DINNER

The Eighth Annual Rector’s Dinner was held on October 29 at Town & Country Club in St. Paul. This signature event brings together old and new seminary friends to celebrate the good work of The Saint Paul Seminary.

Seminarians Chad VanHoose (Theology I) and Peter Hughes (Theology III) shared stories about their life at the seminary with the dinner guests. While Chad shared his recent summer experience of going door to door in the seminary’s Evangelization in Action program, Peter highlighted his experience in the summer Spanish Immersion program in Mexico and Venezuela. Both men are exceptional examples of how the seminary is forming their hearts closer to Jesus and His Church.

Msgr. Callaghan expressed his gratitude and pride in the work of The Saint Paul Seminary before the closing song and blessing. Tradition holds that guests stand and join Msgr. Callaghan in a joyful, prayerful rendition of Our Lady of Knock at the end of the evening.

NINTH ANNUAL BORROMEO WEEKEND

More than 230 seminarians from The Saint Paul Seminary and Saint John Vianney College Seminary, alongside University of St. Thomas students and members of the community, gathered to celebrate Mass in St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel before leading a Eucharistic procession to St. Mary’s Chapel on the Solemnity of All Saints. The Mass and procession were just the beginning of the annual Borromeo Weekend’s 40 hours of adoration, held November 1-3, 2013.

The prayerful celebration was highlighted by various devotions and meditations, including The Saint Paul Seminary’s monthly Cor Jesu event on Friday night. Taking its name from St. Charles Borromeo, patron saint of seminarians, Borromeo Weekend fosters fraternity between the two seminaries while providing a prayerful opportunity to university students and friends of the seminaries.
LEGACY HONORED AT ANNUAL EVENT

On November 11, 2013, members of the James J. and Mary Mehegan Hill Society gathered at The Saint Paul Seminary for Mass and lunch. The Hill Society recognizes donors who have given legacy gifts that sustain and advance the seminary’s mission of forming and educating good and holy priests.

On this same day, the seminary presented two Distinguished Alumni awards. Established in 1994, this award is given each year to recognize individuals, lay and ordained, who live their vocation in extraordinary ways. This year, we honored those who, like the Apostle Paul, live the Gospel even in the midst of difficulty, so others may know the love of Christ.

The first recipient was Brian Murray. Brian was recognized for his significant contributions to the seminary through his work on the Board of Trustees and the annual golf tournament. He brings his excellent fiscal sense as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, and he has transformed the annual golf tournament into a significant seminary fundraiser.

“Brian has enlarged our community of friends and supporters with his natural gift of bringing good people together to support our seminarians,” Msgr. Callaghan remarked. “Brian is an example of living his life on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Saint Paul Seminary considers him an exceptional friend.”

Fr. James Stromberg was also recognized with the 2013 Distinguished Alumni award. Since his ordination from The Saint Paul Seminary in 1957, Fr. Stromberg has dedicated himself to leading the faithful into deeper communion with the Church through the classroom. Appointed to the faculty of the College of St. Thomas by Archbishop William Brady, he served as a faculty member in the philosophy department for 45 years. Fr. Stromberg chaired the department from 1979 to 1984, and in 1986 he received the Professor of the Year Award for his excellence in teaching, scholarship and inspiration to his students.

“Even after his retirement, Fr. Stromberg continued to serve the Church celebrating Mass and hearing confessions throughout the Archdiocese,” Msgr. Callaghan said. “He is a great role model for our seminarians in their work of intellectual formation in preparation for the priesthood. It is only fitting that one of The Saint Paul Seminary’s finest is the 2013 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.”

Msgr. Callaghan presented each award recipient with a framed print of Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta.

Above: Fr. Huard (left) and Msgr. Callaghan present Fr. Stromberg with the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award.
Below: Award recipient Brian Murray is pictured with his wife Shelly, Msgr. Callaghan and Fr. Stromberg.
FUNDRAISING EFFORTS NET STRONG RESULTS

November was a busy fundraising month for The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. Beginning November 11, our seminarians picked up the phones and began calling faithful donors and friends during the annual Phone-A-Thon. Their hard work and your generosity paid off. After three nights of calling, pledges totaled $33,730!

