

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY MAGAZINE

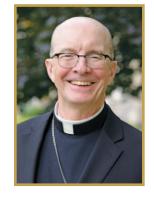
2021 • A YEAR IN REVIEW





Dear Alumni and Friends of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary,

I invite you to take a look back at the 2021 calendar year with this issue of *The Brook*. Despite living through the pandemic, there were many wonderful moments to be sure.



Our mission continues to be forming men as disciples after the heart of Jesus Christ. Our enrollment remains strong, we began our 190th academic year with 149 seminarians from 14 partner dioceses and five religious orders. As such, we are the second-largest Catholic seminary in the United States. Currently, there are 37 men in formation for the Permanent Diaconate at Saint Charles. Our School of Theological Studies is a major center of theological education in Philadelphia for laity, priests and religious. It currently has 250 students enrolled in its various programs.

We celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary at the Overbrook campus this fall to great fanfare. See page 28.

As much as the anniversary was a chance to celebrate our heritage, we continue to move forward with our plans for the future to relocate the seminary to Lower Gwynedd, PA. We are working with the architects and the buildings are starting to take shape. You can read more about that on page 42. We expect to open the new seminary for the 2024-2025 academic year.

In order to allow me to focus on the seminary's relocation and comprehensive campaign, Archbishop Nelson Pérez has appointed me to a newly created position of Chancellor of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary effective July 1, 2022 while Father Keith Chylinski will provide continuity and leadership for the seminary's human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral dimensions of priestly formation as Rector, also effective on July 1, 2022. To read more about this announcement, I invite you to visit page 44.

We ask that you continue to pray for our seminary community. Please be assured of our prayers for you and your families. We remain truly grateful for your ongoing support for our seminary.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

+ Timothy C. Senior

Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior Rector, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary

A YEAR IN REVIEW

2021 Seminary News and Events

Caring for Friends

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary's college seminarians prepared an all-time record of meals in one shift — more than 2,712 meals — at Caring for Friends on Thursday, April 15, 2021. Caring for Friends is one of the largest food banks and most comprehensive senior



meals delivery programs in the five-county Greater Philadelphia region. The college seminarians have been working at Caring for Friends as their Thursday Apostolate in the 2020-2021 academic year. About a dozen seminarians from the Theology Seminary and the Spiritual Year worked at Caring for Friends for their Thursday Apostolate for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Caring for Friends was chosen by the seminarians as the beneficiary of the proceeds from the 34th Annual Christmas Concert ticket sales amounting to roughly \$2,500.

Welcome New Men

On Tuesday, August 17, 2021, the College and Theology seminarians returned to campus to mark the start of the academic year. In total, 149 seminarians enrolled for 2021-2022, which includes 27 new seminarians.

Move-in day included an opening Mass, evening prayer and Rector's Opening Conference. The day concluded with a Rector's Dinner.

Among the 27 new seminarians who began their journey at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, 12 are new seminarians studying for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. One new seminarian for Philadelphia is entering the seminary's English As A Second Language program. In total, there are now 66 new or existing seminarians studying for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Saint Charles' seminarian population is becoming increasingly diverse. Approximately 38% of its students are non-Caucasian,



specifically Asian, Pacific Islander, Latino, Hispanic, Black or African American.

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary is continuing our regular calendar for onsite formation and education while continuing to follow all CDC and state and local health recommendations.



The Jesus Run

The Jesus Run is Saint Charles
Borromeo Seminary's homeless
outreach program. In a program
led by seminarian Keaton Eidle,
II Theology, seminarians work with
a homeschool group, as well as
the Temple University's and West
Chester University's Newman Centers.
For the rest of the academic year,
program participants will meet on
the second and fourth Friday of
every month in the parking lot of the
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and
Paul to minister to the homeless in
Philadelphia.

Cassock Classic

Young adults from across the Philadelphia region gathered Saturday, April 24 for the Cassock Classic, an ultimate tournament of low-contact, football-style frisbee competition held on the grounds of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood.

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Photo by Sarah Webb



Biking for Vocations

Biking for Vocations 2021 was an exciting five-day pilgrimage designed to raise awareness of vocations to the priesthood and vocational discernment, as well as to generate support for the seminarians currently in formation. Three of the Biking for Vocations seminarians made a stop in front of Alexandria Hall at the seminary's new campus in Lower Gwynedd, PA. Pictured here from left to right are Andrew St. Denis, Father Christopher Cooke, Mickey Fairorth and Dominic Mirenda.

Photo by Father David Friel



Spanish Immersion Programs





For more than a decade, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary has offered a Spanish Immersion Program during the summer months. Previously, this occurred in Mexico. This summer seminarians Max McGallagher, Brendan Zehner and Greg Miller, all Theology II, studied at the Mexican American Catholic College in San Antonio, TX.

It is a two-month intensive pastoral Spanish immersion program.

"Here at Mexican American Catholic College, we are being given the opportunity and support to learn and take in the Hispanic culture and language," said Greg Miller.

Seminarian Anthony Albanese, Theology III, is already fluent in Spanish. He spent his summer as an Acolyte in ministry at Holy Innocents Parish in Philadelphia, PA.

"At Holy Innocents, I have had the great privilege of working with a multicultural community consisting of Caucasians, Puerto Ricans, Dominicans and Vietnamese peoples. In particular, I have had the opportunity to work with Spanish-speaking individuals and their families in a variety of ways. For instance, I lead a weekly Bible Study in English and Spanish. I also lead Hispanic prayer group, completely in Spanish, with native speakers. I have helped with the Bereavement Ministry and a youth camp, which has many Hispanic children. I led a retreat for Hispanic youth at the end of July with the theme of 'Encountering Christ'. Furthermore, I have numerous Communion Calls, and some of these individuals speak only Spanish. Lastly, I have been invited to many parishioners' homes for dinner, and we speak only in Spanish as I learn the culture and customs of the local Hispanic-American people. I am beyond thrilled to be able to serve at Holy Innocents, I sincerely thank the Seminary for placing me in this fantastic parish, and I look forward to the rest of the year there."

He will continue to serve Holy Innocents Parish throughout the 2021-2022 academic year during his Thursday Apostolate.

In the summer of 2021, three seminarians from the Diocese of Arlington, VA, Andrew Clark, Stanley Poczatek and Zinjin Iglesia, participated in a summer Spanish-immersion program in Antigua, Guatemala, for eight weeks. They lived in a convent with Spanish-speaking religious sisters, experiencing the culture and taking one-on-one classes for five hours a day from Monday through Friday. The experience will have a lifelong impact on their pastoral work once they are ordained as priests.

Photo by Zinjin Iglesia THE BROOK | 3

Institute for Priestly Formation

Aaron Scheidel and Keaton Eidle, both II Theology from the Diocese of Allentown, attended the Institute for Priestly Formation in the summer of 2021 at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska from May 30 to July 31.

Since 1995, the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) has offered an intensive spiritual formation program for seminarians. The program has emerged from the desire to set aside time in seminary formation solely for the development of a more intimate personal relationship with Jesus Christ and for an immersion in the identity of diocesan priesthood serving in some ways as a kind of "novitiate" experience for diocesan seminarians.

IPF serves roughly 150 seminarians from across the country by providing the setting in which they can fall more deeply in love with God. A man's priestly life is more joyful and more fruitful when he engages in priestly ministry while at the same time living in an intimate and unceasing union with God. IPF programs and resources aim to assist seminarians with the tools that help them to safeguard their relationship with the Trinity during their seminary years and beyond into active priestly ministry.

Aaron Scheidel said, "The experience helped me to grow in appreciation of priestly identity and increased my relationship with God. It was almost like a nine-week retreat."

Keaton Eidle agreed saying, "It helped me to improve my prayer life and spiritual formation due to the amount of time dedicated to prayer. It was exactly what I needed at this point in my formation."



Keaton Eidle



Aaron Scheidel

They both said it was inspiring to see other seminarians from across the country with the same zeal and love for the Church, and it helped develop a real sense of community amongst the seminarians.

The program stresses journaling before and after Holy Hours. Scheidel said that helped to make his prayer more concrete. Eidle said, "It gives you an ability to go back and see how God has been helping you progress on your spiritual journey."

At the conclusion of the summer program, each seminarian prepares a "summary of growth and blessings." By way of a prayerful process of journal reflection, the seminarian summarizes his interior experience of discerning God's love. This process is fostered in weekly spiritual direction. The summary of growth and blessings is crafted from his journal content. The document, then, provides not only a fitting conclusion to the Institute of Priestly formation experience, but also builds a bridge between the seminarian's summer experience and his diocesan and seminary life. It provides a foundation for fruitful spiritual conversation.



Clap Out

At the close of their final semester, just prior to their Ordination to the Priesthood, each member of the ordination class of 2021 was "clapped out" by the student body, faculty and staff on Friday, April 30. In this historical tradition at Saint Charles, each member of the Ordinandi rings the church bell in the Immaculate Conception Chapel and then runs outside, while being applauded for his accomplishments.

Pictured left are members of the Ordination Class of 2021 who were "clapped out" with Bishop Timothy Senior, Rector. Their joy is evident on their faces.

Photo by Sarah Webb

A YEAR IN REVIEW

2021-2022 Media Apostolate — College III

Every seminarian at Saint Charles spends Thursdays in his Apostolate assignment, which provides field experience in pastoral formation.



In the newest Apostolate assignment, our College III seminarians are developing their 21st-century communications skills via social media, blogs and videos, which will help them in their future pastoral assignments later in their careers. Back in the day when the *Catholic Standard and Times* printed weekly, seminarians served as reporters for this diocesan outlet. Today's seminarians will explore the people, places and events throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. They plan to release a new video each week during the academic year.

The Church Communication Ecology Program:How Social Media and Digital Technology Impact Church Life

Seminarians Deacon Andrew Auletta, IV Theology, and Deacon Matthew Kuna, IV Theology, were chosen to participate in The Church Communication Ecology Program through the McGrath Institute for Church Life in Notre Dame, Indiana this past summer.

The Church Communication Ecology Program (CCEP) is a six-month educational formation program made possible by a one million dollar grant from the Lilly Endowment that examines the ways that digital media is changing social, political, economic and religious life and what those changes mean for parish communities. The course and program were led by Brett Robinson, Ph.D., the Director of Catholic Media Studies for the McGrath Institute.

"The event was designed to give Catholic lay and religious leaders an opportunity to discuss the effects of digital culture on their leadership and ministry," said Robinson. "Social media, the internet and smartphones have had a profound impact on human relationships, families and community life." He continued, "To understand these changes in the media environment is to understand the dramatic cultural shifts of the last two decades."

A total of twelve participants were selected from nine dioceses from across the U.S. These twelve participants completed a six-week online course in the summer of 2021 with theology, philosophy and communications faculty from the University of Notre Dame, Duquesne University and Mount Saint Mary's University. Following this course, participants received three months of coaching and mentoring that highlights key points from the course in correlation to local pastoral needs.

The CCEP welcomed the program's inaugural cohort in June of 2021 for a capstone event, which consisted of pastors, communication directors, lay ministers and seminarians. The participants of the program discussed strategies for combating technological and cultural changes in ways that would support the social and spiritual health of faith communities.

Throughout this meeting, the program's cohort members presented ways for an effective integration of both social media and digital technology into ministry efforts to CCEP colleagues, faculty, and graduate students in the Master of Arts program in Theology at the University of Notre Dame.

From individual practices of fasting from technology on Fridays to parish-level initiatives focused on leveraging the benefits of technology to strengthen local support networks, the range of proposals echoed the teaching of Pope Francis and the Church on the balance necessary for using technology virtuously.



Deacon Matthew Kuna



Deacon Andrew Auletta

During the day, the program's cohort members presented proposals for integrating social media and digital technology with ministry efforts in ways that amplify the positive potential of the technology and mitigate the negative effects.

Deacon Matthew Kuna, from the Diocese of Allentown, offered advice for dealing with the effects of divisive social media rhetoric on local parish communities.

Participants also attended several sessions illustrating the role of different media in the history of the Church, including medieval manuscripts, stained-glass windows, and the use of online tools for streaming worship services and convening prayer groups.

2021 Saint Charles Borromeo Award

Gary and Patricia Holloway Receive Saint Charles Borromeo Award

Gary and Patricia Holloway were the recipients of the Saint Charles Borromeo Award, given by the Board of Trustees of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary and presented virtually on April 22, 2021.

Mr. Holloway is the founder and chief executive officer of GMH Associates, the parent company of GMH Capital Partners, a dynamic real estate company specializing in the acquisition, development, and management of high-quality residential and commercial properties throughout the United States. Mrs. Holloway is the president of Lindsay Fashion Enterprises, present chair of the Paoli Memorial Hospital Foundation and a hardworking, dedicated community volunteer. The award recognizes the couple for their ongoing commitment to build a better community throughout the Greater Philadelphia region.

"Gary and Patricia Holloway have shown great commitment to enhancing our community and are outstanding examples of servant leadership," said Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Rector Bishop Timothy C. Senior. "Like Saint Charles Borromeo who lived a life of service and humility, the Holloways embody these same qualities in their own lives."

"We are honored to accept the Saint Charles Seminary Award this year," said Mr. and Mrs. Holloway. "Our commitment to



the community and Saint Charles Seminary in particular, is unwavering. It is extremely rewarding for us to be able to assist in the formation of the future leaders of our church. We are thankful for this recognition and hope that it brings even more awareness for our excellent seminary in Philadelphia."

