

ON THE HILL

FALL 2021 • VOL. 60:4

Campaign to fund two new initiatives

**Solar power will
generate savings**

**Back to class
during COVID Year 2**

Cover: Artist-in-residence Marek Czarnecki paints in final details before adding gold leaf to an icon of Mary and Jesus in the Newman Dining Room on September 10.



Saint Meinrad



ON THE HILL

FALL 2021 • VOL. 60:4

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The sun sets behind the Archabbey Church on a summer evening in July. Find more photos at <http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com>

Monks' Personals

Fr. Adrian Burke presented a parish retreat in May titled “Christ in the Chaos” and, in June, gave talks on the meaning of Eucharist in the adult formation program at the Cathedral of the Assumption in Louisville, KY.

Fr. Christian Raab and the late Fr. Cyprian Davis published an article, “Monasticism and Priesthood in the Egyptian Desert,” in the June issue of *American Benedictine Review*.

Archabbot Kurt Stasiak and **Fr. Justin DuVall** attended the triennial General Chapter Meeting at Benet Lake Abbey in Benet Lake, WI, in late July.

Fr. Harry Hagan presented an art exhibit in the Archabbey Library called “Happy to be a Priest: Portraits of Mostly Alumni Celebrating the Joy of Being a Priest” in September 2021.

Novice Matthew Morris was appointed assistant to the Masters of Ceremonies in September.

Br. Stanley Rother Wagner assisted the Farmington Historic Plantation in Louisville, KY, with digitizing some of its administrative records.

Fr. Harry Hagan recently published two monographs with PALNI Publications: *Elements of Biblical Narrative: A Brief Introduction and Analysis of the Red Sea Story* and *Mighty in Battle: A Literary Study of Battle Narrative in the Ancient Near East and in the Bible*.

Br. Michael Reyes received honorable mention in two categories of The American Prize, a national competition in the performing arts. He received the honor in the vocal chamber music and instrumental chamber music categories

(student divisions) for his compositions, “Montage,” “Vigil for the Naked Skydiver” and “Bells of Saint Meinrad.”

Fr. Simon Herrmann wrote an article about Saint Meinrad’s prison ministry for the Catholic news site Aleteia in August, and the Catholic Faith Network, located in New York, interviewed him via Skype about prison ministry in October on its live TV show.

Fr. Thomas Gricoski has been appointed novice-junior master for the monastery. He will continue to teach in the Seminary and School of Theology.

Fr. Mateo Zamora has been named director of pastoral formation in the Seminary and School of Theology, as well as a seminary formation dean. He will continue his teaching duties. ✝

Monastery News

Fr. Mateo Zamora professes solemn vows

Fr. Mateo Zamora, OSB, professed solemn vows as a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in a ceremony on August 15, 2021, in the Archabbey Church.

Fr. Mateo, 44, is a native of Angeles City, Pampanga, Philippines. He earned a bachelor's degree in communication from the Ateneo de Manila University in 1998. For two years, he was a college instructor at the University of Assumption before deciding to study for the priesthood.

He earned a Master of Arts in Catholic thought and life in 2004 and a Master of Divinity in 2007, both from Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

He was ordained a priest on May 19, 2007, for the Diocese of Lexington, KY. Fr. Mateo served at Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary Church, Holy Spirit Parish and University of Kentucky

Newman Center, all in Lexington; St. Andrew Church, Harrodsburg, KY; St. Mary Church, Perryville, KY; Jesus Our Savior Church, Morehead, KY; St. Julie Church, Owingsville, KY; and Morehead State University Newman Center.

He also was a guest columnist for the *Harrodsburg Herald* from 2012 to 2015 and chaplain of the Morehead State University football team during the 2016-17 season.

At the diocesan level, he served on the school board (later renamed school council) from 2007-2012 and the presbyteral council from 2010-2015. He worked in the Lexington Tribunal, first as a case instructor and later as a defender of the bond.

Since his simple profession in 2018, he has been teaching homiletics at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of

Theology. He is a member of the Catholic Association of Teachers of Homiletics and the Academy of Homiletics. He is currently taking online classes toward a Doctor of Ministry degree in preaching from the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, MO.

He also serves as one of the spiritual directors for seminarians. In the monastery, he has been serving as the custodian of Mass intentions and assistant in the Oblate Office. He is a member of the CareNotes Advisory Board.

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. ✝



▲ Images from the solemn profession of Fr. Mateo Zamora, OSB, on August 15, 2021, in the Archabbey Church.

Monastery News

Five Saint Meinrad monks observe jubilees

Five Benedictine monks at Saint Meinrad Archabbey are observing 60th anniversaries during 2021. Fr. John McMullen, Br. Dominic Warnecke, Fr. Warren Heitz and Br. Mario Ibison reached their 60th anniversaries of monastic profession. Fr. Meinrad Brune marks his 60th anniversary of priesthood ordination.



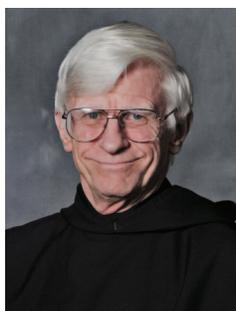
Fr. John McMullen

Fr. John is a native of Vincennes, IN. He became a monk of Blue Cloud Abbey, Marvin, SD, on August 1, 1960, and made his first profession of vows on August 15, 1961.

