Saint Meinrad’s Institute for Priests and Presbyterates (IPP) has launched two new initiatives to further its mission of providing formation for priests: a month-long sabbatical program and a program to assist international priests.

**SABBATICALS**

“The reality today is that money and time are big factors in what type of sabbatical a priest chooses,” says Fr. Ron Knott, director of the IPP. “Priests, because of their responsibilities, are taking shorter and cheaper sabbaticals. Many times, they take these between assignments. That’s one of the groups we’re targeting with our program.”

The Stoking the Fire sabbatical is a month-long program, with the next one scheduled for July 11 through August 7. Two priests participated in the pilot sabbatical in 2010. Fr. Knott says the ideal number of participants is 10-12 priests.

“The beauty of Saint Meinrad is that it gives the priest the opportunity to shift into neutral,” says Fr. Knott. “There’s a balance between education, rest and spiritual renewal.”

The program is affordable and offers convenient amenities like on-site room and board. The natural beauty and peacefulness of the Saint Meinrad grounds are also draws.

In planning Stoking the Fire, the IPP drew heavily from the *Directory on the Life and Ministry of Priests* released by the Congregation for Clergy in 1994. It reads:

*Continued on page 4*
Br. Francis de Sales Wagner professes solemn vows

Br. Francis de Sales Wagner, OSB, professed solemn vows as a Benedictine monk at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on January 25 in the Archabbey Church.

Br. Francis is a native of Findlay, OH, where he attended Liberty-Benton High School and was a member of St. Michael the Archangel Parish. He earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Bowling Green State University in 1988.

After earning his degree, he worked at The Galion Inquirer in Galion, OH, until 1996, where he worked his way up from staff writer to managing editor. From 1996 to 1999, he worked at The News-Sun in Springfield, OH, as a copy editor, and from 1999 to 2006, he worked at The Blade in Toledo, OH, where he was a copy editor and wire editor.

He joined the monastery in 2007 and made his first profession of vows in January 2008. Br. Francis is a writer and associate editor in the publications division of Abbey Press, and is studying for a master’s degree from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is also a conference presenter for the Benedictine Oblate program and gives retreats to guests.

In professing solemn vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life and stability in the community at Saint Meinrad, he becomes a full and permanent member of the Benedictine community.

Novice professes first vows

Novice Michael Luckett, OSB, professed his temporary vows as a Benedictine monk in a ceremony on January 20 at Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

He has completed his novitiate, a year of prayer and study of the Benedictine way of life. As is the custom during the profession of vows, he was assigned a religious name. Novice Michael will now be known as Br. Elijah. Temporary vows are typically for three years.

Br. Elijah, 22, was born in Louisville, KY. He grew up in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, where he was a member of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. He attended Damien High School in La Verne, CA. In 2009, he earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, CA, before coming to Saint Meinrad.

The period of temporary vows provides a continuing opportunity for the monk and the monastic community to determine whether monastic life is, indeed, the right vocation for this individual.
Profile: Fr. Ephrem Carr, OSB

Saint Meinrad’s Fr. Ephrem Carr, OSB, has been teaching since 1986 at the international Benedictine theological school in Rome, Pontifical Athenaeum Sant’Anselmo. For the past two years, he’s also served as president of the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy in Rome.

During the Christmas break, he typically returns to Saint Meinrad for a week or two. Last summer, however, he returned for a longer visit to receive treatment for a medical condition. It was one of the few times in the past 24 years he’d been back to the Hill during warmer weather.

This longer visit has been an opportunity to renew acquaintances with his confreres and take a closer look at some of the changes of the past few years. He specifically mentions the building improvements that have occurred: the new guest house, renovations to Benet and St. Gregory halls, and the major renovations to the Archabbey Church during 1996-97.

Fr. Ephrem came to Saint Meinrad as a seminarian for the Diocese of Toledo in 1959. Three years later, he joined the monastery and then took his vows as a Benedictine monk in 1963. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1967.

He says both the community life and the monastery’s work, particularly teaching, attracted him to monastic life. “I always wanted to teach, ever since I had been in high school,” he recalls. “I had some good priest teachers and I knew there was much less chance to do that as a diocesan priest.”

After his ordination, Fr. Ephrem was sent to Rome for further study in patristics (the study of the Church Fathers). “My mentor when I was a student here was Fr. Polycarp Sherwood,” he notes. “Polycarp said, ‘You’re very well versed in Latin patristics. Why don’t you go to the Oriental Institute and study Oriental patristics, particularly Greek and Syriac?’”

Thus began Fr. Ephrem’s education at The Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome, which is dedicated to advanced studies on Eastern Christianity. When it was time to study for his doctorate, he decided to focus in the Syriac area because so little had been done in that area. Syriac, Fr. Ephrem explains, was the third language after Latin and Greek.

“It seemed a meaty opportunity not only to study it, but also to be able in the future to introduce people to that third language area of early Christianity,” he says. He returned to Saint Meinrad after finishing his license in patristics, because Fr. Polycarp had been killed in an automobile accident.

At that point, the seminary had no one to teach early Christianity and patristics, so Fr. Ephrem began teaching in the seminary program and continued to work on his doctorate part time. He would teach for a semester, then return to Rome to work toward his doctorate. Finally in 1976-77, he was given a year to return to Rome and finish his doctoral work.

He returned to teaching and also served as academic dean for several years. “Most of the students between 1970 and 1986 would have had me in First Theology,” he says.

When Archabbot Timothy Sweeney, OSB, was elected in 1978, he appointed Fr. Ephrem as subprior (third in leadership in the monastery). He remained as subprior, while continuing to teach, until he was invited to join the faculty at Sant’Anselmo in Rome in 1986.

“Without the community, the supportive community both here and in Rome, it would have been much more difficult to persevere.”

