Prepared to serve: 69 receive degrees

IPP director prepares for encore

New alumni director named

Cover: Kevin Hathaway receives his diploma at May 10 commencement.
Father Vincent Tobin led an oblate retreat titled “Christ in the Cloister: Shaped by Word and Sacrament” on March 19-21.

Archabbot Justin DuVall attended the annual meeting of the Abbot President’s Council at Marmion Abbey on March 27-29.

Archabbot Justin DuVall attended the Chrism Mass in Indianapolis with Br. Kim Malloy and Novice Dane DeDecker on April 15.

Abbot Denis Quinkert arrived at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on April 25. This concludes the arrival of all monks from Blue Cloud Abbey who are seeking transfer to Saint Meinrad.

Brother Luke Waugh will be working at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany, IN, this summer with Fr. Eric Johnson as his supervisor.

Br. Peduru Fonseka will spend the summer at Einsiedeln Abbey in Switzerland as a way of learning more about the Benedictine tradition.

Fr. Guerric DeBona was interviewed May 31 on Salt and Light Radio about the importance of good preaching and an upcoming homiletics conference in Toronto, Canada, where he will be speaking.

Fr. Anthony Vinson visited Appalachia Kentucky on a youth mission trip to help families in need May 29-June 1. The group consisted of youth and parents from both St. Meinrad Parish and St. Boniface Parish.

Fr. Brendan Moss presented at the annual Oblate Study Days June 9-12. The topic was titled “The Presence of God in the Life of an Oblate.”

Fr. Anthony Vinson participated in building a new home in Belize, Central America, through Hand In Hand Ministries June 15-23.

Brs. William Sprauer and James Jensen attended a special summer program for junior monks at St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, PA, from June 14-28. The theme was “Building a dynamic and joyful community spirit.”

You can find more photos of Saint Meinrad events at http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com
The Benedictine monks at Saint Meinrad Archabbey celebrated the 70-year jubilee of priesthood ordination and 75-year jubilee of monastic profession for Fr. Cletus Miller, OSB, on May 25, 2014.

Also honored were Fr. Benedict Meyer, OSB, for his 60-year jubilee of priesthood ordination; the Most Rev. Daniel Buechlein, OSB, 50-year jubilee of priesthood ordination; and Fr. Louis Mulcahy, OSB, 25-year jubilee of priesthood ordination.

Fr. Cletus is a native of Evansville, IN, where he attended St. Benedict School before studying at Saint Meinrad in the high school, college and seminary.

He professed his vows as a monk of Saint Meinrad on August 7, 1939, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 30, 1944.

In 1950, Saint Meinrad founded a new abbey in South Dakota called Blue Cloud Abbey. Fr. Cletus was one of the founding monks. He was assigned to work in the Dakota missions that served the Sioux tribes. In 1981, he served at Resurrection Priory in Cobán, Guatemala.

When Blue Cloud Abbey closed in 2012, Fr. Cletus rejoined the Saint Meinrad community.

Fr. Benedict, a native of Cedar Grove, IN, professed his vows as a Benedictine monk on August 1, 1949. He was ordained a priest on May 3, 1954.

He earned a bachelor’s degree from Saint Meinrad College in 1950 and received advanced degrees from The Catholic University of America in 1955 and 1956.

He taught at Saint Meinrad Seminary for five years and served for a number of years in Saint Meinrad’s Brazil and Peru missions. Fr. Benedict was a chaplain and pastor for 26 years in Arkansas, including 15 years at St. John the Baptist Church in Brinkley.


A native of Jasper, IN, he studied at Saint Meinrad from 1952 to 1964. He then did graduate work at Sant’ Anselmo in Rome, earning a licentiate in sacred theology in 1966.

At Saint Meinrad, he was a teacher and administrator in the college until 1971, when he was named president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary, a position he held until he was appointed the bishop of Memphis.

He professed his vows as a Benedictine monk on August 15, 1959, and was ordained a priest on May 3, 1964.

Fr. Louis is a native of Lynn, MA, where he graduated from St. Mary’s High School in 1945. He then enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He studied at the IBM Institute in Washington, D.C., and did research for the Naval Bureau of Personnel. After discharge from the Navy, he worked for IBM in Boston.


He attended Boston College and Weston College of Theology, completing his Master of Divinity at Saint Meinrad in 1988. He was ordained a priest on May 20, 1989.

He has served as director of mail services, monastery guest master, coordinator of research at Abbey Press, custodian of Monte Cassino Shrine and an associate chaplain for Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN.
Graduates of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology were awarded master’s degrees on May 10. Graduates accepted their diplomas from the Rt. Rev. Justin DuVall, OSB, archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and chairman of the school’s Board of Trustees.