He studied at Saint Meinrad's high school and college from 1955-60, completing college at Blue Cloud Abbey. He studied theology at St. Bede Abbey, Peru, IL, and was ordained a priest on May 29, 1966. He did graduate studies at The Catholic University of America from 1967-69. He holds a master's degree in library science.

As a monk of Blue Cloud, he served in various assignments, including 40 years as the abbey librarian. He also served in area parishes and as the abbey treasurer. When Blue Cloud Abbey closed, Fr. John transferred to Saint Meinrad Archabbey in 2013.

Until this June, Fr. John had served as prior (second in leadership) in the monastery since 2016. He currently serves as an adjunct priest at St. Meinrad Parish in St. Meinrad and St. Boniface Parish in Fulda, IN, and as a commuting chaplain for Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN.



Br. Dominic Warnecke

Br. Dominic was born in Delphos, OH, and joined the monastery after high school. He made his profession of vows on May 11, 1961.

Br. Dominic currently works as assistant to the house custos, infirmary assistant and at Abbey Caskets. Previously he served in the bakery, as head waiter and head cook in the Guest House, on the Archabbey farm, and assisting with the grounds, vineyard and wine cellar.

From 1981-85, he worked at Saint Meinrad's priory in Huaraz, Peru. He also served in Guatemala from 1996-2003. Other assignments have included manager of the grounds, dining room refectorian and mail delivery.



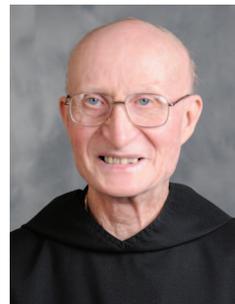
Fr. Warren Heitz

Fr. Warren is a native of Huntingburg, IN, coming to Saint Meinrad as a high school student in 1954. He completed high school, college and theology studies at Saint Meinrad. He

joined the monastery in 1960 and made his first profession of vows on August 15, 1961. He was ordained a priest on May 1, 1966.

He also studied at the University of Notre Dame, earning a master's in institutional administration in 1972. Fr. Warren served in a variety of assignments, including assistant business manager, purchasing agent, director of corporate services, director of alumni relations, and parish assistance.

He currently serves as the editor of the *Ordo* for the Swiss-American Benedictine Congregation.



Br. Mario Ibison

Br. Mario is a native of Evanston, IL. He made his profession of vows on November 12, 1961.

Since then, Br. Mario has served in several different positions, including as plumber, assistant librarian and shoe repairman. He currently works in Saint Meinrad's Physical Facilities Department.



Fr. Meinrad Brune

Fr. Meinrad grew up in Indianapolis, IN. He made his profession of vows on August 15, 1956, and was ordained a priest on May 7, 1961. He has a Master of Arts degree from

Butler University, a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from The Catholic University of America, and a Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Following ordination, Fr. Meinrad taught at Saint Meinrad High School and College for 16 years. For the next seven years, he served as pastor at St. Meinrad Parish, St. Meinrad, IN, and St. Mary Parish, Huntingburg, IN.

He also worked in the Alumni Office and then served as director of the Benedictine Oblate community from 1995-2017. He is the archivist for the Saint Meinrad Archives and for the Swiss-American Benedictine Congregation. ✚

[Meet the Student]

Deacon Rory Traynor

Diocese: Manchester, NH
Hometown: Chester, NH

Q. *What attracted you to the priesthood?*

My foremost attraction to the priesthood was my pastor growing up. He was (and still is) a great example of prayer, hard work and joy. I like to tell people that what I saw in my pastor I first saw in my father. In this way, I think I was able to make the connection between the priesthood and fatherhood.

Q. *Who or what influenced you to begin study for the priesthood?*

Again, I would say my pastor primarily. But, at the outset, I was very unsure about whether or not I should enter at all. It was my brother, Al, who gave me the push I needed to start to seriously discern the call to priesthood. I entered with the sense that I had an itch that needed to be scratched. I thought that once I had scratched it, it would go away and, thankfully, it never did.

Q. *What were you doing before you came to the seminary?*

Before seminary, I was working two jobs. I worked for my father in his accounting firm as the office manager. I also handled accounts payable and receivable. I also worked for my brother at the same time; he runs a repairs and maintenance company. We did cement work, drywall, painting, general repairs, remodeling, etc. My father's and brother's busy seasons offset each other, so I was able to do both.

Q. *Favorite saint and why?*

St. Peter. He is my Confirmation saint and when I picked him, I really did not know why. It was a total gift from the Holy

Spirit. Ever since my Confirmation, he has been a real friend to me. I find that I identify a lot with who he is and how he related to Christ in the Scriptures.

Q. *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

Matthew 6:33-34: "But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." It is that constant reminder that God is who He said He is, and He is in control, not me.

Q. *Hobbies?*

I like hiking and drawing. And as of right now, I am trying to pick up playing music, but we are a long way off from any public displays of this hobby.

Q. *What aspect of seminary life has been most rewarding?*

I would say the community. There is really something beautiful about the way a person comes to know themselves through others. I can honestly say that some of my best friendships are with my brother seminarians.