On November 14, The Saint Paul Seminary participated in Minnesota’s annual day of giving known as Give to the Max Day (GTMD). GTMD is a 24-hour online giving effort that supports nonprofits throughout the state. With a generous matching grant of $5,000, the seminary raised $21,085!

We sincerely thank our generous donors who gave to the max to support the work of our seminarians and lay students through the Phone-A-Thon and GTMD.

“THE CATHOLIC GUY” BROADCASTS FROM THE SEMINARY

St. Paul native Lino Rulli, host of the Sirius/XM Radio program “The Catholic Guy,” took his show on the road in November to live the life of a seminarian at The Saint Paul Seminary. For four days, Rulli attended class, prayed, and ate meals with the seminarians during the day and broadcast his show live in the evenings. Guests on the show included seminarians, faculty and Msgr. Callaghan.

Rulli’s seminary visit was the first among many stops of his traveling show, normally produced and broadcast from the Sirius offices New York City. Following his visit in St. Paul, Rulli packed his mobile radio studio and flew to Haiti to witness the Church’s rebuilding after the major earthquake in 2009.

“The Catholic Guy” podcasts - including “Lino the Seminarian!” - can be accessed via iTunes or linorulli.com.
The spirit of Advent and Christmas was in the air at The Saint Paul Seminary the weekend of December 7 and 8, beginning with the annual Women’s Advent Retreat and ending with Lessons and Carols.

The 8th Annual Women’s Advent Morning of Recollection was held in St. Mary’s Chapel on Saturday. Led by Fr. Steven Hoffman (’07) from St. Luke Church in Clearwater, more than 90 women gathered for Mass, reflection, prayer, confession and hospitality. The theme of the retreat was “Behold Your Mother: Mary and the Grace of Advent.”

The weekend ended with the sounds of the season with Dr. David Jenkins’ Lessons and Carols. This annual tradition brings people to St. Mary’s Chapel for Christmas carols and hymns, followed by a reception.

The concert was presented by The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale, directed by Dr. Jenkins, and The Saint Paul Seminary Schola, directed by Theology II seminarian Kyle Kowalczyk. With Michelle Plombon on the organ, Chris Kachian on the guitar, Laurie Leigh on the Harp, and the Bel Canto String Quartet, guests were once again treated to a musical gift.

On November 18, a group of 24 priests, seminarians and willing friends laced up their skates, donned their helmets and took to the ice at the XCEL Energy Center. For one hour, these hockey enthusiasts “lived the dream” on the Minnesota Wild’s home ice. Although it was a friendly game, do not underestimate these holy men with a stick and a puck. Team captains for the night were Fr. John Floeder, Dean of Seminarians, and fellow hockey fan and friend Fr. Nels Gjengdahl (’07).
PREPARING GOOD AND HOLY PRIESTS

Last fall, I had the opportunity to go for a “ride along” with a friend who is a St. Paul police officer. It was an interesting experience, vastly different from my normal day.

Before we left the station, I was introduced to several of the officers. When they learned where I worked, a friendly but spirited “back and forth” ensued. In the end, both sides agreed that in many ways the cop and the priest share similar experiences. Both have occupations that are more than just a job – they are a vocation. Both are commissioned to uphold the law and are called to protect and to serve. Both go through extensive training before being employed in the field. Both experience a unique fraternity among their brethren. Both rely heavily on the trust and confidence of those they serve to be effective in their work. And when that trust is broken, even by one, it can be a black eye for the entire group. In light of this, we agreed it is absolutely critical to invest whatever is needed to ensure the call is authentically discerned and the vocation properly prepared.

Here at The Saint Paul Seminary, the screening process and subsequent ongoing discernment and formation program is taken very seriously. Like all Catholic seminaries, we follow the norms set out in the Program for Priestly Formation – the Church’s “instruction manual” that serves as a universal blueprint for priestly formation. To ensure that we are following the plan, the seminary benefits from two independent bodies: the Holy See, which conducted an apostolic visitation in 2006, and the Association of Theological Schools (ATS), which conducted an accreditation visit this past fall.

To fully describe all that goes into preparing a seminarian for a vibrant and effective ministry would be too extensive for this column. The screening process includes individual and group interviews, psychological evaluations, personality tests, and several letters of recommendation. Once accepted, in addition to his academic training, the seminarian participates in weekly spiritual and human formation programs, ongoing formation/evaluation from his formation advisor, annual review from the entire seminary faculty, a senior pastor and a committee of lay people in his teaching parish, and the Rector himself.