Fr. Ephrem Carr, OSB

Fr. Ephrem is an expert in Syriac and Eastern Oriental Christianity. He also speaks Italian, the language in which classes are taught at Sant’Anselmo.

While he’s home, Fr. Ephrem is doing some work in the Archabbey Library that few others can do: he’s cataloging some of the Syriac books. Most of the books are rare and have been waiting a long time to be put in the catalog. “Some of them are one of a kind, in the United States, at least,” he notes.

He enjoys being back at Saint Meinrad for an extended period. “One of the nice things now is that I’ve been able to get familiar with the young people, the newer members [of the monastic community]. Most of them have gone through novitiate, profession and even ordination when I wasn’t home.”

The community life is important to Fr. Ephrem. “Without the community, the supportive community both here and in Rome, it would have been much more difficult to persevere,” he says. “That’s why I come back.”

While he continues to enjoy teaching and academic writing, he is approaching the age of mandatory retirement in Rome. “I enjoy the work I’m doing in Rome. I’m going to find it difficult when I retire to give it up.”
“After a certain number of years of ministry, priests need encouragement, genuine appreciation, a new deepening in all aspects of formation with the purpose of examining their actions, and a re-awakening of the motivation underlying the sacred ministry.”

During the first week of the four-week sabbatical, priests focus on rest and relaxation, but also participate in a series of testing activities designed to help them discern their leadership style and better understand their spiritual and emotional condition. Participants interact with monks, faculty and staff at Saint Meinrad and are encouraged to spend time on reading and reflection.

In subsequent weeks, priests reflect and receive feedback on their emotional/spiritual assessments and leadership style. They participate in group book discussions and in a variety of weekend outings to area attractions, such as the Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, area churches, local and regional historical sites, or libraries and museums.

In their final week, priests develop a personal growth plan, work on homiletics, and focus again on time for rest and relaxation.

A limited number of partial scholarships are available for the Stoking the Fire sabbatical, with preference given to priests and dioceses demonstrating the greatest financial need.

World Priest participants take advantage of the practice chapel to fine tune their presiding skills for U.S. parishes.

**WORLD PRIEST PROGRAM**

In recent years, international priests have made up as much as 20 percent of all priests serving in the United States. The percentage of international seminarians is often higher.

Many of these priests begin ministry in U.S. dioceses with no orientation and no plan for how to integrate into the parish community or presbyterate (all the priests and bishop of a particular diocese). Dioceses have been struggling with these issues for some time.

“Things we take for granted, like gender relationships, food and money, are often misunderstood by these priests,” says Fr. Knott.

The World Priest program takes place during three weeks: one week in January, April and July. Joseph Cook, IPP program coordinator, says more dates can be added if space is available and demand increases.

The pilot program began in January with five participants and two observers. Participants came from parishes in Indianapolis, Lexington, KY; Manchester, NH; and Boise, ID.
Most Rev. Christopher Coyne, new auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, made his first visit to Saint Meinrad to celebrate the solemnity of the Passing of Our Blessed Father Benedict on March 21. From left are Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB, Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, Deacon Dustin Boehm and Bishop Coyne.

In addition, the IPP has leveraged its Mentor Training Program to develop a mentoring program for international priests and dioceses. Mentors help international priests adjust to ministry and life in their particular diocese.

Mr. Cook says the program is also designed to help parishioners adjust to their international priests. For example, each participant creates a video about his particular culture and customs that he can then share with his parish.

“Our goal is to help these priests become the most effective ministers they can be to serve the needs of the Church,” says Mr. Cook.

While at Saint Meinrad, international priests have multiple opportunities to interact with seminarians, including attending Mass, eating meals and spending an evening with the international seminarians. “It’s a great asset for both the priests and the seminarians,” says Mr. Cook. “This part of the program was very well received in January.”

For more information about the Stoking the Fire sabbatical or the World Priest program, visit http://ipp.saintmeinrad.edu or contact IPP at smipp@saintmeinrad.edu or (800) 357-8477.

Monk’s artwork featured in new Roman Missal

The cover and illustrations in the new edition of the Roman Missal, published by Liturgical Press, are the work of Saint Meinrad monk Br. Martin Ersparmer, OSB.

Br. Martin provided 15 illustrations for the book, as well as the cover art of Christ the King. The new translation of the Roman Missal will be used in Catholic parishes, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent.

Br. Martin has a bachelor’s degree in fine art from the Art Institute of San Antonio and St. Mary’s University, as well as a master’s in fine art from Boston University. He did post-graduate studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and earned certification from its Institute of Liturgical Consultants.

More information about the Roman Missal is available at www.litpress.org.

Rev. Christopher J. Coyne appointed auxiliary bishop

Pope Benedict XVI appointed Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Westwood, MA, to serve as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. He will assist Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, in serving the needs of 151 parishes throughout central and southern Indiana. He is the first auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in nearly 80 years.

The new auxiliary bishop was ordained on March 2. The Most Rev. Coyne, 52, was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston on June 7, 1986. He holds a bachelor’s from the University of Lowell in Lowell, MA, a Master of Divinity from St. John Seminary in Brighton, MA, and a licentiate and a doctorate in liturgy from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant’ Anselmo) in Rome.

Mr. Cook says the program is also designed to help parishioners adjust to their international priests. For example, each participant creates a video about his particular culture and customs that he can then share with his parish.

“Our goal is to help these priests become the most effective ministers they can be to serve the needs of the Church,” says Mr. Cook.

While at Saint Meinrad, international priests have multiple opportunities to interact with seminarians, including attending Mass, eating meals and spending an evening with the international seminarians. “It’s a great asset for both the priests and the seminarians,” says Mr. Cook. “This part of the program was very well received in January.”

For more information about the Stoking the Fire sabbatical or the World Priest program, visit http://ipp.saintmeinrad.edu or contact IPP at smipp@saintmeinrad.edu or (800) 357-8477.