The graduation address was given by the Most Rev. Michael Hoeppner, bishop of the Diocese of Crookston, MN.

**Master of Divinity Degrees:**
Alberto Mauricio Abeldaño Flores, Diocese of Memphis; Daniel Bedel, David Marcotte, Benjamin Syberg and Timothy Wyciskalla, Archdiocese of Indianapolis; Linh Bui, Cristobal De Loera Velasco and Timothy Ruckel; Archdiocese of Oklahoma City; Jose Julian Cardona Cardona, Diocese of Knoxville; Gwang-Woo (Elijah) Cho and Chul-Min (Michael) Moon, Diocese of Busan, South Korea; Robert Cigainero and Juan Jose Guido, Diocese of Little Rock; Zachary Greenwell, Archdiocese of Mobile; Peter Logsdon, Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana; Frank Lona, Diocese of Sioux City; Macario Martínez-Arjona, OSB, Conception Abbey; Xavier Raj Yesudas, Diocese of Palayamkottai, India; William Thompson and Emmanuel Udoh, Diocese of Owensboro; Brian Wideman, Diocese of Green Bay.

**Master of Arts in Catholic Philosophical Studies Degrees:**
Nathan Brunn, Diocese of Crookston; Jay Cartwright, Archdiocese of Nassau; Mark Chait Jr., Diocese of Knoxville; Brandon DeToma, Archdiocese of Louisville; Peduru Fonseka, OSB, Saint Meinrad Archabbey; Patrick Friend, Jeffrey Hebert and James Womack, Diocese of Little Rock; Vincent Gillmore, Archdiocese of Indianapolis; James Harding, Diocese of Lexington; Kevin Hathaway and Vuong Luong, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City; Robert Healey, Diocese of Tulsa; Alexander Hirtzel and Jonathan Matthes, Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana; John Horan, Vincent Kania, James Malik IV and Michael Williams, Diocese of Joliet; Andrew Jones, Archdiocese of Mobile; Tam Nguyen and Dua Nguyen, Archdiocese of Hanoi; Mark Tracy, Diocese of Springfield; Jordan Trejo, Diocese of Toledo.

**Master of Arts (Theology) Degrees:**
Rachel Forbes Kaufman, Evansville, IN; Dustin Hungerford, Maureen Larison and Alexander McGauley, Louisville, KY; Karen Jordan, Floyds Knobs, IN; Paul Madrid, Austin, TX; Joseph Paradis III, Goshen, KY; Michael Perigo and Damian Schmitt, Indianapolis, IN; Gregory Stejskal, Philadelphia, PA; David Walters, Santa Claus, IN.

**Master of Theological Studies Degrees:**
Peter Doane, Carmel, IN; Angela Greulich, Jasper, IN; Malia Mohan, Terre Haute, IN; Brendan O’Sullivan, Lexington, KY; Bernard Schum, Louisville, KY; Carrie Williamson, Goshen, KY.

**Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology) Degrees:**
Amy Gilmore, Kansas City, MO; James Hatter, Fisherville, KY; Susan Jansen, Greenwood, IN; Evans Mbaya, Overland Park, KS; Pedro Méndez, Owasso, OK; Janet Millen, Louisville, KY; Carolyn Trimble, Allendale, IL.

Opposite Page, beginning at top left photo: Fr. Harry Hagan, OSB, leads the graduation procession.

Sr. Kateri Visocky, FSE, congratulates graduates after the commencement ceremony.

Most Rev. Michael Hoeppner gives a blessing at the end of the graduation Mass.

Deacon Emmanuel Udoh receives his Master of Divinity degree.

Graduates process to the St. Bede Theater for commencement.

Amy Gilmore adjusts her graduate cap before commencement.

For more photos of Saint Meinrad events, visit:
http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com
Q. What attracted you to the priesthood?
I felt the calling of God from a very young age. When I was an altar boy, when I was an active member of the Young Christian Students’ Movement, and when I was working with priests and sisters for the community, I wished I could be a priest. After many years of being involved in different vocations, the time came for me to embark on the journey to be a priest.

Q. Who or what influenced you to begin study for the priesthood?
Growing up in a strong Catholic family and studying at a private Catholic school influenced me to join the seminary. The work I did for churches in Sri Lanka and my involvement in building a church for the Sri Lankans in Kuwait obviously had an impact on me to join the seminary.

My first involvement with the Church of Kuwait was arranging and leading prayer services for the Sri Lankans during the time there was no priest to say Mass, from 2000 to 2006. After the Sri Lankan priest arrived in 2006, he appointed me to teach catechism to those who wished to be converted.