Though nothing is perfect this side of heaven, the seminary is doing all that it can to authentically discern and fully prepare good and holy priests for the Church. Yet, priestly formation is no mere human endeavor. It is also a spiritual one. That is why, along with financial support, it is essential that we pray for our priests and seminarians. Let us pray that their preparation would be the best it can be and that whatever is lacking would be made up for by God’s grace so that their efforts might bear abundant fruit for the Church and God’s people.

Thomas R. Ryan
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
“Retired” is not an accurate description of Fr. Francis Pouliot. *Redirected* or *rededicated* perhaps, but not retired. He tried retirement in 2005 when he concluded his active ministry on the Feast of the Visitation from Visitation Church in South Minneapolis, an assignment of more than 22 years. In 2008, the archbishop called and asked if he would serve as Senior Parochial Vicar at Maternity of Mary in St. Paul “for a year or so,” Fr. Pouliot recalls with a smile. He is still working there today.

Fr. Pouliot’s life as a priest began a little differently than our current seminarians. He and his classmates were ordained in February 1958 because they were needed in the parishes on the weekends to celebrate Masses and hear confessions. By Monday mornings, it was back to class to finish their final semester. “That was our on-the-job training,” he said.

The following 47 years were a life of faithful ministry, a life for which he is grateful to The Saint Paul Seminary. In gratitude, Fr. Pouliot wanted to establish a fund at the seminary in honor of his parents, Ephrem and Agnes Pouliot. “They had 13 children, two of whom became priests,” he said. “They should be remembered in some special way.”

Several years ago, Fr. Pouliot came to Tom Ryan, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, to discuss the possibilities of establishing a fund in gratitude to the seminary and in remembrance of his parents. “I believe this fund should represent my entire family so we will be remembered in prayer long after we are gone,” he said. “And I believe our seminarians and future priests will benefit from this financial gift.”

Living next door to the seminary at the Byrne Residence, Fr. Pouliot has the opportunity to interact with the seminarians occasionally, and he likes what he sees: “I am very impressed with our seminarians and new priests today. They are full of zeal and well trained.” Fr. Pouliot is confident that his financial gifts will be well used at the seminary.

Admittedly, Father envies the seminarians today. “They are very fortunate to be exposed to the world throughout their years of formation,” he said. “They have an opportunity to be positive role models for the young in the parishes. It is very good for people to interact with them while they are still in the seminary.”

The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity is grateful to Fr. Pouliot for his generous act of faith. His gift is also an act of gratitude and remembrance. Like Fr. Pouliot’s faithful priesthood, the gifts he has given will live long into the future.
Fr. Tom Margevicius, Instructor in Liturgy, Sacraments and Homiletics, recently earned a certificate in preaching from the Aquinas Institute. Entitled “Global Dominican Conversation on Daily Preaching,” this course was a three-week online conversation on daily preaching.

Fr. Robert Pish, Vice Rector, recently completed the comprehensive exam required for his doctoral studies. He is working on his Ph.D. in Historical Theology with a focus on Patristics and Spirituality through the Catholic University of America.

Dr. David Jenkins, Director of Liturgical Music, performed in the weekly Lunch-Time Organ Concert Series at St. Louis King of France Church in downtown St. Paul on Tuesday, January 21. This concert series features the talents of organists from around the Twin Cities and beyond.

Dr. Christian D. Washburn, Associate Professor of Theology, was recently appointed to the Evangelical-Catholic Dialogue of the United States. The October 2013 meeting was held at the University of St. Thomas. Participants examined the issue of justification. Dr. Washburn also participated in the Second Annual Christian Unity Lecture on January 21, co-sponsored by the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenical Interreligious Affairs and The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. Featured speaker Dr. Michael Root, from The Catholic University of America, presented “Catholic Ecumenism after the Ecumenical Movement Stops Moving.”