Monk’s artwork featured in new Roman Missal

The cover and illustrations in the new edition of the Roman Missal, published by Liturgical Press, are the work of Saint Meinrad monk Br. Martin Ersparmer, OSB.

Br. Martin provided 15 illustrations for the book, as well as the cover art of Christ the King. The new translation of the Roman Missal will be used in Catholic parishes, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent.

Br. Martin has a bachelor’s degree in fine art from the Art Institute of San Antonio and St. Mary’s University, as well as a master’s in fine art from Boston University. He did post-graduate studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and earned certification from its Institute of Liturgical Consultants.

More information about the Roman Missal is available at www.litpress.org.

Rev. Christopher J. Coyne appointed auxiliary bishop

Pope Benedict XVI appointed Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Westwood, MA, to serve as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. He will assist Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, in serving the needs of 151 parishes throughout central and southern Indiana. He is the first auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in nearly 80 years.

The new auxiliary bishop was ordained on March 2. The Most Rev. Coyne, 52, was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston on June 7, 1986. He holds a bachelor’s from the University of Lowell in Lowell, MA, a Master of Divinity from St. John Seminary in Brighton, MA, and a licentiate and a doctorate in liturgy from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant’ Anselmo) in Rome.

Mr. Cook says the program is also designed to help parishioners adjust to their international priests. For example, each participant creates a video about his particular culture and customs that he can then share with his parish.

“Our goal is to help these priests become the most effective ministers they can be to serve the needs of the Church,” says Mr. Cook.

While at Saint Meinrad, international priests have multiple opportunities to interact with seminarians, including attending Mass, eating meals and spending an evening with the international seminarians. “It’s a great asset for both the priests and the seminarians,” says Mr. Cook. “This part of the program was very well received in January.”

For more information about the Stoking the Fire sabbatical or the World Priest program, visit http://ipp.saintmeinrad.edu or contact IPP at smipp@saintmeinrad.edu or (800) 357-8477.

Monk’s artwork featured in new Roman Missal

The cover and illustrations in the new edition of the Roman Missal, published by Liturgical Press, are the work of Saint Meinrad monk Br. Martin Ersparmer, OSB.

Br. Martin provided 15 illustrations for the book, as well as the cover art of Christ the King. The new translation of the Roman Missal will be used in Catholic parishes, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent.

Br. Martin has a bachelor’s degree in fine art from the Art Institute of San Antonio and St. Mary’s University, as well as a master’s in fine art from Boston University. He did post-graduate studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and earned certification from its Institute of Liturgical Consultants.

More information about the Roman Missal is available at www.litpress.org.

Rev. Christopher J. Coyne appointed auxiliary bishop

Pope Benedict XVI appointed Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Westwood, MA, to serve as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. He will assist Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, in serving the needs of 151 parishes throughout central and southern Indiana. He is the first auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in nearly 80 years.

The new auxiliary bishop was ordained on March 2. The Most Rev. Coyne, 52, was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston on June 7, 1986. He holds a bachelor’s from the University of Lowell in Lowell, MA, a Master of Divinity from St. John Seminary in Brighton, MA, and a licentiate and a doctorate in liturgy from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant’ Anselmo) in Rome.

Mr. Cook says the program is also designed to help parishioners adjust to their international priests. For example, each participant creates a video about his particular culture and customs that he can then share with his parish.

“Our goal is to help these priests become the most effective ministers they can be to serve the needs of the Church,” says Mr. Cook.

While at Saint Meinrad, international priests have multiple opportunities to interact with seminarians, including attending Mass, eating meals and spending an evening with the international seminarians. “It’s a great asset for both the priests and the seminarians,” says Mr. Cook. “This part of the program was very well received in January.”

For more information about the Stoking the Fire sabbatical or the World Priest program, visit http://ipp.saintmeinrad.edu or contact IPP at smipp@saintmeinrad.edu or (800) 357-8477.
Meet Student:
Lance Warren

Second Year of Philosophy
Diocese: Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Hometown: Marlow, OK

Q. What attracted you to the priesthood?
I was not born Catholic. I hadn’t even met a priest until college. However, when I got to know a few, I began to realize that there was something very different about the life they led. They were men of conviction, men of service and men of prayer. The joy that they expressed was contagious. I couldn’t help but feel attracted to their way of life.

Q. Who influenced you to begin study for the priesthood?
There were many people in my parish who asked if I had ever thought about being a priest. These encounters definitely planted the seeds for my vocation. Also, the late Pope John Paul II played a significant role. Here was a man of immense talent who offered all he had to God and to the Church. He was very inspiring to me.

Q. What were you doing before you came to the seminary?
Before coming to seminary, I worked as part of a directional drilling crew on oil rigs in Oklahoma and Texas. My job was to operate and maintain the directional equipment used to do horizontal drilling. This required a lot of time in the field doing 12-hour shifts. My longest assignment was 54 days straight.

Q. Favorite saint and why?
My favorite saint is definitely St. Maximilian Kolbe. He was a Franciscan priest who courageously lived the Gospel even at the cost of his own life.

Q. Favorite Scripture verse and why?
My favorite scripture is John 15:13, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” My college years were spent in military school and this was a verse each and every cadet was expected to know. Especially now, in the seminary, the idea of laying down my life for others resonates with me.

Q. Hobbies?
I love going to the movies and spending time with friends. I also enjoy traveling and reading.

Q. What aspect of seminary has been the most rewarding?
Coming from a very rural and non-Catholic community, I had very few people to talk to about faith and struggles. Now that I’m in seminary, I’m surrounded by men who have walked or are walking the same path as me. In this community, we are able to share our faith openly and to support one another. This has been an anchor in my continuing discernment and formation.

