

ON THE HILL

FALL 2024 • VOL. 63:4



Saint Meinrad

ON THE HILL

FALL 2024 • Vol. 63:4

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Editor: Krista Hall

Send changes of address and comments to:

The Editor, The Development Office, Saint Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary & School of Theology,
200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad, IN 47577, 812-357-6501 • Fax 812-357-6759, news@saintmeinrad.edu
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*"One Bread, One Cup" youth participant Mason Battles of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Tallassee, AL, serves as the thurifer at Mass in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel on June 15, 2024. Francisco Saravia of Church of the Redeemer in Mechanicsville, VA, assists. Fr. Paul Nord, OSB, imposes incense in the thurible for the procession.
Find more photos at <http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com>*

Monks' Personals

Fr. Jeremy King gave a retreat for the monks of Saint Leo Abbey in Florida in March and a retreat for the oblates of Conception Abbey in Missouri in April.

Fr. Mateo Zamora and **Fr. Guerrie DeBona** attended the Homiletic Pedagogy Seminar at the University of Notre Dame on June 17-19. Fr. Guerrie presented a lecture on "The Use of Methods in Advanced Homiletics."

Fr. Anthony Vinson gave a talk to the Legatus groups from Evansville, IN, and Louisville, KY, at Saint Meinrad on July 10. His talk, titled "Living Out the Gospel," focused on two chapters from the *Rule of St. Benedict*, "On the Kinds of Monks" and "What are the Instruments of Good Works." Legatus is an organization of Catholic business leaders who live, learn, and study the faith.

Fr. Mark O'Keefe gave the opening retreat to begin the school year at Mundelein Seminary in Chicago, IL,

August 18-23. The topic was "Priestly Virtues."

Br. Jean Fish was appointed church guestmaster in September.

Fr. Simon Herrmann presided at Mass for several young adults and their families at Lieber State Recreation Area, Cloverdale, IN, on August 24 during their annual camping weekend. He also presided at a Mass for Vocations at Holy Family Parish in Jasper, IN, on September 3.

Br. Stanley Rother Wagner gave a talk titled "Make Justice Your Sacrifice: Integrating Liturgical Action and Social Action in Christ" to the BG Catholics Young Adult Group in Bowling Green, KY, on September 3.

Fr. Julian Peters led a retreat with priests of the Diocese of Grand Island, NE, at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Schuyler, NE, September 8-13. He also led a Cruise Retreat to Nassau, Bahamas, September

23-27, with 13 priests from around the country.

Fr. Adrian Burke preached at the annual retreat for the permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in September and preached at a retreat at St. Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, NC, in October.

Br. John Glasenapp delivered the Saint Mechtilde Sacred Music Series lecture at Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN, on October 13. His lecture was titled "Reforming Chant: A Story of Women's Liturgical Leadership in Changing Times."

Br. Martin Erspamer was awarded the commission for the stained glass windows for Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis, MO. ✚

Father Colman Grabert, OSB, professor and jubilarian dies

Father Colman Grabert, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, died on Sunday, August 4, 2024. He was 85 and in the 64th year of his monastic profession and the 59th year of his priesthood.

Born in Evansville, IN, on August 4, 1939, to Fred H. and Olivia Agnes (Thompson) Grabert, Father Colman was given the name Glynn at his baptism. He completed his elementary education at St. Benedict and Christ the King Schools in Evansville and entered Saint Meinrad High School Seminary in 1953. After graduation, he attended Saint Meinrad College and graduated in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy. He continued his formation for the priesthood at Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1962.

After his sophomore year in college, he entered the novitiate at Saint Meinrad. He professed simple vows on August 15,

1960, professed solemn vows on August 15, 1963, and was ordained to the priesthood on September 5, 1965.

After his ordination, Father Colman pursued graduate studies in systematic theology at Ateneo Pontificio di Sant'Anselmo in Rome and earned a licentiate in sacred theology in 1967. He then returned to Saint Meinrad and began a long career of teaching at Saint Meinrad School of Theology as an assistant professor, a position he held through 1994, serving several times as chair of the Systematics Division.

His years of teaching included research and lecturing in the theological and monastic fields. He contributed to the 1979-80 Asian Benedictine Conference, which extended his classroom for a while to Taiwan and Japan. Father Colman

would also teach in Puerto Rico and the Bahamas. He was a member, past-president, and board member of the American Benedictine Academy. In 1980, he was an invited peritus at The Asian Monastic Conference in Sri Lanka.

For many years, he served as one of the Archabbey's principal organists. He also served as secretary to the archabbot, house prefect, gardener, and in the mail service. Father Colman offered retreats and conferences to many monasteries and communities of men and women, as well as retreats at our own Guest House and Retreat Center.

The Office of the Dead was prayed on Sunday, August 11, in the Archabbey Church. The funeral liturgy was celebrated on Monday, August 12, with burial in the Archabbey Cemetery. ✚



Andrew Levering professes temporary vows



Br. Isaac Levering, OSB

Andrew Levering professed his temporary vows as a Benedictine monk in a ceremony on August 6, 2024, 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 chose a religious name. Novice Andrew is now Br. Isaac.

Br. Isaac, 25, is a native of Libertyville, IL, where he was a member of St. Joseph Parish and attended Vernon Hills High School in Vernon Hills, IL.

He earned a bachelor's degree in Christian theology from Hope College

in 2021. After graduating from college, Br. Isaac worked as a forklift driver.