The Holloways were a driving force in the creation of the annual Saint Charles Seminary Golf Classic, now in its ninth year, which was born through their philanthropic leadership. With their support and dedication, the Seminary Golf Classic has become the second largest golf outing in the Greater Philadelphia region, generating about \$450,000 annually.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway were named Dame and Knight of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great by Pope Francis in January 2018 — one of the highest honors bestowed by the Pope on lay people. The Papal Honors were conferred at a ceremony during a Vespers service at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia. During the ceremony, the Holloways received engraved medals and a proclamation from Pope Francis.

Together, the Holloways have also been strong supporters of Main Line Health including Paoli Hospital, Bryn Mawr Hospital, Lankenau Hospital and Bryn Mawr Rehab; the Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia; the Archdiocese

of Philadelphia; Villanova University; Villa Maria Academy; Malvern Preparatory School; the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova; and Amigos de Jesus Orphanage in Honduras and many other charitable endeavors in the region.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway both earned their undergraduate degrees from Villanova University. Mr. Holloway received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting, and Mrs. Holloway received a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Masters in Counseling and Human Relations.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway have five children and 16 grandchildren.

Pictured here from left to right: Bishop Timothy C. Senior, Rector; Gary Holloway, Patricia Holloway, Archbishop Nelson Pérez, Mary Ann Saleski, Don Saleski, co-chairs (not pictured: Richard and Kim Devine, co-chairs).

Photo by Sarah Webb





Baccalaureate Mass

The Baccalaureate Mass for the Class of 2021 was held on Tuesday, May 11. Pictured top, with Bishop Timothy Senior, Rector, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary are Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, Diocese of Bridgeport, Father Patrick Brady, Vice Rector, Father Dennis Carbonaro, Director of Spiritual Formation, College Seminary, and Father George Szparagowski, Dean of Men, College Seminary, the graduates of IV College. Also pictured bottom, following the Baccalaureate Mass are the graduates of the School of Theological Studies with Bishop Senior, Monsignor Gregory Fairbanks, Dean of the School of Diaconal Formation, Monsignor Michael Magee, Dean of the School of Theological Studies.

Photos by Sarah Webb

Behold This Heart

Behold

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES 110

FR. THOMAS DAILEY

True devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus moves us to ponder the unrelenting love of Jesus, fully human and fully divine, as He poured Himself out for the world.

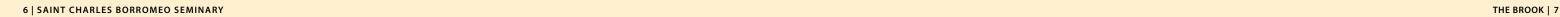
In his recently published book, Fr. Thomas Dailey transports readers beyond the prayers and liturgies and helps readers to contemplate

the Sacred Heart, which
Pope Benedict XVI said has
irreplaceable importance.
Fr. Dailey shows how to
experience the way of prayer
that formed St. Margaret
Mary Alacoque, the visionary
to whom the devotion was
revealed, in the religious
order founded by St. Francis
de Sales and St. Jane Frances
de Chantal.

Fr. Dailey's combination of Salesian spirituality and meditative devotion enables one to respond to Christ's divine affection and experience God's love as never before. Through a series of nine reflections on the Sacred Heart, Fr. Dailey outlines:

- How you can live the devout life despite your many worldly responsibilities
- Proven ways you can release supernatural confidence and overcome fear
- The keys to developing the practice of mental prayer and entering contemplation
- How to listen for and discern God's will for your life
- Ways you can discover your personal spiritual vocation
- Why Pope St. Paul VI called the Sacred Heart devotion the most effective means of promoting the reform of life and the defeat of atheism

With Fr. Dailey as your guide, these engaging meditations will transform you as you step through the pages of the greatest love story ever told.



184th Annual Concursus Ceremony at Saint Charles Seminary Marks Fellowship, Transition

Article reprinted from Catholic Philly by Matthew Gambino from May 20, 2021.

The rigors of learning and the laughter and fellowship of seminarians at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary are the stuff of sacred memory, which future priests may rely upon in the years ahead, said Ukrainian Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak May 12 at the seminary's annual Concursus ceremony.



▲ Archbishop Nelson Pérez, Bishop Timothy Senior and Archbishop Borys Gudziak

It marked the close of the academic year and the occasion for the seminary's board of trustees to award an honorary degree to the Archbishop, who heads the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and is the spiritual leader of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States.

In addition to his doctorate of humane letters degree, seminary officials and Archbishop Nelson Pérez awarded degrees and certificates to 70 students of the seminary in its college and theology divisions, plus the School of Theological Studies.

Saying he was "deeply moved" by receiving the honorary degree and "very inspired by this seminary," Archbishop Gudziak warned the seminarians against the illusion of self-reliance. Although America celebrates that trait, it is "one of the most dangerous in the spiritual life," he said.

"American responsibility is a great thing, and I hope that we can all grow in it as citizens and as a nation. But dear brothers, we can't make it alone. The Son of God in the Gospel of John emphasizes his constant reference to the Father.

"Don't be alone," the Archbishop said. "Don't be heroic. And most of all don't commit heroic suicide. Be with God. Be referential, relational and foster what you have here in this community: a fellowship with a budding future presbyterate."



That fellowship, in which a priest can "share (his) weaknesses, and laugh, have a good meal" among priest friends is essential now in seminary formation and afterwards in priestly ministry, he advised.

But with the authority that ordination brings, Archbishop Gudziak cautioned against seeing oneself as part of a privileged class. Priests should rely on their fellowship and place themselves under the authority of a wise spiritual director.

"If a spiritual director will protect you from personal illusions in your prayer life, in your interactions (of ministry) the illusion of privilege will be removed every time you touch the poor, every time you go to the margins, every time you bring those who are outside in to the center," he said.

"Keep your eyes open. Fill your heart with gratitude. Foster a sacred memory of these gifts and you will have nothing to fear. Your holiness, your wholeness in Christ, your fellowship, will shine and take away the fear of this fear-struck culture. The future is yours. You are part of the body of Christ. It is a journey, and you will lead many on this pilgrimage of our life in the Lord."

After the conferral of degrees, Archbishop Pérez followed with remarks that underscored a time of transition at Saint Charles Seminary.

While Saint Charles is celebrating its 150th year on its Overbrook campus, that time is nearing its end. By 2024, the seminary will move its programs to a new site in Gwynedd Valley, Montgomery County, adjacent to Gwynedd Mercy University. It will be the sixth transition to a new location in the seminary's 189 years in existence, from sites in Philadelphia to Delaware County to Wynnewood.

Saint Charles "now is on the threshold of another historic shift," Archbishop Pérez said. "God in his providence has made you a part of it. You will be either a blessing and a facilitator for that process, or an obstacle. We each choose, what combination are we going to be."

In addition to special awards for seminarians — including the CatholicPhilly.com award for communications, which was given to Dominic Mirenda of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia — the following men and the dioceses or religious orders for which they are studying received the Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy:

Nicholas Andrew Beckman; Robert T. Bollinger, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Gabriel M. Fairorth; Anthony M. Gentile, Diocese of Trenton; Adam E. Johnson, Diocese of Trenton; Robert Michael Lane, Diocese of Raleigh; Michael Vincent Lorello, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Benjamin J. Speranza, Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

The following received letters of completion for pre-theology: Timothy Daniel Banach, Diocese of Arlington; Martin Tucker Brown, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Jordan Alex Evans, Diocese of Arlington; Peter T. Foeckler, Diocese of Arlington; Martin L. Grenchik, Diocese of Harrisburg; Dominic Steven Mann, Diocese of Arlington; Cole T. Mase, Diocese of Harrisburg; John M. Meyerhofer, Diocese of Arlington; Brother Joseph Mosko, Congregation of the Oratory; Andrew R. St. Denis, Diocese of Harrisburg; Patrick S. Thorp, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Edward Gibbons Town, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Alfredo D. Tuesta, Diocese of Arlington.

The following received the Master of Arts in philosophical studies: Timothy Daniel Banach, Diocese of Arlington; Gregory L. Bentley; Martin Tucker Brown, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Jordan Alex Evans, Diocese of Arlington; Martin L. Grenchik, Diocese of Harrisburg; Dominic Steven Mann, Diocese of Arlington; Cole T. Mase, Diocese of Harrisburg; John M. Meyerhofer, Diocese of Arlington; Brother Joseph Mosko, Congregation of the Oratory; Edward Gibbons Town, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Alfredo D. Tuesta, Diocese of Arlington.

The following received the Master of Divinity degree: Joseph Nicholas Allen, Diocese of Lincoln; Andrew J. Auletta, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Sang Woo Chi, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Augustus Daniel DeSimone, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Walner Diaz, C.M., Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians); Michael Gokie, S.C.V., Sodalitium Christianae Vitae; Henry F. Graebe III, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Matthew John Kuna, Diocese of Allentown; Andrew Francis Lane, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Christopher T. Massaro, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Thomas Leo Meinert, Diocese of Harrisburg; Ryan Nguyen, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Pramod Ranjuna Perera, Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka; Sean Paul Phillips, S.A.C., Society of the Catholic Apostolate (the Pallottines); Christopher James Pujol, Diocese of Greensburg; Daniel Scott Reuwer, Diocese of Arlington; Daniel August Rice, Diocese of Arlington; Roneld Saint Louis, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Erik Reyes, Diocese of Raleigh; Tony C. Schukei, Diocese of Lincoln; Marlon Rashmika Vass, Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka; Dominic I. Winter, Diocese of Lincoln.

The following received the Master of Arts in theology: Joseph P. Boyle Jr.; Kenneth Luke Cavara, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Steven Thomas DiMassimo, Diocese of Raleigh; Sister Edith Mary Hart, R.S.M.; John Paul J. Heisler, Diocese of Arlington; Gregg Hoyer; Aaron M. Lynch, Diocese of Harrisburg; Philip James Maas, Diocese of Allentown; Prodip Philip Mrong, Diocese of Mymensingh, Bangladesh; Meghan E. Martin; Timothy Louis Murphy; Diep Thanh Nguyen; Volodymyr Radko, Archeparchy of Philadelphia, Ukrainian Catholic Church; Erik Sanchez, C.M., Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians); Sister Mary Emmanuel Schultz, O.P.; Tyler A. Sparrow, Diocese of Raleigh.

Photos by Sarah Webb

English As A Second Language (ESL) Program Launch

New Program Assists an Increasingly Diverse Seminary Student Body

Through a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in the Fall of 2021 launched an English as a Second Language (ESL) program for its increasingly diverse seminary students. The program will assist current and prospective seminarians who attend Saint Charles. The specific goal of the program is to meet the needs of students who speak English as a second language.

"Saint Charles is grateful to the Lilly Endowment for its funding and is very excited to launch this new and innovative program to address the language needs of our seminarians and ultimately, our Church," said Bishop Timothy Senior, rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. "Our current seminary student body is 38% non-Caucasian with several international students where English is their second language. Therefore, this program will not only help these students but will also attract new seminary students who are discerning a vocation but were hesitant due to language challenges."

The new program's director is Reverend Augustus C. Puleo. Father Puleo has a Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Science in Linguistics from Georgetown University; a Masters in Spanish from Middlebury College; a Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Pennsylvania; and a Masters in Divinity from Saint Charles Seminary. He was ordained for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in 2005 and is also currently the pastor of Saint Patrick's Parish in Norristown.

Father Puleo is joined by a new faculty member, Ms. Elizabeth S. Popjoy. Ms. Popjoy earned her Bachelors in Linguistics at Saint



Joseph's University and her Masters in Teaching English as a Second Language at Temple University.

The first year of the program provides a prototype for the program which will be tested in the second year. In the third year of the program, the director and faculty hope to develop a distance learning capability to share the program with other seminaries. The development of an ESL program specifically tailored to the needs of Catholic international seminarians, delivered to students on their own campuses, is a major step forward for seminary education.

A significant amount of work has already been completed to address the needs of international seminarians, including the addition of culturally sensitive spiritual directors, formation advisors, pastoral internships and field assignments. A special and unique focus of the program is the inclusion of theological and philosophical terms and language which are necessary for the seminary's coursework.



2021 Golf Outing

The 2021 Golf Outing was chaired by Joe Del Raso and Sean Fahey and was presented by J.J.White, Inc. It was held on September 27 at Philadelphia Country Club and Gulph Mills Country Club. It was a beautiful day on the links and the most successful fundraiser in more than five years.

Pictured here at Gulph Mills Golf Club are from left to right: Deacon Henry Graebe, Deacon Andrew Auletta, Patty Holloway, Bishop Senior, Father David O'Brien and Father Alessandro Giardini.

Cassock Day 2021

Congratulations to the men of the College and Theological Seminaries who celebrated Cassock Day in early October, when they received their cassocks, and gave witness to the start of their journey as discerning seminarians.

Top right: The College seminarians in their new cassocks with Bishop Senior, Rector and Father Patrick Brady, Vice Rector, Father Dennis Carbonaro, Director of Spiritual Formation, College Seminary and Father George Szparagowski, Dean of Men, College Seminary. The College men who received their cassocks: Jack C. Brosius, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Nicholas W. Couture, Diocese of Bridgeport; Owen R. Fitzgerald, Diocese of Allentown; Garrett S. Knowles, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Keith R. Neidig, Diocese of Allentown; Jeann L. Ortiz, Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Peter J. Stauffer, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Pictured bottom right are the Theology seminarians who received their cassocks: John Helbling, Diocese of Arlington, Jose Guillan-Rauda, ESL and Andrew Bottom, Diocese of Arlington with Father Cooke, Dean of Men, Theological Seminary and Father Patrick Brady, Vice Rector.