Q. *What aspect of seminary life has been most challenging?*

I would say the most challenging is trusting that God is working in all of what we do. There is a lot that happens in seminary that, at the time, we may think is unimportant and only later will we



discover how important it truly is. We need to swallow our pride and listen in humility to what our formators are telling us, and all the while trust that God is in control.

Q. *Best advice you've heard in seminary?*

Something my rector, Fr. Denis, said. He told us once that God's will is not a mystery. His point was that we often say, "God's will is a mystery" and then never act. But the truth of the matter is, more often than not, we know exactly what God is asking of us; we just need to do it.

Q. *Other comments?*

I think that we are in a time in the world now where we need people to strive to be saints, whatever their vocation. I know that no matter where we are in our lives, this is what God is calling us to. As followers of Jesus Christ, we need to be awakened to this reality, and I am thankful to my formation at Our Lady of Providence Seminary and at Saint Meinrad for confirming this sense and giving me the tools I need to go and preach this universal call to holiness. ✚

School year begins normally in COVID Year 2



▲ Deacon Rory Traynor prays at the beginning of evening prayer in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel on August 30.

With a high vaccination rate among both seminarians and faculty, classes began fairly routinely during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saint Meinrad's seminary program began the fall semester with 100 students, a drop of 13 from the previous year. The decline is not unexpected, said President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB. "Our vocation directors, our dioceses and religious communities, did not have the opportunity last year to really recruit in the way that they would have."

COVID-19 curtailed face-to-face meetings, special events and other activities that prospective seminarians would have participated in last year.

Fewer seminarians in the diocese means fewer students are beginning seminary studies. It particularly shows up in the first-year philosophy class, which this year has only four students.

"Another factor that has played into that has been the inability of our international students to get into this country and to receive the proper documentation and paperwork to study in the United States," according to Fr. Denis. "And so, our international numbers, which usually hover around 35% of the population of the seminary, are down to 30% this year."

Those 30 students come from 12 nations, with the highest number (seven) coming from Vietnam.

This year, students will find some new features in the seminary program. The supervised ministry program has been revised, a new student evaluation process will be used, and the student retreat program has been expanded.

Students in each year of seminary will have a unique and directed retreat experience intended to strengthen their spirituality and form an authentic vision of the Church as both Catholic and universal, according to Fr. Denis.

This year, students in the third-year theology class will experience a 10-day retreat in Jerusalem. Their Holy Land visit is intended to provide them with an opportunity to further understand their biblical studies and see the places that give life to the stories.

Next year, a trip to Guatemala will be added to the second-year theology class program that takes place in San Antonio, TX. After a two-week immersive experience at the Mexican American Catholic College, seminarians will travel to Guatemala for a retreat to learn about that culture and about Blessed Stanley Rother, who ministered there as a priest until his martyrdom in 1981.

Retreats for the other classes include: philosophy classes, preached retreat by Fr. Denis in the West Virginia mountains; first-year theology, Toward Jerusalem silent retreat at the motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters in Nashville, TN; and fourth-year theology, retreat in Rome and Einsiedeln Abbey.

"The decline is not unexpected. Our vocation directors, our dioceses and religious communities, did not have the opportunity last year to really recruit in the way that they would have."

—Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB

Retreats take place after the January Interterm and before the spring semester begins.

Graduate Theology: Strong Enrollment

Since the pandemic began in March 2020, classes for Graduate Theology students have been held online. This fall, in-person classes have returned, with some precautions, but Graduate Theology Program Director Sr. Jeana Visel, OSB, is pleased to have students back on the Hill.

“People were just really happy to be back on campus,” she said, following the first weekend of classes. This fall, enrollment is at 85 students, with a breakdown of five fulltime, 71 part-time, eight non-degree and one auditing. “Our usual goal is about 80 students, so to be at 85 is very healthy for us.”

Sr. Jeana expects enrollment will remain at a healthy level, as the Diocese of Nashville, TN, which is using Saint Meinrad’s Permanent Deacon Formation Program, has indicated that it wants the deacon candidates to pursue the Master of Arts degree in theology as well.

This semester is the first time in about 10 years that an on-campus residential option is available for Graduate Theology students. One student already has moved in and started classes fulltime.

For those who want something other than a for-credit academic course, the Continuing Formation Office has scheduled monthly workshops at Saint Meinrad. Topics have included campus ministry, end-of-life issues, faith in family life, and others. You can find the schedule here: www.saintmeinrad.edu/continuing-formation/pastoral-formation-workshop/.

New Director for Permanent Deacon Program

Early this summer, Deacon Rick Wagner resigned as director of the Permanent Deacon Formation Program to become the president of Guerin Catholic High School in Noblesville, IN.

The program’s new director is Deacon Ron Pirau, who has been serving at Saints

Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood, IN, since June 2012, when he was ordained. He also ministers to inmates at Johnson County Jail in Franklin, IN, and to the sick and homebound.



Deacon Ron Pirau

Pirau also serves as coordinator of the communion service for the jail, a ministry of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. At Saints Francis and Clare, he is coordinator of the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and he provides catechesis for RCIA, youth ministry, and adult faith formation. He also serves on the Deacon Personnel Board for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

A graduate of Purdue University with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering, Pirau earned a certificate in theology from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He has worked primarily in information technology and telecommunications operations and sales throughout most of his career. Most recently, he was employed by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as the chief information officer. He is a member of the Indiana Executive Council on Cybersecurity.