Q. What aspect of seminary life has been the most challenging?
The most challenging aspect of seminary life for me has been letting go of my own desires and ambitions. I must work to remember that I am not here because of all the great things I’ve done in life. On the contrary, Christ has called me here despite all my failures and shortcomings.

Q. Best advice?
I was told two very simple words not long after I first arrived: “Be here.” My vocation at this point in life is to be here at Saint Meinrad and to open myself to be formed.

Q. Other comments?
I had not even heard of Saint Meinrad before I was told by my vocation director that this is where I would be going to study for the archdiocese. I can honestly say that I am both a better person and a better Catholic because of my time on the Hill.
Students attend March for Life

Each year, students from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, along with members of the faculty and administration, travel to Washington, D.C., for the annual March for Life. This year more than 100 made the trip. The group stayed with families from Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac, MD, through the coordination of Saint Meinrad Overseer Linda Budney. The following is a reflection from one of the transitional deacons who made the trip in January.

A MARCH OF CONVERSION

With chapel lights aglow, the sun rising in the east warmed the horizon of southern Indiana on that cold January morning. Mass was celebrated, a blessing was bestowed by the one holding Christ’s place in the monastery, and we began our journey.

We travelers, with hearts and minds and voices pointed east, filled 10 vans for the voyage. Unknown to some, yet known well by others, our voyage took us over babbling brooks and creature-filled rivers, over mountains breaking into life-laden valleys hidden by tree lines, over green lines, red lines and blue lines, all giving praise to the Lord, as the psalmist says.

Our journey led to the very place that celebrates, venerates and cultivates a nation, one nation, living, under God. We voyaged to a march: the March for Life.

Arriving in Potomac, we bearers of Benedictine hospitality—tired from the road, yet alive with faith, hope and charity, received a greeting of holy kindness in the land of Mary. This greeting grew as we met new faces, learned new stories and marched—giving witness to the One who is life, the One who gives life, the One who loves into life, and the One who longs for us to respect life. On that cold January day, united as one, we marched for life.

Today the March in Washington, D.C., has come and gone, but our March for Life is not over. We are a pilgrim people, walking on the road of holiness toward that heavenly Jerusalem. Daily, we wake up stirred by the Son rising in the east amid the air of choice and consequence, justice and mercy, pain and redemption, and we march.

The March for Life is more than just one day, one hour, one moment; it is our lifetime. Our march calls us to conversion daily, our march calls us to rend our hearts at every chance by looking critically at our views and positions, our march leads us to the cross—Christ’s cross, where love lives triumphantly resurrected, and life is eternally respected.

Deacon Michael Chrisman
Diocese of Pueblo

“Deacon Michael Chrisman
Diocese of Pueblo

Visiting

“Visiting

“In addition to my life, that in itself is a gift from God, I would say that the opportunity to go back to school was and still is a precious gift from God,” says Br. Romain. “It really opened my mind to the academic world and I am grateful for this priceless opportunity.”

Several of the monks are in the midst of the six-year priesthood program at Saint Meinrad. Others are enrolled for a shorter time. Br. Mauritius is spending a year at Saint Meinrad studying pastoral formation and participating in a ministry assignment that offers real-world experience. “I’m grateful to receive such a profound pastoral formation,” he says. “Since Saint Meinrad was established by the monks of my monastery, it is very interesting for me to see how the confreres here carry forward and live out the Benedictine heritage.”

All are enjoying the hospitality they’ve found in the school and monastery. “The monks have an easy-going sense to them that enables us to find our balance as both monks and as students living in a new place,” says Br. Victor. “The community of Saint Meinrad upholds the value of hospitality quite well,” adds Br. Anthony. “They’ve made me feel at home.”

Each agrees that, in his own way, he will bring a piece of Saint Meinrad home with him. “Saint Meinrad is an old monastery where one can find or learn a lot of things,” says Br. Philippe. “The Benedictine community here at Saint Meinrad is quite different from our monastery, but it is nice to be here and to learn more about the way of life.”

“Saint Meinrad is a loving community,” adds Br. Romain. “My lack of vocabulary may not allow me to express my heartfelt gratitude, but I would say that I have discovered and experienced another layer of what hospitality is all about.”

“Hats and scarves were needed to keep the cold at bay during the March for Life. From left are seminarians from the Diocese of Pueblo, CO: Jared Bravo, Carl Wertin and Deacon Michael Chrisman.”
Alumni Reunion features full schedule of events

This year’s annual summer gathering of alumni on the Saint Meinrad campus will be held several weeks earlier than in recent years. The Alumni Reunion is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, July 18-20.

Among the activities planned are presentations by four Saint Meinrad monks. Fr. Vincent Tobin will give a day of recollection, while Fr. Julian Peters will discuss the new translation of the Roman Missal.

Other talks will include a presentation on Christian discernment by Archabbot Justin DuVall and a conference by Fr. Denis Robinson on “The Question of Evil.”

MONDAY, JULY 18

The day’s events begin with a golf scramble at 10 a.m. at nearby Christmas Lake Golf Course. Interested golfers can pay the $31 green fees at the course.

Also that morning, Fr. Vincent will begin a two-part day of recollection, “I Stand at the Door and Knock: Will You Let Me Love You?”

Fr. Vincent is the manager of the Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center, as well as a spiritual director and retreat master. After earning his Master of Divinity at Saint Meinrad, he received a licentiate in sacred theology at Gregorian University’s Institute of Spirituality in Rome and did postgraduate work at Georgetown University and New York University.

He returned to Rome in 1986, where he taught Latin and Greek at Sant’ Anselmo and then taught New Testament Greek at Gregorian University. From 2002-05, he held the Carl J. Peter Chair of Homiletics and was a member of the formation faculty at the North American College in Rome.

The second part of the recollection will be held following lunch on Monday afternoon.