From 2006 until I left Kuwait to join the seminary in 2010, I catechized 24 people, including one family who converted to Catholicism from Buddhism.

This work influenced me to become an ordained priest, so that one day I will be able to celebrate the Masses, teach the faith and spread the Good News.

Q. Hobbies?
I like to watch religious movies. I like to watch basketball games. I also like to listen to slow music. Whenever I have free time, I read books related to my studies.

Q. What were you doing before you came to the seminary?
I was born and brought up in Sri Lanka. I did all my studies in Sri Lanka, and I completed a bachelor’s degree in mathematics special and a master’s degree in industrial mathematics. I worked as a mathematics instructor at the University of Colombo. I worked as an administrative assistant at Alghanim Industries in Kuwait just before joining the seminary.

Q. Favorite saint and why?
My favorite saint is St. John Mary Vianney. He was not the best in terms of his academics, yet he was the best in spirituality, which ultimately led him to become the patron saint of priests. God selected him to be an example to all the priests.

Q. Favorite Scripture verse and why?
As humans, we are weak in the eyes of God. Therefore, I like the verse in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. “But he (Jesus) has answered me (St. Paul), ‘My grace is enough for you: for power is at full strength in weakness.’ It is, then, about my weaknesses that I am happiest of all to boast, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me; and that is why I am glad of weaknesses, insults, constraints, persecutions and distress for Christ’s sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.”

This reminds me that no matter how weak I am, the grace of God gives me the necessary power to do His will.

Q. What aspect of seminary life has been most rewarding?
The fourfold formation. The formation enables me to learn not only about myself, but about others, too, most importantly about God. When I look back on my progress, I clearly see an improvement, which strengthens my belief in God and His works. This also encourages me to teach others about my faith.

Q. What aspect of seminary life has been most challenging?
Learning to accommodate myself in a new culture in a new country. However, my background in mathematics provided me with greater impetus to search and find solutions to my problems. I have come to realize that praying and following the Word of the Lord can help me overcome any challenges that I face.

Q. Best advice you’ve heard in seminary?
The best advice I’ve heard is to make use of this time in the seminary in learning...
and growing spiritually. This is because once we are ordained as priests, our services will be dedicated to the needs of others.

Q. Other comments?

I would like to advise those who are considering priesthood or religious life that God will lead them to the best vocation for them. If God wishes one to be a priest, He will create that opportunity when the time is right. It is important to pray and spend time reflecting on one’s commitment. Do not worry about your weaknesses, because God knows your strengths. God has a task for you to accomplish and God has given you the necessary talents to fulfill that. ♦

Fr. Gregory
Pastor, teacher dies June 10

Fr. Gregory Chamberlin, OSB, monk and priest of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, died on June 10, 2014, in the monastery infirmary. He was 75 and a jubilarian of both profession and ordination.

Fr. Gregory was born in Indianapolis, IN, on October 12, 1938, and given the name David Andrew at his baptism. After completing his elementary education at St. Francis de Sales and St. Andrew schools in Indianapolis, he entered Saint Meinrad High School Seminary in 1952.

He joined the Saint Meinrad monastery as a novice in 1958 and professed his simple vows on August 15, 1959. After completing his education in the college seminary, he graduated in 1961 with a BA degree in French.

He professed his solemn vows on August 15, 1962, and, after completing his studies at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, was ordained to the priesthood on May 2, 1965. He earned a master’s degree in French from Middlebury College in 1973.

After ordination, Fr. Gregory served at Saint Meinrad College for 25 years, as French teacher, assistant dean of students, dean of students and vice rector.

He also worked in Saint Meinrad’s Development Office, as director of news service, as director of the parish program and as alumni director. In the mid-1980s, he also served two terms on the Priests’ Council of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

His parish work began in 1987, serving short-term assignments at St. Michael’s, Cannelton, IN; St. Pius V, Troy, IN; and St. Louis Church in Memphis, TN. He then served for two years as administrator of St. Henry Parish, St. Henry, IN.


In 2011, he was one of only eight pastors to receive a Distinguished Pastor Award, awarded by the National Catholic Educational Association, acknowledging his exceptional pastoral contribution and leadership.

More recently, Fr. Gregory was on the Board of Directors of the Vanderburgh County Right to Life and was the representative for religious on the Priests’ Council of the Evansville Diocese.

The funeral Mass was celebrated June 13, followed by burial in the Archabbey Cemetery. ♦

Like us on Facebook

Events on the Hill

July 28-30
Alumni Reunion

August 8-10
Guest House Retreat: “St. Benedict on Humility” by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB.