He and his wife, Linda, have three adult children.

This fall, 11 dioceses are hosting the deacon formation program in their dioceses, for a total of 200 deacon candidates and four wives. ✚

Saint Meinrad
Archabbey
Gift Shop & Scholar Shop

www.smagiftshop.com

EVENTS ON THE HILL

October 25

Iconography Lecture by Marek Czarniecki, 6:30 p.m., St. Bede Theater

October 26-28

Guest House Retreat: “Gratitude” by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB

October 30

Abbot Martin Marty Guild and Einsiedeln Society Day of Recollection

November 12-14

Guest House Retreat: “Lectio Divina: Praying with the Bible” by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB

November 19-21

Guest House Retreat: “Popular Stories from the Gospel of John” by Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB

December 17-19

Guest House Retreat: “Christmas for Adults” by Fr. Colman Grabert, OSB

January 24-28

Guest House Retreat: “Winter Chant Workshop” by Br. John Glasenapp, OSB

February 9

Guest House Workshop: “Toward Integration: Reflections on Overcoming Prejudice” by Dr. Daniela Abraham

February 10

Fr. Cyprian Davis Lecture, 7 p.m., speaker to be announced

February 11-13

Guest House Retreat: “Beyond the Fantastic” by Fr. Noel Mueller, OSB

February 23

Guest House Workshop: “Get It Together! How Bullet Journaling Can Organize Your Life and Spiritual Practices” by Tammy Becht

March 22-23

Science for Seminaries lecture and presentations

For more information, call (812) 357-6611 or visit our website www.saintmeinrad.org

Members join Saint Meinrad Board of Overseers

The Board of Overseers has added seven new members and three returning members to the advisory board for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. In addition, a former board member has been named an emeritus member.

The board advises President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, on matters related to the school's programs and performance and addresses strategic questions regarding the future of the school. Each member serves a three-year term.

New to the board are Clayton Nunes of Bloomington, IN; Steve Church of Evansville, IN; Pamela Bennett Martin of New Salisbury, IN; Carmen Rendon of Taylorsville, KY; Deacon William Reid Jr. of Carmel, IN; Fr. J. Keith Stewart of Memphis, TN; and Fr. Michael Maples of Knoxville, TN.

New Board Members

Clayton Nunes is the global director of information technology at Cook Medical Holdings in Bloomington and an adjunct instructor at Indiana University.

He graduated from the University of Mumbai in 1990 with a degree in computer science engineering. In 2003, he graduated from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University with a Master's in Business Administration in finance.

Nunes and his wife, Sunita, have two adult sons and are members of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

Steve Church is vice president of corporate development and strategy at Koch Enterprises in Evansville, IN. Previous positions have included president and CEO of Gibbs Die Casting Corp. and George Koch Sons LLC.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Evansville in 1992, and an MBA and a law degree from Indiana University.

Church currently serves as a board member for Reitz Memorial High School, Koch Enterprises, KochAir LLC, and Red Spot Paint & Varnish Company.

He previously served on the board at Deaconess Health Systems, North American Die Casting Association, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation – Indiana Chapter, Evansville Chamber of

Commerce, Christ the King Parish Council, Audubon Metals, Brake Supply Company, George Koch Sons LLC, Gibbs Die Casting Corporation, Uniseal, and Southwestern Communications.

He and his wife, Stacey, are the parents of four children and belong to Annunciation Parish.

Pamela Bennett Martin is president of Bennett & Bennett Insurance Inc. in Corydon, IN, and is active in civic and community endeavors, especially in Harrison County. She earned a bachelor's degree from Hanover College in 1980.

She is a member of the board of directors of First Savings Bank and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She has been involved with United Way in various capacities and has been a member of Community Foundation of Southern Indiana and many other associations.

She established The Reality Store in 1998 through the Business and Professional Women and established Renaissance Harrison County. She was the Harrison County representative of the Regional Leadership Coalition and a board member of Align Southern Indiana.

She chaired the Corydon Bicentennial Celebration in 2008 and co-chaired the Harrison County Bicentennial Celebration in 2016. Bennett Martin was the recipient of the Sam Walton Business Leader Award in 1996.

She and her husband, David, have two sons and are members of St. Michael's Parish in Bradford, IN.

Carmen Rendon serves at All Saints Parish in Taylorsville in several liturgical ministries and is the parish's part-time secretary. Her ministries include RCIA coordinator, sacristan, lector, and

extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, and she trains others interested in those ministries. She also serves as worship chairperson for a sister parish, St. Michael the Archangel in Fairfield, KY.

In the past, she worked with the Red Cross as an interpreter (Spanish), on the Louisville Human Trafficking Taskforce and as Federal Highway Administration liaison for the Ohio River Bridges Project, among others. She is retired from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Federal Contract Compliance, where she served as assistant district director for the Louisville location.

She earned an applied science degree from Elizabethtown Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Louisville. She also earned associate, advanced and master catechist certificates and completed training as an auditor for the metropolitan tribunal of the Archdiocese of Louisville.