Archabbot Justin will speak on “Making Our Way in Life: Christian Discernment” on Monday afternoon. Modern life presents us with myriad choices. Before we choose what to do next in life, we should decide what we want to do with our life. Christian discernment helps us arrive at this fundamental decision.

Archabbot Justin has served as leader of the Saint Meinrad monastic community since 2004. He earned a Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology and then did graduate studies at the University of Michigan, where he earned a Master of Arts degree in library science.

From 1979-93, he was the assistant librarian in the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library. In 1984, he was appointed prior (second in leadership) of the monastery and served in that capacity until 1995. Other assignments have included master of ceremonies, assistant to the novice/junior master, and chairman of the monastery’s Liturgical Advisory Committee.

He served as associate dean of Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 1995 to 1996, when he was named the provost and vice rector of the School of Theology. He served in that position until his election as archabbot.

After Vespers in the Archabbey Church, a reception and dinner will be held to celebrate the anniversaries of the classes of 1961 (50 years), 1971 (40 years), 1986 (25 years) and 2001 (10 years).

After the banquet, a musical program will be held in the Archabbey Church.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Fr. Denis, president-rector of the Seminary and School of Theology, will give a presentation Tuesday morning, titled “The Question of Evil.” The Church today is filled with conversation about issues such as spiritual possession and the presence of evil. This workshop focuses on evil as a pastoral and theological question in the contemporary world.

Fr. Denis is a member of the American Academy of Religion, American Catholic Historical Association, Venerable John Henry Newman Association, Catholic Theological Society of America and the American Benedictine Academy. He has authored numerous articles and has contributed to several theological texts.

He received his Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He later attended the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, earning a master’s degree in theology in 2002, a licentiate in

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association will take place at 11 a.m., followed by lunch.

In the afternoon, alumni can choose between conferences on youth ministry and the new translation of the Roman Missal. Fr. Julian, in a talk titled “Do You Hear What I Hear?” will discuss the implementation of the new translation, which begins on the first Sunday of Advent.

There is an abundance of information available, but different parishes are going about the catechetical process in different ways. Over the past year, Fr. Julian has been significantly involved in presenting material on the new translation to various groups—priests, deacons and laity. In this seminar, he will provide an overview of the many facets of the new translation, looking to what alumni have and have not heard thus far.

Fr. Julian is the director of Saint Meinrad’s Permanent Deacon Formation Program and an adjunct instructor in the Seminary and School of Theology. After receiving his Master of Divinity at Saint Meinrad, he earned a master’s degree in non-profit administration from the University of Notre Dame.

He also has served as administrator of the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul in Indianapolis, IN, and as director of liturgy for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Fr. Julian previously served as director of alumni relations, master of ceremonies, secretary to the archabbot, secretary to the council and chapter, and assistant archivist at Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Ms. Colette Kennett, the director of Saint Meinrad's “One Bread, One Cup” youth conferences, will speak on “Youth Ministry: A Future Full of Hope.” The presentation will provide a brief summary of comprehensive youth ministry and explain how Saint Meinrad’s program complements effective, comprehensive youth ministry. In addition, she will offer insights into the faith culture of today’s young people.

Before her work at Saint Meinrad, Ms. Kennett served as diocesan director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Belleville for 30 years. She served as the first vice-chair of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and has been a presenter at numerous national and regional conferences on youth ministry.

In January 2010, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, honoring her service and leadership in the field of Catholic youth ministry.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in social psychology and a master’s degree in counselor education from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, as well as a certificate in youth ministry studies.

The annual golf scramble will tee off at 10:00 a.m. Monday.

Bishop William Medley of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, a Saint Meinrad alumnus from the ordination class of 1982, will preside at the annual Reunion Mass on Tuesday afternoon.

After Mass, a reception and banquet will be held. Following the meal, the Distinguished Alumnus Award will be presented to Abbot Gerald Benkert, OSB, retired founding abbot of Marmion Abbey in Aurora, IL. He is the 19th alumnus to receive the award.

After dinner both evenings, the Alumni Commons and the UnStable will be open for socializing.

Alumni will find a reunion registration form inserted in this issue of the newsletter. Online registration is also available at:

http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu
Vote for slate of nominees for Alumni Board

Six alumni are candidates for approval as members to the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors. Instructions for approving the slate are at the end of this article.

PRE-1973

Fr. Wilfred (Sonny) Day O’67 (’61-67) is a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and serves as pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in Floyds Knobs, IN. He has also served as pastor of Holy Family Church in New Albany, IN, and St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg, IN.

He was honored with the 2010 Community Service Award given by Providence High School Alumni Association. He is a member of the Board of Trustees for Our Lady of Providence Junior & Senior High School and he is the dean of the New Albany Deanery. He is seeking approval for his first term on the Alumni Board.

William McGuire O’64 (’52-58) resides in Indianapolis, IN, with his wife Margaret. He retired from Hancock Telecom in 2009, where he held the position of director of settlements and special projects. He also worked for Ameritech for nearly 30 years in various management positions.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in business from the University of Evansville. He was honored with the Indiana Telecommunications Association’s Distinguished Service Award in 2005. He is an active participant at St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, where he served as eucharistic minister coordinator for 28 years.

He is actively involved in Habitat for Humanity. In the last four years, he has made mission trips to Tijuana, Mexico, and Gallup, NM. His interests include golf and genealogy. He is seeking approval for his first term on the Alumni Board.

Roger Doane SPH’57 (’53-57), of Bloomfield, IN, and his wife Judy have two children. He currently works for the Bloomfield School District as technology coordinator. Doane has worked at Crane Naval Base as a supervisory computer specialist, for IBM as a field engineer, and served in the U.S. Navy. He is a member of the Bloomfield Lions Club, the Bloomfield Town Council and the Holy Name Parish Council.