Upper Side vs. Lower Side Football Game

For the first time in five years, the College won the Upperside/Lowerside football game on Saint Charles Day. The game was not played in 2020 due to COVID-19.

The Collegians defeated the Theologians by a score of 18-6 capturing the coveted trophy and bragging rights for the remainder of the academic year.







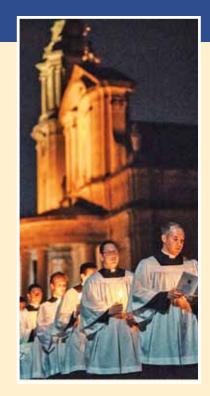
40 Hours Devotion

"What is the purpose of this procession, of all this walking around? Processions are a reminder that we are pilgrims, wayfarers en route to heaven. They are also an expression of solidarity as we with each other and with Christ, with the church triumphant, all saints, and the church succeeding, all souls, members of a living body walk together as one.

They are a reminder that Christ is with us, really and truly.

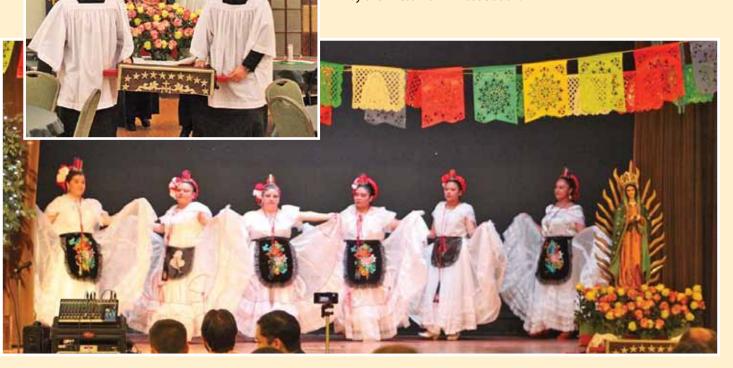
We shape the world into a Christian theocracy as God goes beyond our chapel as we bear the fragrance of Christ and Christian identity. Processions are not simply getting here to there, from point a to point b, they are not mere practicality — nor just for a good photoshoot."

Adapted from the homily of Father David Friel, STD, given on the occasion of the close of our 40 Hours Devotion.



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the most popular feast days on campus. Following evening prayer, the seminarians processed to the College Auditorium while singing Spanish hymns for the celebration which featured traditional Mexican dancers and traditional Mexican fare. This tradition was started six years ago by the late Father Gus Esposito, O.S.A. and is generously underwritten by the Priest Alumni Association.



A YEAR IN REVIEW

NEW SACRED MUSIC PREMIERE Seminary Commissions New Works Lucille Francesco Chair of Sacred Music

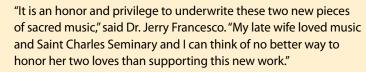
Saint Charles Seminary has commissioned two new works in celebration of the recently established Chair of Sacred Music. The Mass and Premiere in Saint Martin's Chapel took place on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 with honored guests.

"With the launch of the Lucille M. Francesco Chair of Sacred Music three years ago, Saint Charles Seminary renewed its commitment to focus on the teaching of sacred music," said Bishop Timothy C. Senior, Rector of Saint Charles Seminary. "Now, through the generosity of Dr. Jerry Francesco, the seminary is able to premiere these beautiful new sacred works, giving glory to God through music and song."

The Mass of Saint Charles Borromeo (TTB, Congregation, and Organ) and Choral Motet — Scio Enim Cui Credidi

(TTBB) are newly commissioned works by distinguished composer Nicholas Lemme (b.1978). Both works feature traditional chant and choral styles, utilizing the full array of young men's timbre, while pushing boundaries in a fresh, modern approach to the Sacred texts.

Pictured right: Dr. Jerry Francesco, Bishop Senior with the seminarian choir led by Dr. Nathan Knutson.



The Choral Motet is an a capella piece written on the episcopal motto of Bishop Timothy C. Senior, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and Rector of the Seminary: "For I know in whom I have believed, and I am certain that He has the power to preserve what was entrusted to me, unto that day." (St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy)

The Lucille M. Francesco Chair of Sacred Music was founded in 2018 by Dr. Jerry Francesco in honor of his late wife. The chair celebrates Sacred music as Holy, True Art, and Universal; a gift of God's treasury of inestimable value. The Seminary currently has an active music department that provides daily sung liturgical music, promoting music of all ages and cultures. Mass is sung in English, Spanish and Latin with focus on training future priests in chant, choral music, and active participation of all the faithful.





2021 Christmas Concert

The 34th Annual Christmas Concert was held on Sunday, December 5 and featured congregational hymns and an organ duet. This year, due to COVID protocols, we were limited by the number of people who could attend the Christmas Concert in person. As a result, we produced two Christmas Concerts. Both concerts were livestreamed on the seminary's Facebook page and the seminary's website. Proceeds from the Christmas Concert ticket sales were donated to Caring for Friends, a regional food bank.

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Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Two men join priesthood of Christ, fraternity of Philadelphia

By Matthew Gambino
Catholic Philly, Published May 18, 2021

Calling the ordination of two new priests "a wonderful day of blessing for the Church in Philadelphia," Archbishop Nelson Pérez celebrated a solemn liturgy Saturday, May 15 in the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul in which he ordained Father Kenneth Cavara and Father Mark Tobin to the priesthood.

Before leading the ordination rites, the Archbishop said the two men from Chester County were joining "an incredible fraternity" of priests in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Over time they would "come to understand what I came to understand, that once a Philly priest, always a Philly priest," he said. "So thank God for the wonderful fraternity of priests that you will become a part of when you become a priest of Jesus Christ."

Joining the numerous clergymen at the Mass were family members, friends, seminarians and parishioners from home including from St. Agnes in West Chester, Father Cavara's parish; and from Assumption B.V.M. in West Grove, Father Tobin's parish.

Among them was Noreen Cavara, mother of Father Kenneth and of his brother, Father Mark Cavara, ordained in 2016.

The ordination was for her "a time of extraordinary grace and blessing from the Lord," she said. "We're very grateful to the Lord for all the good things he's done for us. It's all his gift.

"This is such an opportunity for grace, and it's a great day for the church, for new priests here and elsewhere," she said, adding the ceremony was "a very special privilege for me as a mom."

Father Tobin's mother Stephanie, who was seated in a front pew with her husband Bill, said she was "overwhelmed" but gave "all the glory to God" for her son's ordination.

God had "poured out his blessing on us because we try to be faithful even though we falter along the way, trying to do the right things as parents," she said. "I feel it's just a gift from God that no one deserves but we received for some reason."

Both the Tobin and Cavara families reveled in the elaborate rites of the ordination, buoyed by the singers and musicians of the Cathedral Basilica Schola including organist Mark Loria, all directed by Charlene Angelini.

Archbishop Pérez preached in his homily about the "style" or "ways of being a priest" that the new priests should remember, referring to the words of Pope Francis this year as he ordained new priests in Rome.

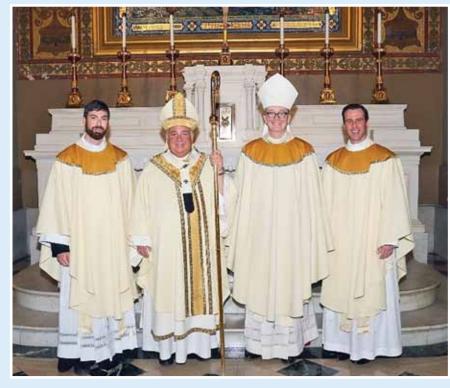


Photo by Sarah Webb

The pope said the "service that priests are called to must reflect how God has cared for and continues to care for his people" in three ways: through closeness, compassion and tenderness.

"Remember those three words as now your history as priests begins to unfold," Archbishop Pérez told Fathers Cavara and Tobin.

The Archbishop also told the congregation that the previous night at Saint Charles Seminary, the soon-to-be new priests joined the seminarians at a cook out and gave them words of advice, words that the Archbishop encouraged the men to take themselves.

Father Cavara told the seminarians his own ordination was only a moment in time, and what follows any moment is unknown so they should "trust that the Lord would guide them" in the future.

Father Tobin told them they should "be real" and "not to hide behind a façade but to be real and close to the people."

Both men said they believed "the people of God would teach (them) how to be priests," and Archbishop Pérez assured them "the people of God will teach you by the demands of ministry and the demands of love, because love is demanding. They will teach you how to be awesome priests day in and day out as the years unfold."

After the homily were the various aspects of the ordination including the anointing of the hands of the candidates with the oil of sacred chrism, the handing of a chalice and paten, laying on of hands by the Archbishop and by all the priests in attendance, and the vesting with stole and chasuble — the liturgical attire of a priest — by a priest colleague who is particularly close to the newly ordained.

For that ritual, Father Cavara naturally was assisted by his brother Father Mark, while Father Tobin relied on the help of his friend and seminary faculty member Father Herbert Sperger.

The latter led Father Tobin in the 30-day Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola six years ago, and joined him and other seminarians five years ago on a long walk: the Camino de Santiago, a walking pilgrimage through towns across Spain.

"You get very close when you do an experience like that," Father Sperger said

Metaphorically speaking, Father Sperger said it was "fulfilling to have walked with a guy on his journey up until now," he said of his friend's ordination.

To see a young priest "just starting out, knowing that the church's ministry is continuing and is in good hands, the people of God are going to be loved and cared for by a wonderful priest — it's very joyful and satisfying."

No ties are as strong as those of family, so for Father Mark Cavara, "it was a blessing to be able to see a member of your own family as part of the ordination," he said.

Family members had told him "how special it was to see one of their own get ordained," and now five years later, "I see what they were talking about. I know the feeling. Obviously I'm very proud of him. He's worked very hard to get to this day."

Rounding out the traditions of priestly ordination in Philadelphia, the new priests welcomed many guests back to their families' homes for a reception later in the day.

And on Sunday, May 16, each would celebrate his first Mass in his home parish joined by family, friends and members of that new priestly fraternity.



Photo by Father Keith Chylinski

Diocese of Mymensingh (Bangladesh)

Reverend Prodip Mrong '21 was ordained by Most Reverend Ponen Paul Kubi, S.C.S. on January 14, 2022. The ordination took place in Mymensingh, Bangladesh. Father Keith Chylinski (Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary), Father Brian Kane (Diocese of Lincoln, NE), Father John Paul Heisler (Diocese of Arlington, VA), Father Jonathan Smith (Diocese of Arlington, VA), Monsignor Kevin Lawrence (Archdiocese of Philadelphia) and Father Thomas Higgins (Archdiocese of Philadelphia) made the trip to Bangladesh and were present for the ordination.

Diocese of Allentown, PA

Father Philip J. Maas, Newest Priest of the Diocese, Ordained by Bishop Schlert

AD Today, Published June 5, 2021

Philip J. Maas, who first heard God's call as a high school student while in Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, today (6/5/21) completed his joyous journey to the Priesthood when he was ordained by Bishop Alfred Schlert.

It's always moving to prayerfully participate at an Ordination, and today's Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena was perhaps more moving than usual, taking place amid the Year of the Real Presence in the Diocese of Allentown, and being among the first diocesan special events to be once again open to attendance at full capacity.

As Deacon Maas lay face down on the floor before the altar, the choir and congregation chanted the Litany of the Saints, calling on angels and saints in heaven by name to pray for him, for the Bishop, and for all present.

Then came the laying on of hands, an essential part of the Sacrament of Holy Orders — done in complete silence, first by Bishop Schlert and then by every priest present — signaling the true fraternity of the priesthood. This was followed by the Prayer of Ordination, the moment at which a Transitional Deacon becomes a priest.

Now Father Maas then was vested for the first time as a priest by his mentor, Father Adam Sedar. Bishop Schlert then anointed his hands with the Sacred Chrism oil. After receiving his chalice and paten, he received a fraternal kiss of peace, first from Bishop Schlert then from every priest present.

"What a glorious day in the Diocese of Allentown," Bishop Schlert said in his homily, noting that Father Maas is the second priest ordained this year, following the Ordination of Father Juan E. Rodriguez in January.

Continues on page 16

Diocese of Allentown, PA Continued

The Bishop noted that this is the Universal Year of St. Joseph. "These ordinations show that St. Joseph is watching over the Church in Allentown, and he is providing for the needs of our Diocese, great as they are."

Bishop Schlert then thanked Father Maas' parents. "You have given the Church the greatest gift that any parents can give, a son or daughter in service to the Church."



He invited all parents throughout the Diocese to do what the Maas's have done — "to have a fruitful marriage that encourages vocations to the Priesthood." He said there is a tremendous need in our Diocese for priests and consecrated religious men and women.

He asked the faithful to pray for vocations, to identify a young man or woman in their parish who might be a candidate for a vocation, and then to talk with them about it.