She and her husband, Pete, are the parents of two adult children.

Deacon William Reid Jr. is retired from a management role at Eli Lilly & Co. He has served as a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana since his ordination in 2008.

He earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from Purdue University in 1970. He and his wife, Mary, are the parents of four children. They are members of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, where he serves as a deacon.

Fr. J. Keith Stewart is the vicar general of the Diocese of Memphis, TN. A Memphis native, he was a Southern Baptist who converted to Catholicism while attending the University of Memphis.

An alumnus of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, he was ordained on June 12, 1993. He has served as master of ceremonies at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, director of vocations, and pastor at the Nativity Catholic Church and St. Brigid Catholic Church. In addition, he has been dean of the Central Deanery in the diocese.

Currently, he is pastor of St. Louis Catholic Church.

Fr. Michael Maples is a priest of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, where he serves as parochial vicar for St. John Neumann Parish in Knoxville. He also is a licensed psychologist for Catholic Charities of East Tennessee.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1993 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1995 from the University of Tennessee. He earned his PhD from the University of Iowa in 2000 and his Master of Divinity in 2005 from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is a member of the American Psychological Association.

Returning Board Members

Returning to the board are Mike Schwenk of Jasper, IN; Deacon Frank Olmsted of

St. Charles, MO; and Dr. Linda Budney of Bethesda, MD.

Schwenk retired this spring as vice president at Jasper Engine Exchange. He previously served on the Catholic Foundation of SW Indiana and on the Advisory Board of Vincennes University Foundation. He is currently assisting the Sisters of St. Benedict on their Advisory Board and Finance Committee.

He and his wife, Pam, have three children and are members of Holy Family Parish in Jasper. He also serves on the board of the Holy Trinity School Foundation.

Budney begins her 13th year on the Board of Overseers. She has a doctorate in canon law from The Catholic University of America and serves as an advocate on the Washington, DC, Archdiocesan Tribunal.

She and husband, David LaRoche, live in Bethesda, MD, and are parishioners at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac, MD.

Olmsted begins his 19th year on the Board. A resident of St. Charles, MO, he serves as a deacon at St. Cletus Parish. He retired from De Smet Jesuit High School in St. Louis, where he was a theology

teacher, assistant service project director and pastoral director.

He and his wife, Mary, serve on the Diaconate Interview and Evaluation Board for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. In 2019, they were recipients of the Saint Meinrad Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Emeritus Board Member

Jim Muehlbauer of Evansville, IN, has been named an emeritus member of the Board of Overseers. He has served on the board since 2014.

He is currently vice chair at Koch Enterprises Inc. He is on the board of directors of Koch Enterprises, Koch Foundation and Anchor Industries.

He also is a member of the Tocqueville Committee of the United Way, a mentor for Catholic Charities, a member of the USI Romain School of Business Board of Advisors and a director emeritus of Deaconess Hospital. He is a member of the Evansville Country Club.

He and his wife, Mary Kay, have five children and are members of Annunciation Parish in Evansville. ✝

Saint Meinrad Board of Overseers



Clayton Nunes



Steve Church



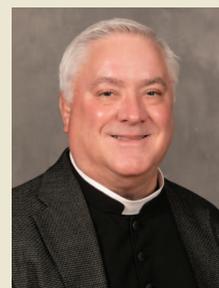
Pamela Bennett Martin



Carmen Rendon



Deacon William Reid Jr.



Fr. J. Keith Stewart



Fr. Michael Maples



Michael Schwenk



Dr. Linda Budney



Deacon Frank Olmsted



Jim Muehlbauer

Forward TOGETHER



For the Life of the Church

Saint Meinrad Archabbey has announced a \$10 million campaign to renovate two buildings and establish two new programs.

The “Forward Together: For the Life of the Church” campaign was publicly announced at a special event on August 22 at Saint Meinrad.

Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, president-rector of the Seminary and School of Theology, reported that the campaign has already received gifts and pledges totaling just over \$9 million. He praised the Campaign Cabinet and its leadership for their work in launching the quiet phase of the campaign, which began just before the COVID-19 outbreak. The pandemic made in-person meetings and visits impossible, just as the campaign got underway.

The campaign co-chairs are Mike and Pam Schwenk of Jasper, IN, and Tom and Linda Weintraut of Zionsville, IN. Honorary co-chairs are Carl and Mary Kay Wolford of New Albany, IN, and Beeb and Bonnie Graham of Washington, IN.

New Programs

The campaign will help fund renovations to the Archabbey Library and St. Anselm Hall, as well as two new initiatives. The first is the Center for Youth and Young Adult Evangelization. The Center’s mission will be to engage young men and women of the Catholic Church in opportunities to grow in discipleship at every level.

Secondly, relying on its tradition of excellence in chant and other sacred music, Saint Meinrad will expand its current offerings to establish an Institute for Sacred Music.

Center for Youth and Young Adult Evangelization

The Center for Youth and Young Adult Evangelization will focus on excellence in youth and young adult formation.

Throughout its history, Saint Meinrad has centered much of its work on building up the Church, first through its foundational priesthood formation and later through the development of programs for lay ministers and permanent deacons.