Dr. Christopher Thompson, Academic Dean, participated in the Terrence J. Murphy Institute’s Hot Topics: Cool Talk series on December 3, 2013. Entitled “Green Thomism and GMO’s,” Dr. Thompson and Dr. David Andow, Distinguished McKnight Professor of Insect Ecology at the University of Minnesota, discussed the environmental policies surrounding Genetically Modified Organisms from theological and scientific perspectives. This event was co-sponsored by the Environmental Law Society at the University of St. Thomas School of Law.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. John M. Hanna 1954
Mr. John D. Huls 1973
Mr. Michael F. Fetsch 1965
Fr. John D. Sustarsic 1952

The Chapel of Our Lady of Confidence at the Pontifical Major Roman Seminary.
The Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library recently subscribed to the American Theological Library Associations’ Catholic Periodical Literature Index for Alum (ATLA CPLI®). ATLA is a nationally known religious studies database and includes over 380,000 index citations of articles and reviews published in Roman Catholic periodicals, Papal documents, Church promulgations, and books about the Catholic faith. Originally developed by the Catholic Library Association, CPLI covers content from over 200 periodicals dating back to 1981.

Ireland Library also offers an alumni subscription to ATLASerials for Alum (ATLAS), an online collection of theological journals selected by leading theologians and scholars. ATLAS users can research the history of a topic from 1924 to present. Both ATLA and ATLAS offer 24-hour online access to alumni from The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity and the University of St. Thomas.

For login information, contact Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library Director Curt LeMay: (651) 962-5451 or nclemay@stthomas.edu. For additional resources, visit the library’s website: www.stthomas.edu/libraries/ireland/alumniresources.

IRLAND LIBRARY OFFERS ONLINE ACCESS FOR ALUMNI

On January 22, twenty six Theology I seminarians from The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity braved the cold to attend the 41st Annual March for Life on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The seminarians marched alongside pro-life advocates from all 50 states. The event begins with a rally featuring pro-life speakers, followed by the march up Constitution Avenue to the U.S. Supreme Court Building on Capitol Hill. The 42nd Annual March for Life will be held Thursday, January 22, 2015.

IRELAND LIBRARY OFFERS ONLINE ACCESS FOR ALUMNI

The Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library recently subscribed to the American Theological Library Associations’ Catholic Periodical Literature Index for Alum (ATLA CPLI®). ATLA is a nationally known religious studies database and includes over 380,000 index citations of articles and reviews published in Roman Catholic periodicals, Papal documents, Church promulgations, and books about the Catholic faith. Originally developed by the Catholic Library Association, CPLI covers content from over 200 periodicals dating back to 1981.

Ireland Library also offers an alumni subscription to ATLASerials for Alum (ATLAS), an online collection of theological journals selected by leading theologians and scholars. ATLAS users can research the history of a topic from 1924 to present. Both ATLA and ATLAS offer 24-hour online access to alumni from The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity and the University of St. Thomas.

For login information, contact Archbishop Ireland Memorial Library Director Curt LeMay: (651) 962-5451 or nclemay@stthomas.edu. For additional resources, visit the library’s website: www.stthomas.edu/libraries/ireland/alumniresources.

For more information or to share alumni news, please contact Leah Santer: (651) 962-5791 or leah.santer@stthomas.edu.
### CALENDAR  
**SPRING 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APR. 3</td>
<td>GRADUATE STUDIES INFORMATION NIGHT</td>
<td>5:15 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR. 25</td>
<td>PRIESTS V. SEMINARIANS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT</td>
<td>5-10 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>De La Salle High School, Minneapolis</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR. 25-27</td>
<td>“MURDER &amp; MARIOLATRY” (A SAINT PAUL SEMINARY PRODUCTION)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Brady Educational Center</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR. 27</td>
<td>FRIENDS MASS AND BREAKFAST</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>St. Mary's Chapel (by invitation)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR. 28</td>
<td>ARCHBISHOP IRELAND MEMORIAL LECTURE</td>
<td>7:30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fr. Peter J. Ryan, S.J.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>3M Auditorium, Owens Science Hall</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 3</td>
<td>ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE, THEOLOGY III</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 13</td>
<td>ARCHBISHOP HARRY J. FLYNN CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE GRADUATION</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>St. Mary's Chapel</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 31</td>
<td>ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD</td>
<td>10:00 A.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Cathedral of Saint Paul</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on any of these events, please call 651-962-5050