He was inducted into the Diocese of Evansville’s Bruté Society, the highest recognition for lay Catholics in southwestern Indiana, and was honored with the Boy Scouts of America’s Award of Merit. In his free time, he enjoys restoring old military aircraft in the Air Park in Rantoul, IL, and enjoys amateur radio. Roger is the first alumnus of St. Placid Hall to serve on the Board of Directors. He is seeking approval for his second term on the Alumni Board.

Gregory Ernstberger C’75 (’71-75), of Floyds Knobs, IN, has worked for Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. for over 30 years. He is currently senior business manager in the Neuroscience Division. He and his wife Janet have four children.

He holds a master’s degree in biology from Ball State University and a bachelor’s degree in biology from Saint Meinrad College. He is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, where he serves as the sacristan and an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. He is also the chairman of the Liturgy Committee.

He was honored with the 30-year service award and the Pinnacle Award from Bristol-Myers Squibb. In his free time, he enjoys gardening, cooking, golfing and hiking. Ernstberger was previously on the Alumni Board from 1991-1997. He is seeking approval for another term on the Alumni Board.

Martin Stout C’88 (’84-88) resides in Fort Wayne, IN, with his wife Beverly and their two children. He is the director of operations for Wright and Lerch Attorneys at Law. He earned a master’s degree in health administration from Indiana University and a master of business administration from the Indiana Institute of Technology.

He is a member of the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys, Fort Wayne Track Club and Saint’s Alive at Bishop Dwenger High School. He enjoys running and biking. He is seeking approval for his first term on the Alumni Board.

1973-1988

1989-PRESENT

Darren Stroufe, PhD, DD, C’91 (’86-90), T’01 (’97-01), resides in Boonville, IN. He earned a bachelor’s degree in natural science from Saint Meinrad College and a Theological Studies degree from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He has a
Renovation continues in St. Bede and Newman halls

All areas in St. Bede Hall have been gutted and are ready for renovations that will provide needed space for school programs.

“When I entered the seminary, we had the largest class in the past 10 years. I’ve only seen class sizes increase during my four years here. Saint Meinrad is growing; there’s no doubt about it, and the community is a healthy one.”

Seminarian Mauricio Carrasco

“Saint Meinrad always seems to be looking for how can we make this a better place. I’ve only been here two years, but every year, it seems like there’s always something better, always an improvement.”

Lay Degree Student
Katie Soer

Juan Manjarrez, center, of the Diocese of Little Rock, signs his diaconate promises. Fr. Joseph Moriarty, director of spiritual formation, left, and Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB, vice rector, serve as witnesses. A total of 29 seminarians made deacon or priesthood promises on March 17.

Workers remove old ceilings in a classroom in Newman Hall.

Doctorate of Divinity from Ashwood University and a PhD in law enforcement administration from Madison University.

A former police chief for Dupont, OH, Sroufe has 17 years of service on the Evansville Police Department, serving as chaplain and holding the rank of sergeant. He is the current commander of the Records Section and a crisis negotiation team professional. In 1999, he was the Evansville Police Department Officer of the Year. He was honored with the American Legion Citation of Exemplary Service in 2000.

He holds membership in the International Conference of Police Chaplains, the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John. He is a member of St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville. He and his wife Jan have three children. He previously served on the Alumni Board from 1995-2001 and 2009-2011. He is seeking another term on the Alumni Board.

Candidates for the Board are elected as a slate by approval. Alumni can submit their approval or disapproval by e-mail to alumni@saintmeinrad.edu, by calling the Development Office at (800) 682-0988 or by voting on the alumni website at http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu. Voting ends July 15. 
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 e-mail’s inbox.

To sign up, go to the link on the front page of the website: www.saintmeinrad.edu. Or, send an e-mail to news@saintmeinrad.edu.

Alumni get free access to scholarly journals

Saint Meinrad alumni now have free access to a wealth of information through a new service on the alumni website. JSTOR (short for Journal Storage) is an archive of articles from scholarly journals. Full-text articles are available to read online or to download. JSTOR journals have a three- to five-year blackout period in which the most recent articles are not available.

For almost all journals, back issues are available. JSTOR contains articles in humanities, arts and social sciences, and is a rich source for articles on theology, Church history, Christian art and architecture, philosophy, literature and other topics that may be of interest to alumni.

“By adding JSTOR to the alumni website, Saint Meinrad can now offer a large store of high-quality articles on religion and theology,” says Saint Meinrad Library Director Dan Kolb, who helped arrange for the new service. “The articles in these databases cannot be accessed anywhere else. Someone would have to subscribe to hundreds of journals for decades to begin to get all this content.”

JSTOR journal access is in addition to ATLASerials, which has been free to alumni for several years. ATLASerials is an archive of full-text articles from journals and magazines relating to religion and theology. It contains about 180 publications, from popular magazines to scholarly journals.

JSTOR and ATLAS can be found on the alumni website, http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu. Look for “Online Resources” in the left menu. Access to the journals is password protected, so alumni who are not already members of the website will need to sign up for an account. Signing up for a new account is free and easy to do.

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 e-mail’s inbox.

To sign up, go to the link on the front page of the website: www.saintmeinrad.edu. Or, send an e-mail to news@saintmeinrad.edu.


Fr. John Carthel Vollor O’79 (’74-79), of the Diocese of Jackson, MS, died January 10.


Mr. Charles Weber O’69 (’57-60), of Evansville, IN, died December 9, 2010.

Seminarians made their annual pilgrimage from the School to Monte Cassino Shrine in January.
Alumni Survey Results, Part 3

Editor’s note: This is the final article about the results of the November 2009 survey of Saint Meinrad alumni.

For the first time in about 10 years, Saint Meinrad alumni were asked for opinions about their Saint Meinrad experience and the programs offered by the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association.