In reference to the Year of the Real Presence in the Diocese, Bishop Schlert turned to Father Maas and said, "You are now the minister, the custodian, along with the Church, and along with your brother priests, of that Most Blessed Sacrament."

Father Maas, 30, is the son of James and Sandra Maas of Center Valley. Born and raised in the Lehigh Valley, he was educated in Allentown Diocese Catholic Schools. He attended St. Michael the Archangel School in Colesville and graduated from Allentown Central Catholic High School in 2009.

He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and worked for Lutron Electronics as an electrical engineer prior to entering Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. He grew up at Assumption B.V.M. Parish in Colesville and has been a member of the Cathedral parish since moving to Allentown after College.

Father Maas enters the Priesthood at a time when there are fewer diocesan priests than ever to serve the faithful in the 60-year history of the Diocese. That is part of the reason that Bishop Schlert has asked everyone in the five counties of the Diocese to pray in Adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament that more young men will be open to becoming a priest.

The Year of the Real Presence is a time for the faithful to rededicate themselves to, and to reaffirm their belief in, the presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The year also is a time for people to rejoice in the gift of their own presence at Mass with families, friends, and clergy.

Father Maas received his first assignment as a priest shortly after the Mass ended. He will be Parochial Vicar at Saint Ignatius of Loyola Parish, Sinking Spring, and at Saint Francis de Sales, Robesonia.

Diocese of Arlington, VA

Four priests ordained: A day of joy, with most pandemic restrictions lifted

By Leslie Miller • The Arlington Catholic Herald, Published June 5, 2021; Reprinted with permission of the Arlington Catholic Herald. www.catholicherald.com

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge ordained four men to the priesthood June 5 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington: Fathers Jonathan R. Fioramonti, John Paul J. Heisler, Jonathan M. Smith and Joseph B. Townsend.

With most pandemic restrictions recently lifted, the mood in the cathedral was one of joy and thanksgiving, both at being able to gather with friends and relatives to witness the ordination, which Bishop Burbidge called "a tremendous work of God," and also "for granting us perseverance and for remaining true to his promise to deliver us from our trials" during the height of the pandemic. He added that prayers continue for those who have died in the past year and those still suffering.

But he noted that joy was the emotion of the day. "I am still amazed that these four men have first names beginning with the letter J. So maybe it is not surprising that an evident characteristic they share begins with the same letter: joy."

Bishop Burbidge said their joy at being ordained was even visible in the video profiles of each of the men recorded by the diocesan communications office, in which "each stated joyfully and proudly: 'I am going to be ordained a priest of Jesus Christ!' And they made clear the reasons for their joy: because despite their unworthiness, the Lord Our God, has chosen them, and because 'by remaining in his love,' as Jesus says, their joy will be complete and they will find the grace to carry out faithfully the ministry entrusted to them."

"More than ever, our church and world need priests to take Jesus Christ to them," Bishop Burbidge said, telling the ordinandi, "You will take Christ with you wherever he sends you." He named the four parishes where they are assigned as parochial vicars: St. Leo the Great Church in Fairfax (Father Fioramonti); St. James in Falls Church (Father Heisler); St. Andrew the Apostle in Clifton (Father Smith); and the Basilica of St. Mary in Alexandria (Father Townsend).

Bishop Burbidge said he is often concerned "that the men about to be ordained could be overwhelmed by all that is expected of them by the Lord, his church and their Bishop, but you will not be, if you trust in the assurance the Lord spoke to you today: 'Have no fear because I am here to deliver you,' if you constantly call upon the Holy Spirit to sanctify you, and seek the constant help and protection of Mary our Mother, St. Joseph and all the saints. Then, you will be filled with true priestly joy."

"I am confident that as you go forth as our newest priests, those you are sent to serve will easily recognize you, through your faithful witness, humility and sacrificial service. Be assured that the One who has chosen you will sustain you and be with you today and forever. Remain in his love, so that his love may be in you, and your joy may be complete."

After the homily, the four promised to worthily carry out their priestly office, preaching the Gospel, celebrating the sacrifice of the Eucharist and the sacrament of Reconciliation, praying for the people entrusted to their care, and uniting themselves ever more closely to Christ as his priests. Each knelt before the Bishop, put their hands in his and promised respect and obedience to him and his successors, with the words "I do."

Next came the moving Litany of Supplication, when the four men lay prostrate before the altar as the Litany of Saints was sung.

They went one by one to kneel again before the Bishop, as he lay his hands on each of their heads in blessing. About 80 concelebrating priests did the same. As the four men returned to their places and kneeled, the Bishop prayed the Prayer of Ordination.

Then the newly ordained stood and clergy assisted each in putting on their new vestments: a priest's stole and chasuble. Father Nicholas Blank assisted Father Fioramonti; Father Donald J. Planty assisted Father Heisler; Youth Apostles Father Peter Nassetta assisted Father Smith; and Father Daniel Hanley assisted Father Townsend.

The newly ordained again went to the Bishop and knelt before him as he anointed the palms of their hands with holy chrism. After they washed and returned, he placed a paten with bread and a chalice of wine in the hands of each, then gave each of the newly ordained the fraternal kiss. Concelebrating priests also filed past again to offer the newly ordained brethren the fraternal kiss.

The four new priests then gathered around the altar to concelebrate their first Mass. In a moving final part of the ceremony, each went to Bishop Burbidge, who knelt before them for a blessing. They also went to the side of the sanctuary to give a blessing to the two other bishops present, Bishop Emeritus Paul S. Loverde and Bishop Timothy C. Senior, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, PA.

Outside after Mass under four small canopy tents, friends and relatives lined up for hugs and the traditional first blessings.

One of the first in line was Christine Curran of Carmel, IN., maternal grandmother of Father Heisler. She said she was not surprised he was called to the priesthood because he was "always filled with joy." As a teenager, "he was very outgoing," she said.

Father Smith's parents, Mary and Michael Smith of Columbus, OH, stood outside their son's tent, watching him bestow blessings on friends and well-wishers. "His faith in God is going to spread to so many other people," his mother said. "His influence is just beginning," added his dad.



Photo by Joe Cashwell

Harrisburg Diocese's Newest Priests Ordained, **Called to Model the Good Shepherd**

By Jen Reed • The Catholic Witness, Published June 10, 2021

Father Aaron Lynch and Father Peter Rettig were embraced as the newest members of the Diocesan presbyterate on June 5, during a Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood at St. Patrick Cathedral in Harrisburg.

Welcoming the new priests into their new life of ministry, Bishop Ronald Gainer called them to "model your lives and set your hearts, minds and wills on the person of the Christ, the Good Shepherd."

"Today, you will for the first time be clothed in the priestly vestments that symbolize your proper and unique role in the Eucharistic assembly. These new clothes express the fact that by the grace of ordination, you are each a new person, another Christ, sharing in the sacred ministerial priesthood ordained to act in the person of Christ, head and shepherd of his body, his flock, the Church," Bishop Gainer told them.

The new priests will begin their first assignments on June 21: Father Lynch at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Gettysburg, and Father Rettig at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Lewistown and St. Jude Thaddeus Parish in Mifflintown.

A Great Desire

Father Aaron Lynch's journey toward priesthood began during his days in high school when he heard what he called "small tugs" toward the call.

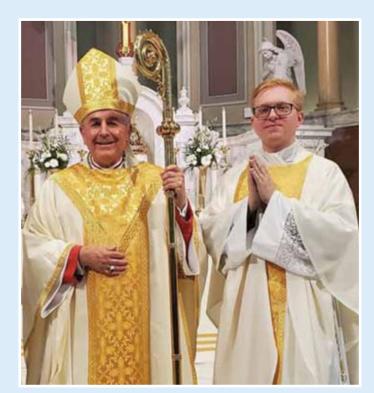


Photo by Chris Heisey

The native of St. Patrick Parish in Carlisle said he was assisted in his discernment by prayer and the practice of Ignatian spirituality, which he described as "discernment of your emotions, of what's going on inside you."

"It's a good spirituality for someone in discernment. A big part of it is the understanding that everything that happens around you, God is aware of. There isn't anything outside of His plan," he explained.

"Just thinking about the priestly life — what a priest is and what he does — was so beautiful to me every time I thought of it that I didn't want to miss out on that life," Father Lynch said. "God wouldn't put that great desire and great attraction to that beauty in me if it wasn't for

"One of the first steps in discernment is noticing what you are attracted to and what you find beautiful," he said.

He underwent priestly formation at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia and said his service as a deacon since his diaconate ordination last August has brought him into a much deeper relationship with Christ, especially in his ministry at the altar.

"We sit in the pew and believe deeply in the Real Presence, but once I was ordained a deacon, my relationship with the Eucharist fundamentally changed," Father Lynch said. "Having the privilege of assisting the priest during the celebration of the Eucharist really changed my relationship with Christ and being configured to Him. The closer I've come to Him, the more I've come to rely on Him more readily and in more things. I am less independent because I rely more fully on Him."

This past year has also been one of longing for Father Lynch, in the sense of worshiping together as a community, and he is eager for the fullness of liturgical celebrations and parish life as restrictions are being lifted. He hopes parishioners feel the same desire.

"When we can't be with people, we ought to feel a loss in that. Not being able to celebrate Mass in the physical presence of other people, not being able to gather together to pray has been devastating for a lot of people's spiritual lives," Father Lynch remarked.

"While we worked to find other ways to pray together and to be together, and although communication over Zoom has been great and many churches have upped their games with livestreaming, we should see the necessity for being physically with each other in person. Virtual things are not the same; they are fundamentally different. My hope and prayer is that there is longing in a lot of people's hearts to come back for Mass and to gather together to worship and pray."

As he prepares for his first assignment as parochial vicar at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Gettysburg, Father Lynch offers his gratitude for the people of the Diocese during his years of formation.

"Thank you to everyone who prays for me and prays for my brother seminarians. Please continue to pray for your priests, deacons, seminarians and young men who are thinking about entering the seminary. Pray for young people entering religious life, and for good marriages and families," he said. Prayer is necessary for the Christian life."

Diocese of Raleigh, NC

Two ordained to the priesthood

NC Catholics, Published June 7, 2021

RALEIGH — Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama ordained Steven DiMassimo and Tyler Sparrow to the priesthood Saturday, June 5 at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.

A resident of Raleigh since childhood, Father Steven DiMassimo is a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH. His home parish is St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh. Father Tyler Sparrow also grew up in the Raleigh area. He's from Angier and calls Sacred Heart in Dunn his home parish. He attended college at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Both new priests attended Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, near Philadelphia, for formal priestly formation.

The Rite of Ordination included the presentation of the candidates, election by the bishop, consent of the people, five promises of the elect and the litany of supplication. The laying on of hands, whereby the Holy Spirit is conferred upon those being ordained, occurred just before the prayer of ordination, investiture and anointing of hands.

Father Steven's friend and former college classmate, Normand Laflamme, was one of the people who presented the bread and the wine. According to the ordination program, "the bread and wine are the sign of the priest's duty to offer the sacrifice of the Holy Eucharist at Mass and follow the example of Christ crucified."

Laflamme said the diocese is gaining a humble, joyful man as Father Steven begins his priesthood.

"He will serve the people as such," Laflamme said. "I was honored [to present the gifts] ... It felt like I was offering our friendship [too] and I let that become a prayer. I am very happy to have walked with him through many years ... sharing his discernment and his joys as this day came closer and closer. It felt like a day of culmination ... something was fulfilled today, and of course just beginning, too."

Father Steven chose Father Bill John Acosta, who was the vocations director when he began formation, to help him vest

in the stole and chasuble, or clothing, of a priest. Father Tyler chose

Father Paul Parkerson, who was the priest at his childhood parish and a friend, for that special role during the Mass.

"One of the key moments was the vesting," said Father Tyler's mother, Anna-Marie Sparrow. "Father Parkerson trained him how to serve at the Mass. So to see the one who trained him and ... helped to cultivate this vocation to be the one to vest him ... that filled my heart with joy right there. That was, to me, one of the most beautiful moments."

In his homily, Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama talked to them personally because "this is your day," he said to the two men, each sitting in a chair near the steps of the sanctuary with their family and friends behind them.

"Love is something concrete, and the Lord finds ways to let us know every day, through different events and people, how much he loves us," the bishop said. "The Lord is calling you ... you need to serve the Lord with humility, gentleness and patience. That is the key to be able to serve the people ... humility is being so open to see and discover the love and the mercy of the Lord in every event in our lives."

Effective June 29, each new priest will serve as a parochial vicar at a parish. Father Steven will serve at St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill, and Father Tyler will serve at St. Patrick in Fayetteville.

Diocese of TrentonFather Rjoy Ballacillo ordained to priesthood

The Trenton Monitor, Published June 5, 2021

Reprinted with permission from *The Monitor*, official media outlet for the Diocese of Trenton.

Moments before he would become a priest, the Rev. Mr. Rjoy Ballacillo listened intently to the First Reading from Jeremiah.

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you," the Reading proclaims. "Ah, Lord GOD!' I said, 'I do not know how to speak. I am too young!' But the Lord answered me ... To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak."

"When I heard that — that the Lord will always be with me — that gave me strength and courage to fulfill my ministry," the 26-year-old said.

Indeed, a supportive strength was palpable throughout St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, Trenton, as Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., celebrated the June 5 Ordination Mass of Father Rjoy Ballacillo.