August 19-21
Guest House Retreat: “Living Monastic Values in Everyday Life” by Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB.

September 12-14

September 16
Dolle Lecture, Dr. Denis McNamara.

September 19-21

October 3-5
Guest House Retreat: “Revisiting the Rosary” by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB.

October 7-8
Marten Lecture and Workshop, Fr. Donald Senior, CP.

October 10-12
Guest House Retreat: “Listening to God with a Discerning Ear” by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB.

October 14-16

October 25
Abbot Martin Marty Guild Day of Recollection.

For more information, contact Mary Jeanne Schumacher at (812) 357-6501 or visit our website www.saintmeinrad.org
Fr. Anthony Vinson, OSB, held a luncheon to thank ministry assignment supervisors.

Fr. Brendan Moss, OSB, witnesses Danny Grover during the Deacon Promises ceremony.

Oblates Dr. James and Rita Merk pray during Mass on March 21 to celebrate the Feast of St. Benedict.

Seminarian Michael Bialorucki plays the drums during the Song of the Shadows performance.

Jeremiah Carter presents a medal to Kyle Neterer following the annual seminary softball tourney.
Fr. Ron Knott: IPP founder prepares for his encore

Retirement is not a concept that Fr. Ron Knott really understands. After 14 years as the founding director of Saint Meinrad’s Institute for Priests and Presbyterates (IPP), he handed over the reins to a new director on July 1. (See story on Page 11.)

But that just gives him time to work on a new project – launching an IPP program that will help retired and retiring priests reimagine the next phase of their ministry. Fr. Ron has pastored small rural parishes and a large metropolitan parish; he has kept busy writing and as a public speaker – most notably to groups of diocesan priests about working together as a team.

He is a weekend campus minister at Bellarmine University and he writes a weekly column for his archdiocesan newspaper. He also has written several books stemming from his work at IPP.

So now he will focus on what he calls the next “big adventure” – introducing Encore Priests. The challenge, as he sees is, is that 50 percent of all U.S. priests are scheduled to retire by 2019 or earlier.

“I have been working on a program for our healthiest and most energized priests, nationally, whereby they would come to Saint Meinrad to be trained to do some things they have always wanted to do in ministry, but never got the chance to do – for their good as well as for the good of the Church.”

The idea is to prepare for retirement, according to Fr. Ron. Besides being financially able to retire, a priest needs to consider what gifts he might wish to use in his next phase of ministry. Learning a new language? Ministering in a different geographical area? Teaching or mentoring? Doing spiritual direction?

The Encore Priests workshops will help priests think through those options – and what they need to do to make it happen.

Fr. Ron is a Saint Meinrad alumnus. He was ordained in 1970 for the Archdiocese of Louisville. After an assignment as pastor of the Cathedral of the Assumption in Louisville, he served as the vocations director from 1997 to 2005.

“I noticed that we were ‘dumping’ newly ordained priests in the presbyterate one at a time without a good process of being able to receive them well,” he said.

Fellow priests would ask him, “Who is this new guy?” He considered the situation and decided that priests and presbyterates needed programs to help them be successful and effective in their ministry. That was the seed that grew into the IPP.

He proposed the idea to Saint Meinrad in a talk called: “A Modest Proposal: Seminary is Not Enough.” The response was positive, but no funds for a new program were available at the time.

Then a few years later, Lilly Endowment offered a grant to write a proposal for a new program that would focus attention on supporting priests during key transition times of their ministry. Fr. Ron was hired to write the grant, and the program became the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates.

Lilly Endowment then gave Saint Meinrad a generous grant to get the program off the ground.

Looking back on his own experience as a young priest, Fr. Ron realized that the dynamics of priesthood had changed. While 12 men in his diocese were ordained for the priesthood when he was, now it’s typical for one priest to be ordained in a diocese.

“We had a built-in support group,” he says, “and today they are being ordained one at a time.”

“Secondly, it was maybe 18 years as an associate pastor when I was ordained (before being named a pastor), and now they are being made pastors a year or two after ordination.”

The realization that these newly ordained priests needed to learn how to be pastors and make a successful transition into parish life spurred Fr. Ron to create a series of programs – for new priests, for new pastors and for presbyterates.

“The magic thing about this whole program is that it’s on the seminary campus, not in a hotel,” he says, “because the message we’re giving to the seminarians is that ongoing formation is part of your life forever.”

Seminary curriculum is largely determined by the U.S. bishops, so there’s not much room for electives on how to hire parish staff, strategic planning and overseeing a parish’s finances. Those subjects became part of the IPP’s workshops for new priests and pastors.