Since the early 1990s, Saint Meinrad also has focused on high school youth through its “One Bread, One Cup” program for liturgical leadership. During the past 26 years, more than 7,000 high school youth and their adult leaders have benefited from the program.

Then in 2017, Saint Meinrad implemented its Young Adult Initiative, funded by The Lilly Endowment, that works directly with parishes and researches the needs of young adults in the Catholic Church.

The Center’s new plans include:

- A youth ministry degree program with a residential component, as well as online classes.
- A program called At the Table that will bring young people (ages 21-40) from parishes across the United States to Saint Meinrad to dialogue with bishops and priests about issues young adults face in today’s Church.
- A certificate program of ongoing formation through the Saint Meinrad

Parish Internship Program for those in youth and young adult ministries. The program also will assist dioceses in supporting and helping to maintain youth and young adult ministers.

- The Domestic Church Center, which will provide resources to parishes and dioceses to strengthen the religious and spiritual practices of families within the home, particularly among young people.
- The Saint Meinrad Hispanic Youth Program, which will offer opportunities for Spanish-speaking youth and youth ministers to develop resources for continuing faith development.

The Center for Youth and Young Adult Evangelization will be housed in St. Anselm Hall.

Institute for Sacred Music

The Institute for Sacred Music will encompass many aspects of sacred music – research, theory, performance and composition. Building on the reputation of Fr. Columba Kelly, OSB, and his expertise and prolific compositions in English chant, as well as the workshops currently offered in this area, the Institute’s programs will appeal to a range of audiences.

Plans for the Institute include:

- Offering courses and workshops on the history, theory and theology of sacred music.

- Facilitating research among scholars of chant.
- Expanding the accessibility of chant by publishing a newsletter or blog, disseminating work through social and other media, and creating an open-access platform.
- Developing relationships with area youth choir directors, parishes, and youth and young adult groups to promote appreciation of liturgical music among younger audiences.
- Offering opportunities for study tours of sacred music in the United States and abroad.
- Developing resources for use by campus ministries and other groups to gather in parishes and homes for Vespers and Compline prayer services.
- Promoting chant and other sacred music through live performances and recordings to improve access to these experiences.

The Institute for Sacred Music will be located in the Archabbey Library.

Building Renovations

The renovations are expected to begin next May. For the Archabbey Library, the work will include expanding the space for the archives and the Rare Book Room.

Other work includes updating electrical systems and elevator controls; upgrading the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system; and installing energy-efficient lighting. Work will be done to the roof to address leaks, and the exterior will be repainted.

The campaign will fund these improvements to St. Anselm Hall: a new water main, upgraded HVAC system, new electrical panels, energy-efficient lighting, upgraded elevator controls and an improved fire suppression system.

To learn more about the campaign and to make a gift, visit www.saintmeinrad.edu/campaign. ✚



▲ The “Forward Together: For the Life of the Church” campaign kickoff event was held at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on August 22, 2021. The evening included Vespers with the monastic community, followed by a reception, dinner and a program in St. Bede Hall.



Photos from top, left to right: The chant schola practices in the Chapter Room on August 13.

Seminarians, from left, Nonso Ohanaka, Matthew Perronie, Danny Herman and Ben Horn cross the finish line together during the On the Hill 5K on September 11. They dressed in costumes as part of a Knights of Columbus fundraiser.

Michael Eagan, an architect with Entheos Architects of Indianapolis, IN, talks about renovating St. Benedict's Cathedral in Evansville, IN, during the Dolle Lecture on September 16. Eagan presented along with Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB, the rector of the cathedral.

"One Bread, One Cup" interns Grace Weatherhead and Amy Gasper embrace after the internship closing Mass on July 16.

A bronze statue of St. Meinrad was installed in the circle between the Guest House and the Archabbey Church at the end of July. The statue was sculpted by Alexander Tylevich.

Solar field + LED lights = 30% energy savings



Finding ways to tread more gently on the earth has become an important priority in a time when climate change has disrupted the planet's ecosystem.

At Saint Meinrad Archabbey, initiatives to reduce power consumption and preserve the environment have been underway for some time. While some of the projects, such as institution-wide recycling, have been easy to implement, others have been complex and required significant investment, according to Physical Facilities Director Mark Hoffman.

In 2015, for example, a geothermal field was installed to provide heating and cooling for the monastery, resulting in about \$27,000 annual savings in utility costs. Using the constant temperature of the earth, the system is designed so that underground pipes circulate water that can be heated or cooled, depending on the need.

This year, the monastic community decided to move forward with plans to construct a solar field that will use the sun's power to create electricity, reduce Saint Meinrad's dependence on fossil fuels, and reduce its carbon footprint. "The solar field will produce about 30 percent of our electricity," he says. "The field has been sized accordingly to be the best stewards of our resources. At this point, we are not installing facilities to store the generated electricity, but that is something to be revisited as costs decrease over time with advancements in technology."

Saint Meinrad had been interested in solar power for several years. The cost was too great, and it didn't make financial sense to move forward at the time, according to Hoffman. In late 2019, Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB, was talking with a benefactor, Gib Verkamp, who mentioned that his nephew, Kevin VerKamp, was a consultant in the solar energy field. A meeting with Kevin jumpstarted the project and led to finding a contractor, Johnson Melloh Solutions of Indianapolis, IN.