The voices of nearly 50 concelebrating priests and more than 100 faithful joined the diocesan Festival Choir in songs of faith during the Mass, which was livestreamed on all diocesan media platforms. In addition, Father Ballacillo's family watched the broadcast from the Philippines, as they were unable to travel due to pandemic restrictions.

The new priest's older brother — Father Roy Ballacillo, ordained for the Diocese of Trenton in 2017 — served as his vesting priest.

"I'm reminded so much of Jesus and the Apostles, especially the brothers — Peter and Andrew, James and John," Father Roy Ballacillo said. "For a time, I thought my vocation to the priesthood is just between me and our Blessed Lord. Today, I realize it's not just me. It's between us — me and Rjoy and our Blessed Lord."

"I know that he will be there for me. He is my role model. I am always following his footsteps," he said, reflecting on how he entered the seminary at age 11 and followed his brother to New Jersey to prepare for the priesthood.

A Personal Gift

In his homily, Bishop O'Connell spoke on how the younger Ballacillo was chosen for the priesthood by God.

"God wanted YOU to receive this gift," he preached. "Believe that with every fiber of your being. ... The gift you receive this day will bring the God of heaven and earth to the altar, to bread and wine at your hands; will guide the consciences of those who listen to your words and see your example; will make believers of those who doubt and strengthen the faith of those who do believe."

"The gift you receive this day will reveal the truth of God's Word through what you preach ... will lead you to counsel, to seek and to save the lost; will bring light to their dark places; will turn time into eternity as you mirror the face, the heart of Christ, who came to serve and not to be served," Bishop O'Connell continued. "All this you will do, even when you stumble along the way, because of the gift you receive this day in love."

At the conclusion of his homily, Bishop O'Connell called then-Deacon Ballacillo to the Promise of the Elect, and he declared his intention to assume the responsibilities of the priest. He walked over to the Bishop and kneeled, putting his hands in those of his shepherd and promised obedience.

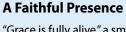
Deacon Ballacillo lie prostrate on the floor of the sanctuary as the solemn chant of the Litany of Saints echoed throughout the Cathedral. He then once again kneeled before the Bishop so Trenton's shepherd could impose his hands on the soon-to-be priest's head, a gesture indicating the bestowing of the Holy Spirit. Afterward, the voices of

the Festival Choir rang out as the Diocese's priests each laid their own hands upon Father Ballacillo's head.

Father Roy Ballacillo then bestowed the vestments of stole and chasuble to Father Ballacillo, and the two brothers embraced as an emotional Bishop O'Connell looked on.

Kneeling before the Bishop once again, Father Ballacillo had his hands anointed with the sacred Oil of Chrism and then wrapped in a linen cloth.

After the Kiss of Peace — bestowed by the Bishop and then by the concelebrating priests who one by one embraced Father Ballacillo in a fraternal hug — the Mass continued with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.



"Grace is fully alive," a smiling Father Rjoy Ballacillo said after Mass. To the faithful of the Diocese, he pleaded, "Please pray for me, that I may become a humble priest, a faithful priest to all of you in the Church and a holy priest."

His brother reflected on his parents and siblings watching the Ordination Mass from the Philippines.

"Our family has always been instrumental in bringing the faith to us," Father Roy Ballacillo said. "On behalf of my family, I wish to congratulate him on his Ordination Day."

He continued, "Rjoy has this wonderful desire to serve God, and especially to meet people where they are at, to bring hope, love and healing to their lives. I've seen how determined and committed he is. I'm so thankful to be his brother, and I admire that he never lost sight of his vocation."

A few days after the Ordination, Rex Ballacillo sent an email in which he shared sentiments about Father Rjoy on behalf of family members in the Philippines.

"It was wonderful, joyful and awesome to watch another brother's consecration" to the priesthood," he said.

"Rjoy is the youngest among us. He is a good, lovable, diligent, intelligent, simple, kind, generous and religious person," Rex Ballacillo said.

He added, "A priestly vocation is the noblest and highest profession of man here on earth and worthy only for those who possess an excellent character and intelligence.

"A priest like Rjoy is mandated to perform earthly undertakings concerning the salvation of man. So, we hope and pray that he will be a good priest worthy of its calling," said Rex Ballacillo.

Kyle Galante, a longtime friend of the Ballacillo brothers, proclaimed the Second Reading during Mass.

"To witness anybody saying 'yes' to God and leading a faithful life is moving," said Galante, of St. Catharine Parish, Holmdel. "Father Rjoy has a very welcoming spirit, and I believe that his faith for building the kingdom and recognizing that we are all Church will come across in all that he does."

Angela Kinlin became friends with Father Ballacillo when he was a seminarian serving a summer assignment in St. Mary Parish, Colts Neck.

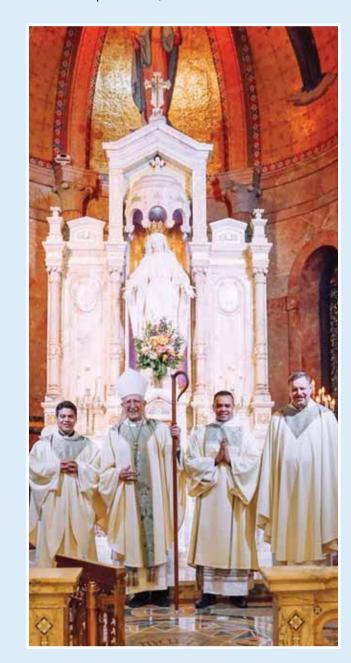
"He has a beautiful heart," she said. "He always felt like he had a calling to the priesthood, and he was determined to do it.

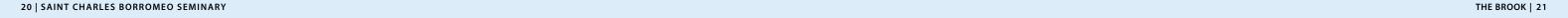
"I always used to tell him, 'What you will do one day is the most awesome thing that could happen to anybody: turn the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ," Kinlin said.

Indeed, Father Ballacillo said he is looking forward to celebrating Mass, preaching and presiding over the Sacraments in his role as priest. "I want to be present in the lives of people both in the wonderful moments as well as the challenging times."

For the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians)

Ordination to the Priesthood for Father Erik Sanchez and for the Transitional Diaconate for Deacon Walner Diaz took place at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Philadelphia, on Saturday, May 29, 2021, by Most Reverend Alfonzo Cabezas, C.M. Bishop Emeritus of Cali, Colombia. Pictured here from left to right are: Reverend Erik Sanchez, C.M., Bishop Alfonso Cabezas Aristizábal, C.M., Deacon Walner Diaz, C.M., and Reverend Stephen Grozio, C.M.





TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE ORDINATIONS



and Mymensingh,
Bangladesh

Pictured right: front row:
Deacon Mihindukulasoori
Rashmika (Maron) Vass
(Archdiocese of Colombo,

◆ Archdiocese of Philadelphia;

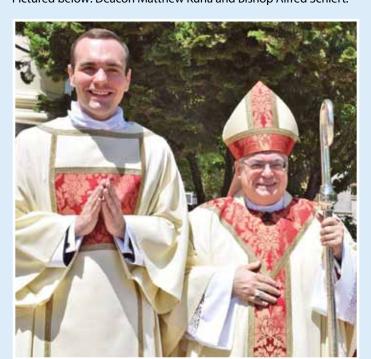
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Deacon Mihindukulasooriya Rashmika (Maron) Vass (Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka), Deacon Pramod Ranjuna Perera (Archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka), Deacon Sang Woo Chi, Archbishop Nelson Pérez, Bishop Timothy Senior, Deacon Ryan Nguyen, back row: Deacon Roneld Saint Louis, Deacon Henry Graebe, Deacon Andrew Lane, Deacon Nobel Pathang (Diocese of Mymensingh, Bangladesh), Deacon Andrew Auletta.

Photo by Bradley Digital



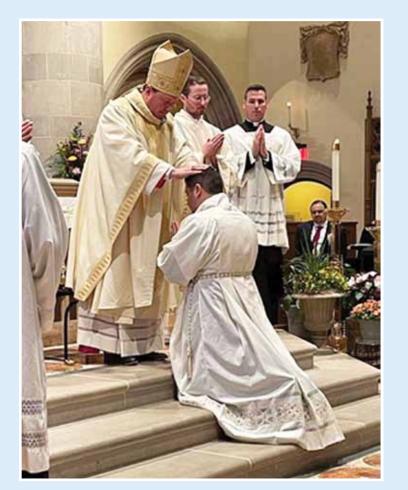
Pictured below: Deacon Matthew Kuna and Bishop Alfred Schlert.



Diocese of Arlington, VA ▼

Pictured below: Father Herbert Sperger, Spiritual Director, Theology Seminary, Deacon Andrew Reuwer, Deacon Daniel Rice, Bishop Michael Burbidge.





Diocese of Greensburg, PA ▲

Bishop Larry Kulick and Deacon Christopher J. Pujol



Diocese of Harrisburg, PA

Deacon Thomas Meinert and Bishop Ronald Gainer



▲ Diocese of Raleigh, NC

Deacon Erik Reyes and Bishop Luis Zarama

■ Diocese of Lincoln, NE

Pictured left from left to right: Deacon Matthew Hecker, PhD., Deacon Dominic Winter, Bishop James D. Conley, Deacon Liam O'Shea-Creal, Deacon Tony Schukei, Deacon Christian Schwenka. Deacon Winter and Deacon Schukei are seminarians at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary.

PERMANENT DIACONATE ORDINATION

Archdiocese of Philadelphia

New deacons a 'blessing' in their witness, service, says Archbishop

By Gina Christian • Catholic Philly, Posted June 14, 2021

Nine men were ordained to the permanent diaconate Saturday, June 12 on what Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez called "a great day of blessing for the church in Philadelphia."

With COVID restrictions lifted in the city, hundreds filled the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul for the June 12 liturgy, at which Archbishop Pérez presided, assisted by his four auxiliary bishops along with dozens of archdiocesan priests and permanent deacons.

Also concelebrating the Mass was Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Coffey, Vicar for Veterans Affairs in the U.S.'s Archdiocese for the Military Services and a former Philadelphia priest.

Ordained and assigned for ministry at archdiocesan parishes were Deacon Paul S. Ablaza (St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Fairless Hills); Deacon Joseph P. Boyle (St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Media); Deacon Jesús M. Burgos (Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia); Deacon Kevin J. McDermott (St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bensalem); Deacon Pascual Mota (Our Lady of Consolation Parish, Philadelphia); Deacon Timothy L. Murphy (St. Thomas More Parish, Pottstown); Deacon Diep T. Nguyen (Divine Mercy Parish, Philadelphia); Deacon Samuel O. Ujor (St. Francis de Sales Parish, Philadelphia); Deacon James J. White, IV (St. Katharine of Siena Parish, Wayne).

Kneeling, each promised "respect and obedience" to Archbishop Pérez and his successors, and then lay prostrate before the altar as the litany of supplication was chanted. Placing his hands on the heads of the candidates, the Archbishop silently prayed the prayer of ordination, after which the deacons were vested with their stoles (a narrow sash worn by deacons over the left shoulder for Mass and other liturgical ceremonies) and dalmatics (outer vestments similar to priests' chasubles). As the deacons knelt once again, the Achbishop placed the Book of the Gospels in the hands of each, and then — along with several of the current deacons — bestowed on the men a fraternal kiss.

As husbands, fathers and professionals, permanent deacons are "ministers of the church present in the world of the family ... the workplace and in (their) neighborhood," said the Archbishop.

Although they will serve in their assigned parishes, those ordained will in fact "spend most of (their) diaconate among

family and friends and neighbors, and those (they) serve in their jobs," he said, encouraging the men to ask themselves, "How am I a deacon there?"

Deacon White observed that the callings to ministry, marriage, family life and career enrich each other.

"These various roles allow me to better relate to the laity," he said, adding the permanent diaconate has "actually informed and strengthened (his) roles as father, husband and business leader."

For married permanent deacons, spouses are an integral part of the discernment and formation process, as well as the ministry itself, said the Archbishop.

"Trust me, you would not be here if it weren't for them," said Archbishop Pérez, commending the women's "willingness and generosity of heart to share (their husbands) with the wider church."

In the Philadelphia Archdiocese, the diaconate formation process at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary spans seven years of study and development in four key dimensions specified by the church: spiritual, intellectual, human and pastoral. Married candidates must ensure their wives' informed, written consent at each step in the program.

"The commitment that you put into the formation is significant," said Deacon Franz Fruehwald of Queen of Peace Parish in Ardsley and chief financial officer for archdiocesan Catholic Human Services.

Amid family life and work obligations, the path to ordination "is a long road" on which "the struggles of real life can show up," said permanent Deacon Anthony Willoughby, now in his third year at St. Cyprian Parish in Philadelphia and a full-time operations manager at St. John's Hospice, an archdiocesan Catholic Social Services outreach to men experiencing homelessness.

Deacon Mota knows firsthand how the unexpected can arise on the path to the altar: one month before the ordination liturgy, he and his family lost their home in a devastating blaze that destroyed the former St. Leo Church in Northeast Philadelphia.

Heartened by the outpouring of parish and community support, Deacon Mota said he "can't wait to serve" those who "came together for (his) family."