Now he’s excited to be starting the Encore Priests, a program he believes will serve an even larger audience. “What I don’t want to do is go into retirement and talk about what I used to do,” he says.

It’s easy to believe that Fr. Ron expects to hear that sentiment echoed by other priests. “I’m excited about going into retirement – not about doing nothing, but about doing more.”

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Faculty busy authoring new books

Several faculty members at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology have published books in recent months.

Dr. Clayton Jefford, professor of Scripture, published two volumes, Didache: The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles (Polebridge, 2013) and The Epistle to Diognetus (with the Fragment of Quadratus): Introduction, Text, and Commentary (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Rediscovered in 1873, the Didache offers a glimpse of early Christian ritual and liturgy. In his book, Jefford presents parallel translations of the original-language manuscripts – from Greek, Latin, Coptic, Ethiopic and Georgian. His introduction places the Didache in its historical context, and cross references and notes on sources allow for in-depth study.

The Epistle to Diognetus is the first major English-language commentary since 1949. Jefford’s commentary focuses on the movement of the author’s argument and objectives in constructing the narrative, taking advantage of critical considerations of the apology within recent scholarship.


The book helps readers to appreciate the role of virtuous living in striving for authentic human freedom and, ultimately, finding the God who is Love.

Speaking Pastoral English in America Course (S.P.E.A.C.) by Jeff Jenkins with Clare Haden was published in February. Jenkins is director of the Mader Center.

The workbook is designed to help ministers serving in the United States to produce listener-friendly speech patterns for U.S. audiences. It includes lists of words and sentences, as well as short readings, to provide practical guidance in producing sounds accurately and clearly. An audio CD is included.

Spanish instructor Nury Nuila-Stevens has edited the Spanish-language translation of The Spiritual Leadership of a Parish Priest: On Being Good and Good at It, written in 2007 by Fr. J. Ronald Knott, founding director of Saint Meinrad’s Institute for Priests and Presbyterates.

Fr. Knott also recently published For The Record XI, a collection of his weekly columns for the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Louisville; and Affirming Goodness, a collection of memorable articles and inspirational quotes from 11 years writing the column.

Most of the books are available at Saint Meinrad’s bookstore, The Scholar Shop, or online at store.saintmeinrad.edu.

Sign up for the e-newsletter

If you’d like to receive brief updates on what’s happening at Saint Meinrad, you can sign up for a free e-newsletter. Every few weeks, you will receive a newsletter in your email’s inbox.

To sign up, go to the “Newsletters” link on the front page of the website: www.saintmeinrad.edu. Or, send an email to news@saintmeinrad.edu

CD features music of ‘One Bread, One Cup’

A collection of music from the “One Bread, One Cup” summer liturgical leadership conferences, held each summer at Saint Meinrad, is now available.

During the 2013 conferences, Oregon Catholic Press’ division of Spirit & Song made recordings of the hymns and chants, as well as the conference theme song, “One Bread, One Cup.”

The CD tracks include: One Bread, One Cup; Song of Adoration, Canticle of Zachary, Alleluia Con Brio 1999, The Lord is My Light, Alleluia Con Brio 2013, Here at This Table, Psalm 92, Psalm 62, Glory to God, Be Merciful, Magnificat, Litany, and Song of Simeon.

Janêt Sullivan Whitaker, a composer and regular musician at “One Bread, One Cup,” compiled and produced the CD in collaboration with Saint Meinrad.

“Open A Place of Perfect Peace” CD is available from The Scholar Shop and the Archabbey Gift Shop. You can also order by emailing oboc@saintmeinrad.edu. The cost is $17 plus shipping and handling.
Fr. Edward to head IPP

“I am grateful that Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB, asked me to become director of IPP,” says Fr. Edward. “I am excited about the IPP’s innovative work and can’t wait to be a part of it.”

Fr. Edward is a native of Louisville, KY. He made his profession of vows as a Benedictine monk on August 6, 1986, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 4, 1991.

Fr. Edward has a bachelor’s degree in history from Saint Meinrad College and a Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

He earned a master’s degree in English literature from Middlebury College in Vermont and taught English at Saint Meinrad College from 1992-98. He then earned a doctorate in speech communication at Southern Illinois University.

He served as associate pastor of St. Benedict’s Parish in Evansville, IN, and was the pastor of St. James Parish in Chicago, IL, from June 2002 until his appointment to the IPP.

Fr. Edward explains that Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB, and Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, have been talking to him about the position for some time. They believe a Benedictine with a lot of parish experience is what the IPP needs at this time.