The survey was conducted in November 2009, with 1,117 alumni responding (about 20% response rate). A comparison of survey responders with the general alumni body suggested that the results could be projected with some confidence to the entire alumni population.

In this final article on the survey’s results, we look at the alumni website (found at http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu), services that alumni want and financial support of Saint Meinrad.

ALUMNI WEBSITE

Nearly 36% of survey respondents have registered on the alumni website (registration is required to access some features of the site), though 61% admit to using it infrequently.

Registered users visit the website most frequently for news updates (59%), alumni information (33%), social networking (12%) and to register for an event (11.6%).

Those who don’t use the alumni website indicated it was because they were unaware of it (15%) or had no time (7.8%) or no interest (7%).

As might be expected, alumni born during the 1980s were the most likely group to use the alumni website—with 60% registered.

ALUMNI SERVICES

Almost half of those surveyed (46.3%) did not indicate a desire for the proposed services listed in the survey. The most interest (27.5%) was for faculty recommendations and reviews of new books.

The other proposed services were: online transcript request, list of new books in the Archabbey Library, booklists for courses offered each semester and new books available in The Scholar Shop.

There was some interest in class reunions (20.8%) and the development of local alumni networks (15.4%).

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The survey asked alumni several questions about their financial support of Saint Meinrad: whether they make donations, the size of their most recent gift and what motivates their giving.

Most of the survey respondents reported that they support Saint Meinrad financially (65%), with 29% saying they do not. When broken down by vocation, diocesan priests were most likely to say they were donors, with 81.6% making gifts.

Most gifts fall in the $1-$99 range (24%) and the $100-$249 range (23.5%). Just over 7% said their most recent gift was $1,000 or more.

The most common reason for giving was gratitude for their formation (54.6%), followed by supporting the Catholic Church’s needs (39.1%), providing care for the Saint Meinrad monks (24.9%), nostalgia (11.5%) and to gain a tax deduction (11.1%).

The survey results will be used by the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors as they make recommendations about alumni programs and services.

Phonathon connects students and alumni

This year’s phonathon followed the same expanded format that was introduced last year, and with much success. More than 100 Saint Meinrad seminarians, monks and alumni participated, and their efforts helped to raise more than $38,460. There were also many great conversations with alumni who enjoyed talking and sharing their memories of Saint Meinrad with someone from the Hill.

A different group of students handled each of the eight nights of calling on campus. The ninth, and final, night was held at the Catholic Center in Indianapolis on March 23, where alumni were on hand to make calls.

Overall, 371 specified pledges and 181 unspecified (the donor does not indicate the amount of the gift) pledges were received.

In addition, the thankathon also returned to this year’s event. Students, on two nights, spent time calling donors to thank them personally for their support and generosity. Some of the thank-you calls resulted in donors voluntarily making pledges, in addition to their previous gifts.

Alumni can make gifts to the 2010-11 Alumni Annual Giving Program until June 30.
Mr. Marc R. Alexander C’80 (‘76-80), of Aiea, HI, is the governor’s new coordinator of programs for the homeless in Hawaii.

Fr. John Appiah C’94 (‘90-94), of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, organized a second Ghana medical mission to his native village, Nkonya-Wurupong, last summer.

Msgr. Paul Canonici O’57 (‘51-57), of the Diocese of Jackson, MS, has published two books, The Delta Italians and So Italian. He was state superintendent of Catholic schools in Mississippi from 1970-83 and founding pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Madison. Since his retirement in 1999, he has spent time researching the history of his immigrant family and celebrating its cuisine through these publications.

Mr. Joseph Chandler C’96 (‘92-96), of Bellaire, TX, has been appointed principal of Garcia Middle School in Sugarland, TX.

Fr. David Clements, OSB O’52 (‘40-48), of Conception Abbey, Conception, MO, who died in 1986, was remembered in “Legacies of Monastic Service” in the Fall-Winter 2010 issue of Tower Topics, the abbey’s newsletter.

Mr. Joseph Cook T’94 (‘90-92, ‘94-95), of Santa Claus, IN, has been named the new program coordinator for the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He had served as Saint Meinrad’s director of alumni relations since December 2002.

Fr. Christoph Eisenraut, CMM T’87 (‘83-84), of the Congregation of the Missionaries of Mariannhill, in October 2010, was elected to a six-year term as general councillor of the Congregation in Rome, Italy.

Ms. Elise S. Eslinger T’94 (DC) (‘92-94), of Dayton, OH, was awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree by United Theological Seminary in Dayton in December 2010. Her thesis was titled “The Magnificat Project: Exploring Incarnational Spirituality during Advent with Focus on the Lukan Canticles.”

Ms. Angela Fleck (LDC) (‘09-11), of Jasper, IN, a theology teacher at John Paul the Great High School, married Joshua Greulich on December 18, 2010.

Fr. T. Dominick Fullam T’93 (‘89-91), of the Diocese of Biloxi, MS, has developed a comic strip called “Off by a Mile.” He is vicar general and moderator of the curia for the diocese, as well as pastor of St. Mary Parish in Biloxi. Samples of his strips may be seen on his website: http://offbyamile.com


Fr. Daniel B. Gartland O’82 (‘75-79) and Fr. Kevin J. Haines T’87 (‘79-83, ‘86-87), of the Diocese of Lafayette, IN, were among 30 clergy members who benefited from grants in the Lilly Endowment’s Clergy Renewal Program for Indiana Congregations. Fr. Gartland had an extended visit to Germany and Fr. Haines spent several months in Assisi, Italy, doing research on St. Francis.

Fr. Jeffrey Goecner, VF C’91 (‘88-91), of the Diocese of Springfield, IL, is the dean of the Alton Deanery.