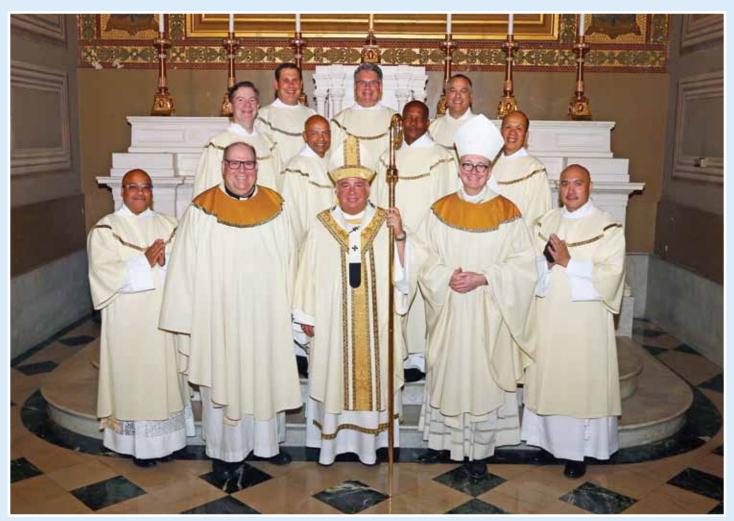


Photo by Sarah Webb

The moments capping the journey to ordination actually marked "just the beginning" of a life of service, said Archbishop Pérez, exhorting the men to ask in their assigned parishes, "Where are the widows and the orphans?" and not only "Where is the altar and the pulpit?"

He quoted Pope Francis, who in a 2016 homily stressed that critical to the role of deacon is a recognition that "his time is not his own, but a gift from God which is then offered back to him."

The diaconate itself originated during the earliest days of the church in response to practical and pastoral challenges, as recounted in Acts 6:1-7. After four centuries, the ministry contracted into a temporary status before priesthood, but was restored during the Second Vatican Council.

Today there are some 19,000 permanent deacons throughout the United States, according to a newly released report from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. With more than 260 deacons, Philadelphia is among the top 10 dioceses and archdioceses for the ministry.

While the average age of permanent deacons has increased (75% are aged 60 and over) and vocations have declined, the ministry remains one filled with "grace, spirituality and love," said Deacon Fruehwald.

In their active service to the faithful, deacons give "witness to young men in parishes" and inspire them to consider vocations of their own, said Deacon Willoughby.

"Hopefully we will get more young people to hear the call," he said. "They're using cell phones, but there's a bigger phone that's ringing. They just don't know it."

Deacon Boyle said he's looking forward to being "a bridge" between others and the Lord, especially after "a year that has been full of separation" due to COVID restrictions.

"As Archbishop Pérez has said, now is the time, and there is nothing like being there in person at Mass," Boyle reflected. "I hope I can be that bridge, so that all of us understand the peace that is found in the Blessed Sacrament."

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Dynamic Witness of Women Religious

By Suzanne Mulrain, Coordinator, School of Theological Studies

"Every vocation is born of sacrifice, is maintained by sacrifice and is measured in the apostolate by the sacrifice of those whom God calls to the priesthood or the religious life. This should not be surprising, once we realize that it was by His sacrifice that Christ redeemed the world. The servant is not greater than his Master. In fact, the more intimate is one's vocation to the service of Christ, the more demanding will be the sacrifices required," (Hardon).

Each year, women Religious from across the country arrive on the seminary's campus for graduate studies in Theology during the summer months at The School of Theological Studies for religious and laity.

The School of Theological Studies was founded at the Seminary in 1969 in direct response to the call of two magisterial documents from the Second Vatican Council which focused on graduate education in Theology; Declaration on Christian Education, Gravissimum Educationis (Paul VI, 1965, p. 10) which was proclaimed by His Holiness Pope Paul VI on October 28, 1965 and the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity Apostolicam actuositatem, (Paul VI, 1965, p. 23-32) promulgated by His Holiness Pope Paul VI on November 18, 1965. Both documents encouraged the creation of a graduate program in Theology be made available to the Laity and Women Religious so the students would be best prepared to evangelize and build up the Church through teaching, pastoral work and effective spiritual and educational formation.

The sisters who attend the graduate school earn a Master of Arts degree in Theology. They are members of various religious congregations in the United States who are serving in teaching or pastoral missions or serving in assignment in other countries.

Staff prepares the dormitories for the sisters to take up residence in their own quarters. Each community has its own group of rooms. Once settled, the sisters usually explore the beautiful campus which includes historic Chapels, elegant buildings and paintings, an impressive research library, classrooms, a Refectory, winding paths across campus for quiet walks, a Grotto for prayer, an open-air interior garden courtyard with Stations of the Cross for solitary or group prayer.

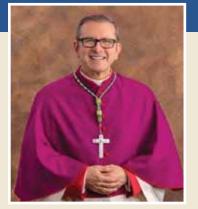
The priests and lay staff working on campus in the summer look forward to the sisters' summer semester because of their vibrant witness of faith in joy through their lives lived in Christ. The various religious habits of each community draw attention to their unique sign of conviction in religious life. The sisters countenance is accompanied by their own individual personalities as they engage in conversations with professors and staff in their shared Catholic faith. Fresh flowers appear in small vases on Chapel altars or near a Crucifix, Our Lady, or St. Joseph on campus; a sign that a sister has visited in prayer.

The priests and Father Daniel Mackle, a professor and Director of Liturgy, provide a rich sacramental life for the visiting sisters and staff. The sisters study with a dedicated commitment that is recognized by Professors and fellow students as a spiritual expression of honoring God for their gift of intellect and in appreciation for the opportunity to study Theology more deeply in a rigorous and respected program. The goal is to evangelize the Gospel in every moment within their missions of teaching and pastoral work.

For further information on our programs please visit our website which features the programs at www.scs.edu/school-theological-studies



ALUMNI NEWS



Bishop Gregory Gordon '83

Pope Francis has appointed Gregory Gordon as the Diocese of Las Vegas' first auxiliary bishop.

As auxiliary bishop, Gordon — who currently serves as the diocese's vicar general — will assist Bishop George Leo Thomas in the performance of his administrative and pastoral duties.

Gordon was ordained a priest on January 16, 1988. His assignments have included serving as parochial vicar at St. Francis de Sales parish, associate pastor and administrator at St. Anne parish, campus minister at UNLV, associate pastor at Our Lady of Las Vegas parish, administrator and pastor at St. Christopher parish, and pastor at St. Francis of Assisi parish.

Alumni Jubilee

In 2021, due to COVID-19 protocols, the Alumni Jubilee Mass and Reception were focused on those priests celebrating 50 years ordained or 25 years ordained in either 2020 or 2021 — the Ordination Classes of 1970, 1971, 1995 and 1996. Archbishop Pérez celebrated the Mass and Bishop Joseph Martino delivered the homily. A cocktail reception was held following the Mass in the Eakins Room. Class of 1995 not pictured.







Alumni Priest Retreat

This year the Alumni Priest Retreat was held on campus from July 26-July 30 and was sold out. More than 50 alumni priests came back to campus for rest, reflection and renewal. Father Paul Scalia from the Diocese of Arlington served as the Retreat Master. The Alumni Priest Retreat for 2022 will be held from July 25-July 29. For more information, please contact External Affairs and Alumni Relations at 610-785-6530.

ALUMNI NEWS



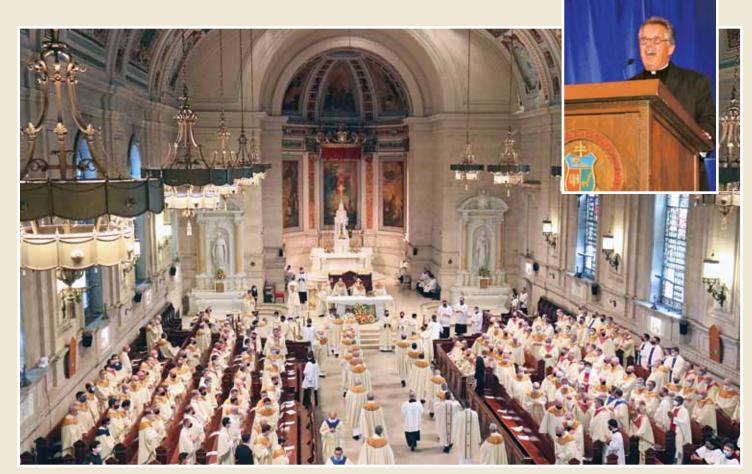




SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY **OVERBROOK**

Celebration

On September 30, Saint Charles
Borromeo Seminary celebrated its
150th Anniversary of the Overbrook
campus. This was a joyous moment
which provided an opportunity to
reflect on the Seminary's deeply
positive impact on the Universal
Church as one of the largest Catholic
seminaries in the United States.

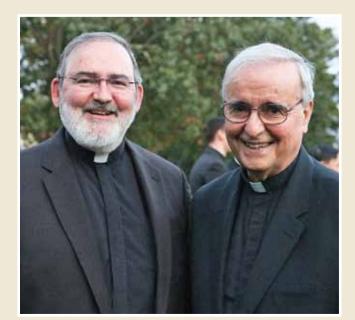














Photos by Sarah Webb

BRIEF HISTORY



of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary

By Reverend John P. Collins

March 3, 2017

This piece was taken from a talk that Father Collins delivered to the Board of Trustees on March 3, 2017 and has been lightly edited for length for the purpose of this publication.

I'd like to begin with a line from Hebrews:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever!

In our doxology, we give glory to God as He was in beginning, is now and will be forever.

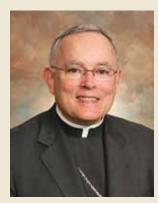
It is certainly good Catholic theology to believe that our God does not change. But it would be wrong to take that immutability and apply it to the Church and its institutions, like Saint Charles Seminary. They are bound by the law of Heraclitus (an old historian like myself): "All things flow. Nothing abides, nothing is permanent except change" — since the seminary is an entity, it must change.

A recent author wrote: As a people, we Americans have steadily lost interest in the past. I'm sure none of you will fall into that trap here — because the person who wrote that is the current Archbishop of Philadelphia (Archbishop Charles J. Chaput).

In the early American Church, one thing that was lacking was native clergy. There were two reasons for that: first

of all, there were no bishops to ordain them, and no seminaries to teach them. That was alleviated with the appointment of Archbishop John Carroll in 1790 as the first Bishop of America in Baltimore, and he in turn opened two seminaries: St. Mary's in Baltimore in 1791, and Mount Saint Mary's in Emmitsburg in 1809.

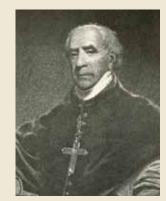
In 1826 the Rector of Mount St. Mary's (a priest by the name of John Dubois who, as Bishop of New York, would later ordain Father John Neumann) had to do something in order to raise money; he was having the same problems we are having today. He wanted to partner with someone else so he could save the seminary, so he contacted the then Bishop of Philadelphia, Henry Conwell, and said: would you buy Mount Saint Mary's and use it for Philadelphia so we can survive? Bishop Conwell turned down the offer, and that's why we're all in Overbrook today, and not in the midst of Maryland!



Archbishop Charles Chaput



Archbishop John Carroll



Bishop Henry Conwell



Bishop Benedict Flaget

One place that did have the teaching of young men for priesthood was the diocese on the other side of the mountains, Bardstown, Kentucky. The bishop there, Benedict Flaget, hired several priests to teach young men to become priests. One of those was a young man from Dublin, Ireland, named Francis Patrick Kenrick, who went there and began to teach seminarians. In 1830 he became the Bishop of Philadelphia. So it was not surprising that he decided he wanted to have a seminary — and on the 26th of June in 1832, he opened Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, with a staff of one and a student body of one; it grew to five by the end of the year. Bishop Kenrick held the seminary in his own house, the rectory next to Saint Mary's Cathedral. Father Henry Fitzsimmons would become the first alumnus ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Kenrick on August 15, 1836 at Saint Mary's Cathedral.

By the time the decade had come to an end, there were now 10 seminarians and he couldn't fit them into his house. So he purchased property at corner of 5th and Sassafras Streets (now called 18th and Race) and there he erected a three-floor building to be used as the new Saint Charles Seminary. That's why our cathedral is there — because he decided that the cathedral and the seminarians should be together.

During the 1840's the people who ran the seminary were the Vincentian Fathers, the Congregation of the Mission. They were here until 1852. The last Vincentian Rector, Thaddeus Amat, accompanied the saintly John Neumann to Baltimore for the first Plenary Council. The bishops were so impressed with the Rector of Saint Charles Seminary they sent his name in nomination to Rome. He was sent to California as a Bishop first to Monterey, and then as founding Bishop of Los Angeles.

The saintly Bishop Neumann decided to have a minor seminary, for high school boys and young collegians. And so they spent the enormous amount of \$11,000, buying a house that used to be a girls' Presbyterian school in Glen Riddle; they then opened it as the minor seminary with 28 students in 1859.

The 1860's were marked by Bishop Wood, who thought that being in the city was harmful to seminarians (he was afraid of tuberculosis), so in 1863, he purchased the first of three lots eventually totalling 137.5 acres for the grand total of \$62,000 in Lower Merion Township, and we are on one of those acres right now.

During the next years, he began to build the place. In 1866 he broke ground, but because of bad financial conditions, it took him to 1871 to open what is now the Upper Side, or the Theologate. It opened on the 16th of September with 128 students, and the cost of the building was \$500,000. The minor seminary occupied the wing closer to Wynnewood Road, and the major seminary occupied the other wing, with the chapel in the middle, and the faculty along the second floor facing out the front windows.