“Benedictines have a robust history of pastoral activity. We were the earliest missionaries and pastors,” says Fr. Edward. “My life as a parish priest has been motivated by this great pastoral tradition. It will, certainly, guide me in my work as director of IPP.”

Fr. Ron has been named founding director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates and will continue to work with the institute on various programs.

New professor joins faculty

Dr. Nathaniel Marx has joined the faculty at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology as an assistant professor of sacramental and liturgical theology, beginning this fall.

Dr. Marx earned his PhD in theology (liturgical studies) from the University of Notre Dame in 2013. He received his bachelor’s degree in anthropology and philosophy in 2000 and a master’s in theological studies in 2007, both from Notre Dame.

He also earned a Master of Arts in social sciences in 2003 from the University of Chicago.

His doctoral thesis was on “Ritual in the Age of Authenticity: An Ethnography of Latin Mass Catholics.”

Most recently, he taught at Notre Dame in the undergraduate program in the Department of Theology.

Alumni Column
Msgr. James Ramer T’86 (’80-86; ’99)
Member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors

Arriving on the Hill in 1980, as I did, and arriving on the Hill in 2014 are two different experiences. Although the spiritual essence of Saint Meinrad is vital to anyone who comes to the holy Hill and will always be present, the physical appearance of the Hill has changed greatly.

I recall watching the “grass-topped” library slowly emerge to claim its place alongside the hillside in front of the main steps to the Seminary building. Later on, we students and monks watched daily the growth of the new monastery building. Monks and students alike found it awesome to see where the community life of the monastery would one day happen.

Only recently has the renovation of St. Bede Hall been completed. What an awesome improvement has taken place with that building! Many will recall graduating from college in St. Bede Theater or attending the wonderful plays produced by Fr. Gavin and others on the stage.

However, the main renovated projects were realized in other parts of the building. The “penthouse” rooms on fourth floor are an awesome improvement, still allowing a beautiful, picturesque view of the Saint Meinrad woods and property, from the “rising of the sun to its setting.” Heading up to the fifth floor, we find new spacious meeting rooms available for classes or other groups.

The “heartbeat” of the holy Hill is the Archabbey Church. It’s well worth the trip to Saint Meinrad to attend prayers or holy Mass in the beautiful worship environment.

Marble flooring and new choir stalls are on one level, since the upper level was removed to more closely unite “word” and “sacrament” in worship. This space will truly inspire any worshipper.

It’s our hope that many alumni will attend the great Alumni Reunion each year on the Hill. While there, one can enjoy the relaxing atmosphere of the new UnStable, now housed in the renovated Kleber Gym, which is quite an awesome improvement.

If you’ve not been to Saint Meinrad in quite a few years or even if it was just last year, we welcome everyone back to reminisce about “old times” and to praise God for His goodness and pray for all the benefactors who made such remarkable changes in the physical appearance possible. God bless them all!

Save the Date!

August 5, 2014
Gary Alumni & Friends Dinner

August 10, 2014
Louisville/New Albany Area Alumni & Friends Dinner

September 4, 2014
Evansville Area Alumni & Friends Dinner

October 7, 2014
Northwest Ohio Area Alumni & Friends Dinner

October 9, 2014
Indianapolis Alumni & Friends Dinner

October 19-20, 2014
Alumni Board Meeting

Meril Sahayan of the Diocese of Palayamkottai, India, serves up food from his culture during the spring Around the World event.
Christian Moczek of Toledo, OH, has been named the new director of alumni relations at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He replaces Tim Herrmann, who plans to enter the monastery this fall as a candidate.

Mr. Moczek graduated in 2013 with a bachelor’s degree in education from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, OH. He earned a master’s in educational studies this June from the University of Michigan.

During the summers of 2012 and 2013, he served as a college intern for Saint Meinrad’s “One Bread, One Cup” program of liturgical leadership for youth. He also was an intern for United Way of Greater Toledo in the summer of 2012.

Most recently, he worked as a program assistant for the Center for Educational Outreach in Ann Arbor, MI, where he trained college students for outreach work in schools and the community. He also has served as an educational specialist for Excellent Schools Detroit in Detroit, MI.

In other activities, he is a board member of The Servant Leadership Center of Toledo and was a member of the executive board of Educators in Context and Community in Bowling Green, OH. He also was a resident advisor during his senior year at Bowling Green State University.

Mr. Moczek began his new position in July. ✦

The 2014-15 Alumni Annual Giving Program will kick off in July. Saint Meinrad is once again counting on the generosity of its alumni to provide support for the Seminary and School of Theology’s unrestricted annual fund.