Br. Thomas J. Haele, CMF O’79 (‘71-78), of Chicago, IL, on August 20, 2010, celebrated the 25th anniversary of his first vows as a Clarettian Missionary. He served 11 years in Catholic campus ministry in Springfield, MO, and five years in parish ministry in Kingston, Jamaica. He has also been involved in formation and discernment ministry for the Clarettians. Currently, he is serving at Holy Cross/Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Chicago.


Mr. Anthony Heitzman O’57 (‘45-57), of Louisville, KY, received the Sister Mary Spink Service Award on December 4, 2010, in recognition of his many years of service and as chaplain of Louisville Hosparus.

Diocese of Toledo, OH, were among 10 priests of the diocese designated as monsignors by the Holy Father in December 2010.

Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson O’70 (‘66-70), of Atlanta, GA, received the Grawemeyer Award in Religion, a $100,000 prize for the ideas set forth in his 2009 book, *Among the Gentiles: Greco-Roman Religion and Christianity.* The University of Louisville and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary jointly award the religion prize.

Fr. Vincent P. Lampert T’89 (‘83-86), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, pastor of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Church in Greenwood, was the subject of a feature article in the January 7, 2011, issue of *The Criterion,* in the religious vocation supplement.

Mr. Gary A. Landoll T’97 (‘92-95), of O’Fallon, IL, is the new director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Belleville.

Fr. Peter Marshall T’09 (‘04-09), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, associate pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Indianapolis, presented an Advent conference to students of Bishop Chatard High School, December 6, 2010: “The End of the World As We Know It.”

Fr. Dennis Moorman, MM T’95 (‘91, ’93) led a parish mission at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Louisville, KY, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Louisville, was inducted into the Trinity High School Hall of Fame, December 16, 2010, at its annual banquet.

Sr. Mary Jo Polak, OSB, SS’87 (‘82-85, ’87, ’92) has moved back to her motherhouse, Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, SD.

Ms. Mary Elisa Rose T’06 (‘01-05), of Sharpsville, IN, has completed her term on the Diocesan Advisory Board for All Catechesis in Lafayette.

Fr. Samuel Russell, OSB, O’79 (‘73-75), of Conception Abbey, Conception, MO, attended the annual convention of the National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors in Milwaukee, WI; led a senior pilgrimage to Chicago and St. Louis; and attended a board meeting of the National Association of College Seminaries at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia, last fall.

Fr. John H. Schipp O’64 (‘52-64), Fr. David G. Fleck O’75 (‘63-71), Fr. John Sasse C’90 (‘87-88) and Fr. Jason B. Gries T’04 (‘00-04) of the Diocese of Evansville, IN, participated in “Grill the Priests” night in Vincennes in September 2010. The Blessed Frassati Youth Group invited all four priests in Knox County for supper, games, and questions about their families, education and vocations to the priesthood.

Bishop Joseph Siegel C’84 (‘81-84, ’99), auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Joliet, IL, has been named administrator of the diocese following the appointment of Bishop Peter Sartain O’78 (‘71-74) as the new leader of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Fr. William F. Stumpf T’85 (‘80-81), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, is a member of the board of directors of Centerstone, a not-for-profit organization that provides mental health and addiction services throughout Indiana.

Fr. Samuel L. Sturm T’99 (‘94-99), of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, was featured in an article on “Our Priests,” in *East Tennessee Catholic,* the diocesan paper, October 10, 2010.

Fr. Patrick C. Wedeking C’80 (‘76-78), of the Diocese of Gallup, NM, since July 2010, has been serving two years of active duty at the Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, OK.

Fr. Joseph A. Weigman T’91 (‘85-91), of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, serves as chaplain at the Little Sisters of the Poor Sacred Heart Home in Oregon, where he also receives care and assistance as he lives there in residence. He was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1991. He has adjusted his life and ministry as the disease has progressed.

Fr. Donald J. Wolf O’81 (‘75-81), of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, OK, pastor of St. Benedict Church in Shawnee, is chair of St. Gregory’s University Board of Directors in Shawnee.

Fr. Alex J. Zenthoefer T’05 (‘01-05), of the Diocese of Evansville, IN, is associate pastor at Holy Rosary Church in Evansville and chaplain at Memorial High School. He is also the diocesan director of vocations and, in that capacity, has introduced video vocational talks in classrooms via Internet using Skype.

Dr. Carney Strange, alumni association board president, addresses seminarians and lay degree students during the association’s annual graduates luncheon.
Visiting monks add diversity to school community

For many years, Saint Meinrad has welcomed monks from other communities—many of them Benedictine—to study in the Seminary and School of Theology.

“All of these men have added to our diversity,” says Vice Rector Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB. “They add to the monastic presence in the school and benefit from the particularly diocesan style of our formation.”

Six visiting Benedictines are studying at Saint Meinrad this year, including Br. Guerric Letter and Br. Victor Schinstock of Conception Abbey in Missouri; Br. Romain Dadjo Botta and Br. Philippe Tchalou of the Monastery of Incarnation in Togo, West Africa; Br. Mauritius Honegger of Einsiedeln Abbey in Switzerland; and Br. Anthony Baker of Assumption Abbey in North Dakota.

Like other seminarians, the monks come from diverse backgrounds. Some, like Br. Guerric and Br. Victor, transitioned from high school into seminary college and monastic life. Others spent time in the secular workforce. Br. Anthony worked for 15 years as a computer operator, and Br. Mauritius served a year in the Swiss Army and two years as a member of the esteemed Swiss Guard at the Vatican.

Br. Romain’s road to Saint Meinrad was more difficult. When he was 2, his mother died. When he was 8, his father passed away. Unable to afford schooling, he dropped out and, despite his young age, became a small-scale vegetable farmer in Togo. He struggled to raise money to pay for an apprenticeship in auto mechanics, which led him to the monks of the Monastery of Incarnation.

Continued on page 7