Although Saint Meinrad was interested in a solar project, Johnson Melloh took a comprehensive look at the Archabbey's energy usage and what opportunities were available to reduce it.

In addition to installing the solar field, the company recommended several other programs to reduce utilities. One was to switch all lighting throughout the buildings and on campus to LED. When the project is complete, all the incandescent, halogen, fluorescent and metal halide bulbs will be replaced with LED lights that will last longer, use less energy and be more eco-friendly.

Hoffman says the energy savings on the two projects, along with other initiatives being completed in-house, is expected to be more than \$250,000 annually. Once the project is complete, additional incentives

Going Green... for a while

Saint Meinrad has had a longstanding commitment to stewarding its resources. Among the projects that help the environment are these:

Geothermal Fields: Installed at the monastery and at Monte Cassino Shrine, geothermal systems are located underground to use the earth's temperature to reduce the cost of heating and cooling.

Building Energy Management Systems: Similar to a home's "smart" thermostat, the system improves energy efficiency. Sensors tell the system to adjust fan speeds, turn lights off when a room is empty, and control cold and hot water as needed.

Hybrid/Fuel Efficient Vehicles: The Archabbey's fleet consists of one gas-electric hybrid model and many fuel-efficient models. Seven cars that get improved gas mileage were purchased this year. Electric vehicles are being considered.

Plate Frame Cooling: Another way to save cooling costs, when temperatures allow, a plate frame in the chiller allows the system to operate at lower utility usage instead of running the chiller.

Forestry: For many years, Saint Meinrad has planted and maintained forest land. Currently, about 1,000 acres in Spencer County and about 900 acres in Perry County are forest or planted in trees. An acre of new forest can absorb about 2.5 tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Recycling: Saint Meinrad separates non-trash waste for recycling, including paper, glass, newspapers, aluminum cans and metal. ✚

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ALUMNI ETERNAL

Mr. Paris Baldacci, O'69 ('61-62), of New York, NY, died on September 6, 2020.

Mr. Ronald Bartnicki, O'67 ('61-67), of Griffith, IN, died on May 23, 2021.

Mr. Robert Bina, O'66 ('56-58), of Elburn, IL, died on December 17, 2020.

Mr. John Boehnlein, O'63 ('55-56), of Medina, OH, died on May 5, 2021.

Fr. Bernard "Leo" Craycroft, O'57 ('53-57), a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, died on June 30, 2021.

Fr. Ralph Esposito, O'67 ('55-63), a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock, AR, died on May 14, 2021.

Fr. Robert Gray, O'57 ('53-57), a priest of Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, died on July 5, 2021.

Fr. James Henseler, O'63 ('57-63), of Peoria, IL, died on July 9, 2021. He was a priest of the Diocese of Peoria.

Deacon Thomas Kirsch, PDP'13 ('10-13), of Evansville, IN, died on July 17, 2021.

Fr. Joseph Mader, O'67 ('54-60), a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, died on August 23, 2021.

Mr. Joseph F. Meighan, O'68 ('60-62), of Dunmore, PA, died on July 30, 2021.

Judge Maurice "Reece" O'Connor, O'63 ('51-54), of Evansville, IN, died on April 15, 2021.

Mr. James O'Neill, O'55 ('49-55), of Indianapolis, IN, died on June 20, 2021.

Sr. Susan Pohl, OSB, SS'87 ('78-87), a member of St. Martin Monastery, Rapid City, SD, died on August 17, 2021.

Fr. Robert Reilly, O'58 ('54-58), a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, died on April 14, 2021.

Mr. Kevin Ricker, O'63 ('51-57), of Sylvania, OH, died on July 31, 2021.

Fr. Bernard Schaefer, OSB, O'56 ('45-50), a Benedictine monk of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, died on July 19, 2021.

Mr. Bradley Swanson, O'64 ('54-58), of Geneva, IL, died on October 27, 2019.

Dr. Stephen Uhl, O'56 ('44-50), of Oro Valley, AZ, died on February 10, 2021.

Mr. James Voges, O'65 ('53-56), of Tell City, IN, died on June 16, 2021.

Mr. George Walter Jr., O'67 ('55-59), of Eau Claire, WI, died on July 16, 2021.

Mr. Eugene Ward, O'60 ('57-61), of Louisville, KY, died on August 26, 2021.

Fr. Daniel Zak, O'67 ('59-63), a priest of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, died on July 10, 2021. He was a former member of the Saint Meinrad Alumni Board of Directors.

A key to the initials behind the names of alumni:

C: College

GTP: Graduate Theology Programs

HS: High School

MAT: Master of Arts (Theology)

MAPT: Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology)

MTS: Master in Theological Studies

O: Ordination

PD: Permanent Deacon Formation Program

S: Sabbaticant

SPH: St. Placid Hall

SS: Summer Session

T: Theology ✚

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are available and will be applied to further reduce the cost.

Saint Meinrad has considered a solar installation over the past seven or eight years, Hoffman says, but the installation costs were high enough that the payback period made the project hard to justify. "The cost of the panels has decreased 60% over that time," he says. Now the solar project is expected to pay for itself within 12 years.