“The generosity of our alumni is one of our greatest blessings,” says Duane Schaefer, director of development. “And they can be proud of the work they help make possible.”

Through annual gifts, alumni make possible classroom instruction, spiritual formation, ministry opportunities, upkeep of buildings and grounds, guest lectures and many other day-to-day operations.

The amount Saint Meinrad charges each student covers approximately 59 percent of the costs involved in their education. Annual unrestricted gifts help make up the difference between the school’s actual expenses and student charges. This enables Saint Meinrad to keep tuition rates competitive with other seminaries.

Alumni whose gifts qualify will receive this year’s premium, a 32-ounce aluminum water bottle with a screw-on lid, flip-up spout and removable straw. The bottle is lightweight, durable and BPA free.

Alumni will qualify for the water bottle by making a gift of $200 or more or by making a first-time gift of $100 or more. ✦

Visit the Scholar Shop’s online store

http://store.saintmeinrad.edu

Shop our new website for the latest books from Saint Meinrad authors, clothing and other items.
Mr. James E. Schipp O’68 (’56-57), of Wesley Chapel, FL, died on April 12, 2013.

Mr. Robert M. Singer O’58 (’46-47), of Newport, KY, died on February 22, 2014.

Mr. William D. Smith O’66 (’57-58), of Stow, OH, died on June 26, 2011.

Mr. Kilian K. Sullivan T’89 (’86-89), of Washington, DC, died on February 9, 2014.

Fr. Kevin Sumler O’82 (’80-82), of the Diocese of Beaumont, TX, died on July 23, 2013.

Mr. James L. Tighe O’69 (’60), of Galion, OH, died on April 27, 2012.

Mr. John M. Tyl O’80 (’72-74), LD’00 (’98-00), of Knoxville, TN, died on March 4, 2014.


Mr. Charles R. Witcher O’58 (’46-47), of Fort Wayne, IN, died on February 10, 2014.

Fr. George Wolf O’80 (’76-80), of the Archdiocese of Portland, OR, died on February 6, 2014.

Mr. David P. Zilly O’69 (’63-64), of Browning, IL, died on February 26, 2014. ✠

Mr. Joe Bland LD’06 (’03-06), of Whitesville, KY, is the director of the Family Life Office for the Diocese of Owensboro, KY.

Fr. Benedict Brown O’73 (’67-74), a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, is a part-time chaplain for the Veterans Hospital in Dayton, OH. He is also adjunct professor of religious studies at St. Catharine College in St. Catharine, KY, and sacramental moderator for Holy Rosary Parish in Springfield, KY.

Fr. David Bruning O’78 (’70-74) and Fr. Eric Schild T’07 (’02-07), priests of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, were featured in a “Healthy Lifestyles” article in the diocesan newspaper Catholic Chronicle.


Fr. John J. Kinkopf O’57 (’49-51), of the Diocese of Cleveland, OH, died on September 29, 2013.

Mr. Robert J. Lame O’79 (’71-73), of Spring Lake Heights, NJ, died on November 25, 2013.

Mr. Linus L. Leinenbach O’60 (’48-54), of Washington, NJ, died on March 3, 2014.

Mr. James J. McInnis O’58 (’52-58), of Sun City, AZ, died on March 23, 2014.

Fr. John P. Nickas Sab ’94, of the Archdiocese of Newark, NJ, died on October 9, 2008.

Mr. Timothy H. Norman O’57 (’49-51), of Menlo Park, CA, died on December 29, 2013.

Mr. Gerald J. Rainer O’65 (’56-59), of Omaha, NE, died on December 13, 2009.

Each described their efforts to improve their health and fitness.

Mr. Jared Bryson C’97 (’94-96), of Fort Smith, AR, completed a doctor of ministry degree in Christian spirituality at Washington Theological University. His thesis project was “Contemplation in Action: Executive Formation and Servant Leadership in Catholic Health Care.”

Fr. Roy Dentinger O’50 (’39-50) was presented the first Dentinger Lifetime Achievement Award, a new honor created by the Kentucky State Council of the Knights of Columbus. He served as the council’s state chaplain for more than a decade after he retired from active ministry in the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY.

Fr. Dan Gartland O’82 (’75-79) has been re-elected chairman of the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana. Fr. Kevin Hurley T’13 (’09-13) was elected secretary.

Mr. Jeremy Goebel T’15 (’11-13), a religion teacher at Trinity High School in Whitesville, KY, is also coaching the school’s first wrestling team.