There were also two suites, one for the Archbishop (Archbishop Charles J. Chaput is not the first Archbishop to live here) and one for the Rector, Father James O'Connor, later the first Bishop of Omaha, Nebraska. He and Archbishop Ryan would later assist Saint Katharine Drexel in founding the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. Her father Francis Drexel donated the paintings in Immaculate Conception Chapel.

When the place opened, there were no electric light bulbs (because they hadn't been invented yet); there were no telephones (they would be brought in 1892 by Archbishop Ryan).

Over the course of years, the blueprint of this building would be elongated, mostly in the decade of the 1910's. Between 1909 and 1911, Archbishop Ryan built what is called Ryan Hall; the top floor was a library, needed because the one that was here was on the third floor, immediately above the Rector's and the Archbishop's offices, and unfortunately right underneath the water tower.



Bishop Francis Patrick Kenrick



Bishop Thaddeus Amat



Saint John Neumann

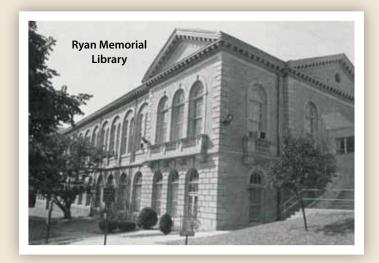


Archbishop James Wood



Bishop James O'Connor

BRIEF HISTORY



So, either the water would destroy the books or the wooden library would; fire and water were the two great hazards. So, Archbishop Ryan said: build a library!

Also on that floor was an auditorium, and on the other side of the auditorium, something that came to be known as the "cycle" room (no bicycles). Second, Third and Fourth Theology took classes together in one big room in which the courses were taught on a three-year basis — hence the "Cycle" Room; that's how it got its name.

The bottom floor was used for athletics: swimming pool, basketball court, indoor track, plus locker rooms.

The seminary was getting bigger, with over 200 students in the 1910's, so the new Archbishop of Philadelphia, Edmond Prendergast, decided to build a dormitory, and they humbly named it after his patron saint, Saint Edmond's Hall, attached to the main building. Now there was room for the seminarians.

In 1917 he added another wing for the Sisters who were here
— the Sisters of Saint Joseph who had served as domestic staff
since its beginning in 1871. He erected the convent — with



Saint Katharine Drexel



Mr. Francis Drexel

bedrooms, chapel, refectory, parlors — which was connected to all the areas where the domestic work was done, the refectory and the laundry. The Sisters would remain until 1934, when they were replaced by the German Sisters of the Redeemer, now in Meadowbrook who stayed until 1967, and then came the Vietnamese Sisters of the Holy Rosary. By 1917 the upper side took the form that has remained to this day.

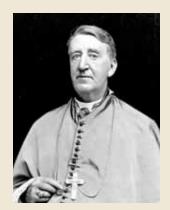
What happens in the 1920's? We begin to see an increase in academics. For the first time ever (this is hard to believe) Saint Charles Seminary started to grant degrees: a Bachelors Degree in 1927; even though it had the right under the charter since 1838, it took 89 years — things move slowly. Also, Rome mandated that a fourth year of theology be added to the curriculum. And that is why there is no ordination class of 1926; the class that would have been ordained got to spend an extra year here.

Unfortunately, that made the place even more crowded now that they had one more year, so the then Archbishop of Philadelphia, Cardinal Dennis Dougherty, decided we needed another building. The upper side already had two students per room,





Archbishop Patrick Ryan



Archbishop Edmond Prendergast



and Fourth Theology was farmed out to Catholic University in Washington because there was no room for them here. At the end of 1926 Cardinal Dougherty broke ground and by June of 1928, what is now the college was built and Saint Martin of Tours Chapel. The upper side cost a little more than a half million dollars, it cost 10 times a half million dollars, or \$5 million to build the building that we are in now. Luckily, he did, for by end of decade, enrollment was up to 420. And remained at that until the depression; between 1933 and 1945, we see that the enrollment goes down. During World War II, classes were held year-round. The shorter interims between academic years resulted in two different ordination classes in 1945. By the time the war ended in 1945, we were down to 280 students, a long way from 460 that we had at the beginning of the 1930's. Cardinal Dougherty was responsible for the building that we are in today.

The late 1940's brought students back: many who came here now had been vets paid for by the GI bill. Cardinal O'Hara came along in the 1950's, and is the one responsible for the swimming pool that we see out there. Apparently, the good Cardinal had arthritis and, according to legend, when the





Cardinal Dennis Dougherty



Cardinal John O'Hara

students would go to night prayer at 8:30 and lights out at 9:10, he would go swimming to alleviate the arthritis he had.

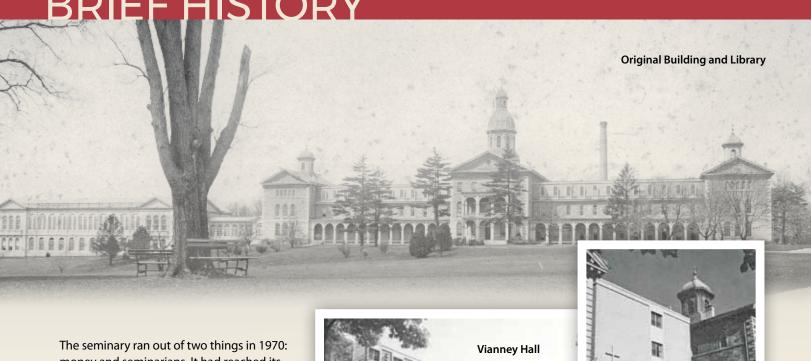
The last major decision he made about the seminary was to allow some of the seminarians to go to outside colleges to earn Masters Degrees so that they could teach secular subjects in the high schools he loved so well. So, for the first time, Overbrook grads had Masters Degrees (but not from here — most of them came from Villanova).

The 1960's of course bring Vatican II and the decree *Optatam Totius* about how seminarians should be educated. One of the ideas was that seminarians should have a more practical experience in life rather than being shackled to the walls of the seminary. So off we went to the train station (we still had no cars), into Philadelphia to begin what was called "the Thursday apostolate" which continues to this day.

Also, Saint Charles Seminary opened its doors to people who weren't future priests. In 1969 began the School of Religious Studies, which later became the Graduate School of Theology, later the School of Theological Studies — names may change but the institution remains the same — and so we began to teach mostly religious sisters but also lay people who wanted to get degrees in theology. The first degrees were offered in 1975. Also, Master of Divinity Degrees were awarded to Fourth Theology students, beginning in 1969.

The 1970's would bring the last additional building to the place: Vianney Hall. One of the dorms in which we were living was discovered to be structurally unsafe, so it was a very good idea to build a new dorm and Vianney Hall was opened for 90 seminarians. What was interesting was what *didn't* happen when Vianney Hall was opened in 1971: there was a Master Plan to re-do the upper side, to tear it down completely, and to attach a wing parallel to Vianney Hall to Saint Eddie's; the front would stay the same; Immaculate Conception Chapel would be razed and a new Chapel would be put in the quadrangle.

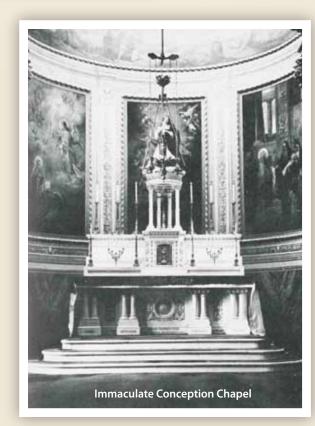
32 | SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY

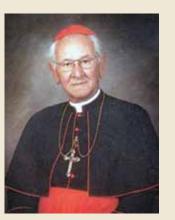


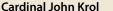
money and seminarians. It had reached its peak in enrollment when I was here in the mid 60's (1964-1966); 576 students were in Overbrook. By 1970, there were 300, and by 1980 there were 200; so, as we can see the decline in enrollment begins in that period of time. It is interesting to see that sometimes the best change you make is the change you don't make. Immaculate Conception Chapel is preserved.

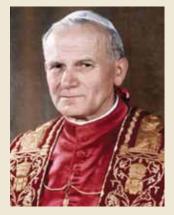
During the 1980's for the first time, we have the notion of permanent deacons — a different order other than priesthood is offered its training here; in 1985 we began to see that process. Also, we see the shrinking of the footprint of Saint Charles Seminary for the first time. In 1984-1985, Cardinal Krol sold the back lot off, and the housing development you see there was once where we went ice skating in the wintertime. The 1980s saw the introduction of priest formators for individual students.

1990's brings Saint John Paul II, who visited here in 1979 (as Bishop Senior remembers, since he was a student at the time), and so we have *Pastores* Dabo Vobis, a letter written by the Holy Father explaining how a seminary should be run. That's where we get the idea of the four pillars (human, apostolic, spiritual, academic). One of the suggestions in *Pastores* was that the seminarians be given time off to contemplate their vocation, and that is when then Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua began what we call the Spiritual Year. Certain seminarians were sent to Immaculate Conception Seminary in Northampton. This will be first time since the 1860's that we now have Saint Charles Seminary in two locations, not one. Rome later decreed two years of pre-Theology for college grads without philosophy, and Cardinal Rigali decided the second year of pre-Theology would replace the Spiritual Year, so it fell into disuse for a little while, to be restored in 2014 by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput.

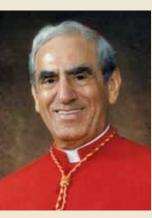








Saint Pope John Paul II



Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua



Cardinal Justin Rigali

2005 saw probably the last major physical activity on the plant, when the library was redone. We didn't need an auditorium (that is, we didn't need two of them, there was one in Vianney Hall) so the auditorium (where I was once the lead in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown — in a performance which will be long forgotten) was turned into the periodical room. And the Cycle Room became the reference library; the bottom floor, since we had no need for two gyms, became a group of reading rooms, with audio-video, etc. and that was done in the mid-2000's.

We now find ourselves in the decade of the teens in the 21st century in a place visited by five Popes and three saints. I will offer you some words of wisdom for reflection as helpful in your deliberations.

Saint Augustine, when talking of his conversion, used the phrase: late have I loved thee, O beauty ever ancient, ever new. Please in your deliberations remember the ancient part of Saint Charles Seminary. We are here for ancient purposes through Jesus Christ but we must accomplish them in a new manner.

Speaking before the Supreme Court in 1820, Daniel Webster, appealing for Dartmouth College, used the following phrase: it is a small college but there are those of us who still love it. So, I remind you that all of your decisions should keep in mind the famous long black line that has been producing priests here for 185 years — and also the long black line that will continue.

When decisions are made there is criticism — no matter what is decided: if you decide to stay, they'll criticize you; if you decide to leave, they'll criticize you. So, I give you the words of Blessed John Henry Newman (now Saint John Henry Newman), who had a very good idea of university when he said: to live is to change — to be perfect is to have changed often.

In the past five years since this talk was presented, change has come to Saint Charles.

The Board of Trustees voted that the most economically feasible avenue for the continuance of the Seminary was to sell the entire property and then purchase land from another Catholic college in the Archdiocese for the purpose of erecting a new facility. Meanwhile, Lower Merion Township focused on Saint Charles as a possible addition to its list of historical sites. At a July 18, 2018 meeting of the Township Commissioners, their desire became a reality by a 14-0 vote. The result of that decision forbad either the Seminary authorities or any future buyer from making any changes to the exterior façade or the grounds without the permission of the township, but internal building changes were permitted.

In May of 2019, the announcement was made that the grounds and buildings of Saint Charles had been sold to Main Line Health for \$43.5 million. The agreement permitted the Seminary to remain on the grounds for a period of up to five years.

In April 2021, Saint Charles agreed to purchase 15 acres of land from Gwynedd Mercy University for a purchase price of \$13 million which included a \$3 million gift from the Maguire Family Foundation. The agreement did not include any official affiliation with Gwynedd. The two academic institutions would remain separate and distinct.