The 3,000-panel field is located on about four acres along Indiana 545. The decision to locate the field in a highly visible part of campus was made because it offered the three elements needed: access to open sky, flat terrain and close proximity to utility connections, Hoffman says. A low-growing pollinator habitat will be planted beneath the panels that will benefit the ecosystem. This, in turn, will benefit the local agricultural community as pollinators play a vital role in producing healthy crops.

The cost of both the solar field and the new lighting is about \$3.8 million.

More green initiatives are expected in Saint Meinrad's future with the establishment of a Green Fund. The savings from current projects will be set aside to fund more initiatives. "This project is a great endeavor for Saint Meinrad, not only as a means of reducing our costs, but also to be a trailblazer for institutions such as ours," Hoffman says. ✚

Alumni Board members approved

Three alumni were approved to join the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors.

- **Dr. Carolyn Berghuis, MTS'20**, is an inspirational Catholic speaker, traditional naturopath, author and retreat leader. She lives in Carmel, IN.
- **Deacon Michael Catalano, MA'21**, serves as a full-time pastoral associate at St. Henry Catholic Church in Nashville, TN.

One current board member will serve a second term on the board:

- **Deacon Greg Clodi, C'86 ('82-86)**, is the pastoral associate of St. Joseph Parish, Bradley, IL. He lives in Kankakee, IL.

ALUMNI NEWS

Fr. John Adamski, O'71 ('66-69), celebrates his 50th jubilee of priesthood this year in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Fellow priests **Fr. John Howren, T'96 ('89-96)**, and **Fr. Daniel Fleming, T'96 ('93-96)**, are celebrating their 25th jubilees of priesthood.

Mr. Jared Bryson, C'97 ('94-96), of St. Louis, MO, recently was named the head of the Aquinas Institute of Theology's Alumni Steering Committee.

Mr. Peter Doane, GTP'14 ('10-14), and his wife, Leslie, of Carmel, IN, are hosting a new radio program on Catholic Radio Indy called "Go Rebuild My Church." It centers on the need for renewal in the Church and the ways and places that are leading the way.

Mr. Jerry Harp, C'83 ('80-83), of Portland, OR, has an essay, "Searching the Name: Metaphors of the Divine in Our Evolving Cosmos," in the forthcoming anthology *Religion, Space, and Deep Time*. He also is working on two books, on the history of *Romeo and Juliet* and on poetics and evolutionary theology.

Fr. Larry Heiney, O'75 ('71-75), retired at the end of June after serving nine years as pastor of Holy Angels Church in Mount Airy, NC. He served as a priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA, for 20 years before coming to the Diocese of Charlotte, NC, in 1995.

Deacon Paul Lim, C'99 ('95-98), has been named vice president for mission

integration at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital in Wheeling, WV.

Mr. Vincent Lopez, T'92 ('86-92), of Phoenix, AZ, has retired from the Maricopa County Department of Public Health after 25 years of public service.

Fr. Kolumban Reichlin, OSB, T'97 ('96-97), of the Abbey of Maria Einsiedeln in Switzerland, was appointed by Pope Francis on September 1 to be chaplain to the Pontifical Swiss Guard, for a five-year term.

Fr. Ron Wagner, O'78 ('70-74), a priest of the Diocese of Saginaw, MI, was honored for his decades-long commitment to social justice on March 21. He received the Rev. Dr. Hurley G. Coleman Sr. Award for Community Service, which was presented by the Ezekiel Project of Saginaw. ✚



Photos from top, clockwise, left to right, Marilyn Fox receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award on behalf of her late brother, Michael Ziemianski, from Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, during the reunion banquet on August 2.

David Bower, standing, catches up with Fr. Jeremy King, OSB, and other classmates in the Newman Dining Room on August 2.

Fr. Paul Hinson gathers with classmates in St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel for morning prayer on August 3. Hinson was celebrating his 50th anniversary.

Reunion attendees gather for a portrait on the Archabbey Church steps after the reunion Mass on August 3.

Alumni Reunion speaker presentations and other reunion recordings are available online at <https://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu/reunion/presentations/>.



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Alumnus appointed eighth bishop of the Diocese of Reno



*Bishop Daniel
Mueggenborg*

Pope Francis has named Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg T'89 ('84-85) as the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Reno, NV, after having accepted Bishop Randolph R. Calvo's request for retirement.

Until his installment on September 24, Bishop Mueggenborg served as auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Born and raised in rural western Oklahoma, Bishop Mueggenborg graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1984 with a geology degree and a related computer science degree.

He attended the pre-theology program at Saint Meinrad Seminary and the theology program at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Tulsa in 1989.

Bishop Mueggenborg earned a licentiate degree in Biblical theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1990. Before his appointment as bishop in 2017, he served as parochial vicar and pastor in several parishes and in a variety of ministerial roles, including high school chaplain and teacher, Newman Center chaplain, director of clergy and education, and vicar for religious.

He also served on the administrative staff of the Pontifical North American College and was adjunct professor at the Gregorian University. ✝

Save the Date!

October 20, 2021

Gary Alumni & Friends Dinner

November 10, 2021

Toledo Alumni & Friends Dinner

March 12, 2022

Day of Service

July 31-August 3, 2022

94th Annual Alumni Reunion