Dr. Lester Goodchild O’75 (’71-75), of Quincy, MA, has published three co-edited books in recent months: Advancing Higher Education as a Field of Study: In Quest of Doctoral Degree Guidelines –
Commemorating 120 Years of Excellence; Higher Education in the American West: Regional History and State Contexts; and Public Policy Challenges Facing Higher Education in the American West. He is a professor at the University of Massachusetts.

Mr. Jason Hall T’15 (’09-10), of Owensboro, KY, is executive director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, the public policy arm of the state’s bishops. He had been serving as associate director since 2011.

Fr. Peter Harman C’95 (’91-95) is director of pastoral formation, director of media relations and a formation advisor at Pontifical North American College in Rome.

Mr. John Helm O’77 (’74-77) is a chaplain at Gentiva Hospice in Louisville, KY.

Fr. Kevin Huber T’91 (’83-91), pastor of Queen of All Saints Parish in Michigan City, IN, shared his vocation story at a Theology Unscooped gathering in Portage, IN, during January.

Seminarian Douglas Hunter T’15 (’09-15) is the new president of the National Black Catholic Seminarians Association. He is studying for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN.

Fr. Joseph LaBelle, OMI, T’87 (’82-84) is living in Aix-en-Provence, France, as a member of the international community of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate at the residence of the first foundation in 1816.

Fr. Greg Luyet T’95 (’91-95) has been appointed judicial vicar for the Diocese of Little Rock, AR, by Bishop Anthony R. Taylor O’80 (’74-76).

Fr. Joseph Merkt SS’77, Sab’00 was honored when some of his former students established a scholarship in his name at Spalding University in Louisville, KY. A retired priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, he directed the lay ministry degree program at Spalding from 1991 to 2001.

Fr. Josh McCarty T’09 (’04-09), a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, and producer for Lolek Productions, has released several independent films, including “Shawn’s Eyes,” a film about a man with Down’s syndrome; and “Strong,” which tells the story of a woman facing cancer. The website is www.lolekproductions.com.

Rev. Rick McCracken-Bennett O’76 (’71-76) is the author of a new Cycle B sermon resource titled Food, Foretelling, Followers, and Fulfillment: Jesus On His Way to Jerusalem. He has served as the founding pastor of All Saints Episcopal Church in New Albany, OH, since 1997.

Mr. Michael O’Connor O’74 (’69-74) is a patient financial navigator for Riley Hospital for Children/IU Health in Indianapolis, IN.

Deacon Ron Pirau PDP’12 (’08-12) of Greenwood, IN, is the director of mission advancement for Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Fr. Gladstone (Bud) Stevens T’00 (’98-00), a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, has been named president-rector of St. Patrick’s Seminary and University in Menlo Park, CA. He began teaching at St. Patrick’s in 2008, serving most recently as vice rector and associate professor of theology.

Fr. Larry Weidner, BCC, O’80 (’74-76) is the chaplain supervisor at Banner Boswell Hospital in Sun City, AZ. In 2013, he was certified as a member of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.

Fr. Shaun Wesley T’05 (’01-05) served as grand marshal of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Eureka Springs, AR. He is pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fayetteville.

Sr. Jean Anne Zappa, OSU SS’84 (’80, ’82-84) was one of the recipients of the Heart Award, given by the Sacred Heart Academy Alumnae Association in Louisville, KY. *

James Stein O’80 (’72-76) was named CEO of the Year in the small nonprofit category by his peers through a survey by Columbus CEO magazine. Since 2004, he has been president of the Furniture Bank of Central Ohio, located in Columbus.

The nonprofit company provides free furniture to families and individuals struggling with poverty and other life challenges.

Operating since 1998, Furniture Bank redistributes donated furniture in addition to building furniture in its woodshop and through a partnership with Marion Correctional Institute. The company provided assistance to more than 4,200 families in 2012.

Previously, Stein was president and co-founder of FST Logistics and director of corporate services for Franklin International. *
Seven ordained deacons at Saint Meinrad

Seven ordained deacons are Adam Ahern, Michael Keucher and Andrew Syberg, all of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; Gerard Carrillo and Hiep Nguyen, Diocese of Cheyenne; Br. Philippe Tchalou, OSB, Monastere de l'Incarnation, Togo, West Africa; and Br. Luke Waugh, OSB, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Other members of the class were ordained at various times in their respective dioceses.

In the Catholic faith, a deacon can preach, baptize, witness marriages, offer Communion to the sick and aged, and perform other ministerial duties.

The newly ordained deacons are transitional deacons, meaning they are preparing for ordination to the priesthood. Many Catholic dioceses also have permanent deacons, who carry out the same role, but are not studying for the priesthood.