A timeline for design, building, budgeting, zoning approval and permits, and construction have since been developed. A submitted schematic design which awaits approval consists of three buildings, namely, a new college residence hall, a new student life center which includes a chapel, library, refectory, classrooms, and offices, and the refurbishing of an already existing building, now called Alexandria Hall, as a Theology residence hall. The final event scheduled for the Overbrook campus would be the Annual Concursus on May 15, 2024, with a move-in date for Gwynedd in the third week of August, 2024.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1830 ◆ Bishop Francis Patrick Kenrick became the Bishop of Philadelphia

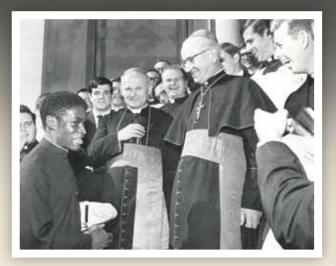
1832 ◆ Bishop Kenrick opened Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in the rectory next to Saint Mary's Cathedral in Philadelphia

- 1839 ♦ Bishop Kenrick purchased property at corner of 18th and Race Streets in Philadelphia
- **1841 1852** ♦ Vincentian fathers staff the seminary
 - **1859** ◆ Saint John Neumann opened the Preparatory Seminary at Glen Riddle for high school boys and young collegians

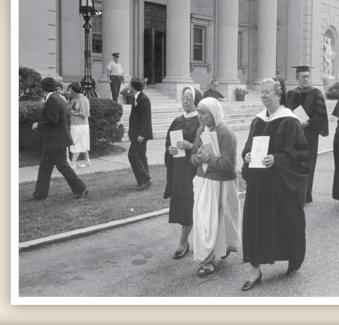
Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Overbrook

- **1863** ♦ Archbishop Wood purchased Overbrook land
- **1871** ◆ 128 Seminarians move into new theology building
- 1911 ◆ Ryan Memorial Library was dedicated
- 1913 ◆ St. Edmond's Hall was dedicated
- **1918** ◆ The start of the Influenza Pandemic
- 1928 ♦ New college building was dedicated
- **1936** ♦ A tunnel was constructed to connect the two buildings
- **1952** ◆ The seminary begins to admit students from other dioceses
- 1954 ♦ Olympic-sized pool constructed between faculty wing and the prep-side gymnasium
- 1960 ◆ Pope Saint Paul VI as Cardinal Montini visited campus
- 1969 The Religious Studies Division was created and Masters of Divinity were given out for the first time
 - ♦ Pope Saint John Paul II as Cardinal Wojtyla visited campus
- 1971 ◆ Vianney Hall dedicated during Centennial celebration
- **1975** ♦ Sister Edward Marie Dougherty, I.H.M. received the first honorary degree
- **1976** ◆ The Archdiocese of Philadelphia hosts the 41st Eucharistic Congress
- 1978 ◆ Judge Genevieve Blatt received an honorary degree, becoming the first lay female to receive a degree from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary
- **1979** ♦ Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta received an honorary degree
 - Pope Saint John Paul II visits seminary
- **1981** ◆ S. Everett Koop, M.D. received an honorary degree
 - Diaconal Formation began throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia
- 1985 Chief Justice Robert N. C. Nix received an honorary degree
- 1988 ♦ Mother Mary Angelica received an honorary degree
- **1990** ◆ Pope Benedict XVI as Cardinal Ratzinger visited campus
- 2002 His Eminence Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J. received an honorary degree
- **2005** ♦ Rosalie Mirenda D.N.Sc received an honorary degree
 - Cardinal Rigali blessed and dedicated the Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua Theological Research Center in the Ryan Memorial Library
- **2015** ◆ Pope Francis visited campus as a part of the World Meeting of Families
- 2017 U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito received an honorary degree
- **2019** ◆ The seminary's Overbrook campus is sold to Main Line Health
- **2021** ♦ Archbishop Borys Godziak received an honorary degree
 - Sesquicentennial of Overbrook campus
 - Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary purchases 15 acres of land adjacent to Gwynedd Mercy University to relocate the seminary

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary









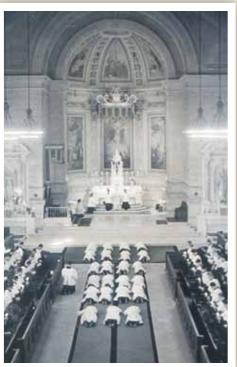




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THROUGH THE YEARS

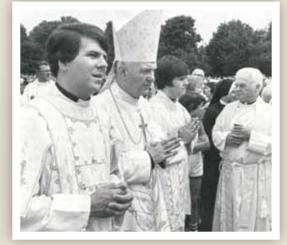






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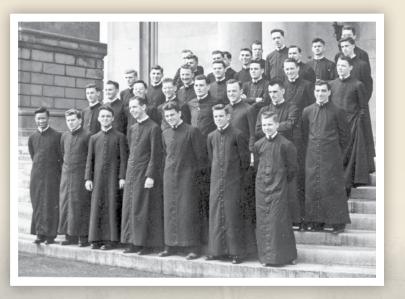














THROUGH THE YEARS























OUR NEW HOME

Our New Home in Lower Gwynedd, PA

Over the last 190 years, we have welcomed thousands of students through our doors and have formed many leaders of our faith: including our current Archbishop Nelson Pérez. The need for a new space to call home is a true testament to all those who recognize the importance of the seminary. With the plans for relocation in motion, it is essential we support the Seminary through this pivotal period in our history.

Our first goal is to guarantee the new location in Lower Gwynedd, adjacent to Gwynedd Mercy University will continue to honor our commitment to Catholic higher education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The new site will require the construction of buildings that reflect the needs of our current and future students. We plan to shape the 15-acre parcel of land for our unique and specific requirements.

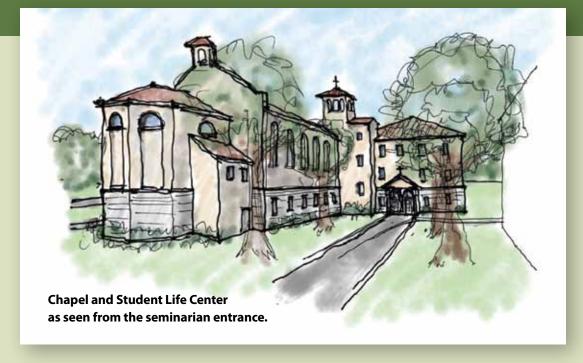
Pictured below is the site map for the new seminary. The large burgundy building in the center of the map is the Chapel and Student Life Center. The grey building at the top left is the Theology dormitory, Alexandria Hall. The burgundy building at the lower right is the College dormitory.

We will build a new chapel and student life center, which will include a dining hall, classrooms, library, administrative offices, fitness center, and additional housing for seminarians and resident faculty. The estimated cost of the project.

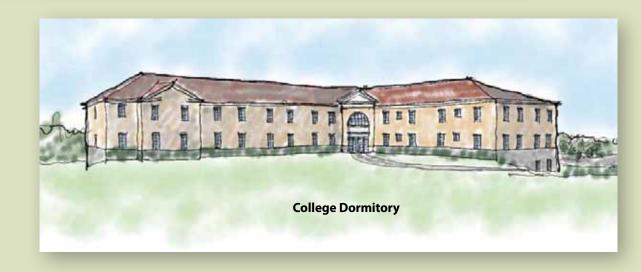
including purchase of the property from Gwynedd Mercy University, is \$40 million. With new, state-of-the-art facilities, the seminary will be able to operate more efficiently, reducing our operating losses.

By raising additional funds via a strategic capital campaign to build an endowment of \$50 million, the seminary will reduce its dependence on annual giving and ensure the long-term sustainability of our mission. We want our students at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary to experience the strength of our highly respected programs as they walk with God through the halls of our new seminary on their way to completing their journey of formation.

Our program is strong, evidenced by a continuing trend of stable enrollment and ongoing additions to an already well-respected faculty. The renovations and construction will not only assist our current students and faculty but solidify the seminary's commitment to our Church.









FACULTY & STAFF Announcements

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez appoints Bishop Timothy Senior, Chancellor of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Father Keith Chylinski Rector, Effective July 1, 2022

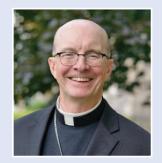
On November 4, 2021, Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, Archbishop of Philadelphia, announced that he appointed Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and current Rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, to a newly created position, Chancellor of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, effective July 1, 2022. The Archbishop also announced that Father Keith Chylinski will succeed Bishop Senior as Rector of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, also effective July 1, 2022.

"I have the utmost confidence in Bishop Senior and Father Chylinski as they continue to work together to write the next chapter in the seminary's history," said Archbishop Pérez. "This new working relationship will allow Bishop Senior to focus on the seminary's relocation and capital campaign, while Father Chylinski will provide continuity and leadership for the seminary's human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral dimensions of priestly formation."

"The seminary is and will continue to be the heart of the Church and I look forward to the new opportunities at our doorstep with our exciting relocation plans and the opportunity to tell our story and articulate our needs to the faithful of Philadelphia and beyond," said Bishop Senior.

"I am very grateful to the Archbishop for his confidence in me, and to Bishop Senior for his kind and consistent support throughout my years on the faculty. Bishop Senior has been a model of dedicated leadership, rooted in his true love for the seminary," said Father Chylinski. "Like him, I believe that it is a sacred privilege to be in the work of seminary formation, and I look forward to serving the Saint Charles community in this new capacity as rector."

Bishop Senior is currently in his tenth year as Rector of Saint Charles. As Chancellor, he will be able to focus primarily on the implementation of the plan for the relocation of Saint Charles to a property which is being purchased at Gwynedd Mercy University in Lower Gwynedd,



Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior



Reverend Keith Chylinski

Pennsylvania. In this capacity, Bishop Senior will also focus on the Seminary's comprehensive campaign. That dedicated fundraising initiative is intended to grow its endowment and to ensure long-term sustainability for the formational programs producing future priests, permanent deacons, and lay leaders as a core mission of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

The spring semester of the 2021-2022 academic year will serve as a time of transition. During that time, Father Chylinski will serve as Rector-elect, working with Bishop Senior and other administrative staff of the Seminary to ensure a smooth transition and the continuity of the formation and educational programs.

A priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and an alumnus of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Father Chylinski was ordained by Cardinal Justin Rigali in 2007. He holds Master of Arts and Master of Divinity Degrees from Saint Charles and earned a Master of Science Degree from the Institute for the Psychological Sciences, Arlington, VA (now Divine Mercy University, Sterling, VA) in 2014. An accomplished singer and pianist, Father Chylinski completed his undergraduate studies at Temple University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Music in 2000.

After completing his graduate studies in Psychology, Father Chylinski joined the faculty of Saint Charles in July 2014. He currently teaches courses in Pastoral Psychology in the Theological Seminary, and Introductory Psychology in the College Seminary. He is also the Director of Counseling Services and has created a conference curriculum on psychosexual development for the entire formation program.



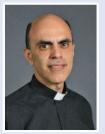
Reverend David Friel, Director of Vocations Office for the Diocesan Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and resident at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, successfully defended his dissertation at Catholic University of America for the completion of his Doctorate in Sacred Theology (STD). The title of the dissertation is "The Feast of Christ the King: From Religious Tolerance to Religious Freedom."



Cait Kokolus, Vice President for Information Services and Assessment, officially retired from Saint Charles Seminary during the first week of October and a celebration was held for her in the Refectory. Cait has given nearly 22 years of service to the Seminary. We wish her the very best as she begins her retirement and look forward to continuing our association with Mrs. Kokolus, as she will be assisting with certain aspects of our move to the new campus as a consultant.



Reverend Christopher Cooke began as Dean of Men, Theological Seminary on June 14, 2021.



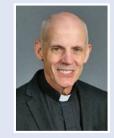
Reverend Frank Giuffre began as Director of the Spiritual Year on June 14, 2021. Father Giuffre succeeds Father Cooke.



Dr. Kelly Andersonhas been appointed
Chair of the Department
of Sacred Scripture,
effective June 14, 2021.
Dr. Anderson succeeds
Father Frank Giuffre.



Dr. Luca D'Anselmi successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in Greek, Latin and Classical Studies from Bryn Mawr College.



Monsignor Gerard Mesure has joined the seminary's full-time faculty.



Based on available data from January 2021 – December 2021

Reverend Dennis P. Boyle
1973 • Philadelphia

Reverend Msgr. John E. Breslin 1961 • Philadelphia

Reverend Ferdinand Buccafurni
1958 • Philadelphia

Reverend Francis J. Cornely

1948 • Philadelphia

Reverend Msgr. Paul F. Curran 1957 • Philadelphia

Reverend Msgr. William A. Dombrow
1970 • Philadelphia

Reverend Msgr. William P. Donnelly
1964 • Philadelphia

Reverend Daniel J. Dougherty
1970 • Philadelphia

Reverend Thomas J. Duffy
1966 • Philadelphia

Reverend Augustine "Gus" Esposito, OSA

1979 • Augustinian Friars

Reverend Msgr. Robert W. Forst
1951 • Allentown

Reverend John M. Harkins
1965 • Philadelphia

Reverend Raymond J. Himsworth
1962 • Philadelphia

Reverend Marshall J. Kloda 1989 • Philadelphia

Reverend Richard J. McAndrews
1967 • Philadelphia

Reverend Msgr. James T. McDonough
1957 • Philadelphia

Reverend Richard S. Rasch, O. de M.

1984 • Mercedarian Friars

Reverend Michael R. Rock, O. de M. 1986 • Mercedarian Friars

Reverend Robert J. Sayer
1999 • Charleston

Reverend William T. Small
1977 • Philadelphia

Reverend Michael J. Stone 1968 • Allentown

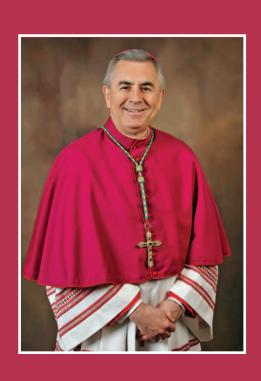
Reverend William J. Sullivan
1959 • Harrisburg

Reverend Msgr. Bernard J. Trinity 1954 • Philadelphia



SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY

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2022 Alumni Priest Retreat

The Alumni Priest Retreat will be held on the campus of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Monday, July 25 through Friday, July 29

The Retreat Master is
Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer '73
Bishop of Harrisburg, PA

For more information please contact EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND ALUMNI RELATIONS at 610-785-6530.