Temporary vows are typically for three years. This period offers a continuing opportunity for the monk and the monastic community to determine whether monastic life is, indeed, the right vocation for this individual. ✚

Studying Scripture and Learning Liturgy: A Summer in Trier by Fr. Nathaniel Szidik, OSB

Some of you may know that I have been pursuing graduate studies in biblical studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. During these last two years, I have been discovering an interest in the relationship between the Bible and our Christian liturgy. So when I learned about an opportunity to take a course at the University of Trier in Germany on this very subject, I jumped at the possibility. The bulk of the course was taught by a German priest, Fr. Marco Benini, who I had already met in Washington, D.C. shortly after I moved to the area two years ago. His dynamic interest and enthusiasm about this subject encouraged me to make the flight to Trier for this one-month course. I was not disappointed.

During this course, I was fascinated to learn about the work that went into the formation of our current Lectionary. After one of our class periods focusing on the formation of the current Lectionary, I started to spend more time in the archives of the German Liturgical Institute in Trier. Reading some of the original letters in Latin from the 1960s of the group of biblicists and liturgists tasked with reforming the Lectionary showed me Scripture's significance in the liturgy. Countless arguments are behind this Lectionary that I so easily take for granted

every time I celebrate Mass. I am grateful for the fruit of their intense labor.

When I was not studying, I had the chance to explore Trier. I lived about a five-minute walk away from Trier's market square in the old part of the city. What a beautiful place! During the solemnity of Corpus Christi, we processed through the market square and the rest of the old city with the Blessed Sacrament. In addition to exploring Trier, I also visited the cathedral in Cologne. I was struck by the sheer size of the building itself. A building as big as the cathedral in Cologne certainly reminds me of God's transcendence. I was even able to concelebrate Sunday Mass in the cathedral.

Finally, I visited the Benedictine monastery of Maria Laach, where I celebrated Mass in its crypt. The crypt of Maria Laach has a lot of history regarding the liturgical movement in Germany. In fact, it was in that crypt in 1921 where the first dialogue Mass was celebrated in the vernacular in Germany. The presider faced the people, the assembly prayed the common parts of the Mass together, and members of the community brought up the gifts during the offertory procession. Worshipping in a chapel with such history is something I hope not to forget for a long time.

I am very thankful for the opportunity I had this summer to study and explore Trier and beyond. I look forward to seeing how this experience bears fruit in my continued studies. Please pray that God's work may be done as I continue my time in Washington, D.C. ✚



A group photo in front of the Cologne Cathedral with my other classmates in the course.

Novice joins Benedictine community



Novice Owen Meredith

formation, including study of the *Rule of St. Benedict* and monastic history.

In a brief ceremony at the monastery entrance, Owen Meredith was clothed in the Benedictine habit at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on August 5. The novice now begins a year of monastic

Novice Owen, 34, is from Forest City, IL. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Manito, IL.

He attended Blackburn College in Carlinville, IL, graduating in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in theater technology and minors in music and religious studies.

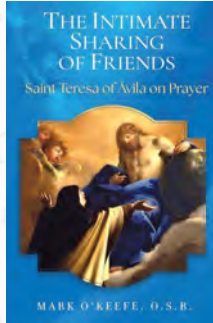
Before joining the monastery, Novice Owen served as a handyman for the Hermits of St. Mary of Carmel in Houston, MN. He has experience as a contractor, general laborer, and landscaper

and built a home for his parents in Manito. He also was a seminarian for the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, studying for the priesthood at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, MO.

As a novice, he will take a year off from formal studies and trades. The novitiate is a time of prayer and learning intended to help a novice discern his vocation as a monk. At the end of this year, a novice may be permitted to profess temporary vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life, and stability in the community of Saint Meinrad. ✝

Noteworthy:

Newsworthy items about Saint Meinrad people and events



Fr. Mark O'Keefe, OSB, published a book in July titled *The Intimate Sharing of Friends, Saint Teresa of Ávila on Prayer*.

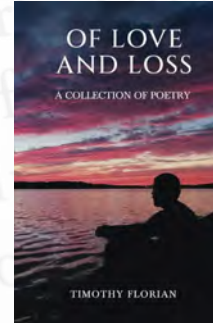
St. Teresa of Ávila is the doctor of prayer. This special title, given to her when she was declared the first female doctor of the Church, signifies that her teaching on prayer is to be universally cherished among the eminent doctrines of the Catholic Church. The cornerstone of Teresa's teaching is her profound discovery that prayer "is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends."

In *The Intimate Sharing of Friends*, Fr. Mark presents an overview of St. Teresa's teaching on prayer while

emphasizing its relational aspect. Fr. Mark guides us through Teresa's various analogies and explanations of the soul's personal transformation as it journeys from friendship with God to a more supernatural and deeply intimate union with him.

Supporting the book's central theme is a clear explanation of Teresa's teaching on the transition from active to more contemplative forms of prayer. In an excursus, the author offers a critical comparison between contemporary contemplative practices and St. Teresa's perennial teaching. As always, Fr. Mark draws on scholarly sources and provides an engaging resource for anyone who desires to become an authentic student of St. Teresa's school of prayer.

The book is available to purchase from the ICS Publications website: <https://www.icspublications.org/products/the-intimate-sharing-of-friends-saint-teresa-of-avila-on-prayer> and at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



Tim Florian, T'22 ('16-18), director of annual giving for the Saint Meinrad Development Office, published a book of poems "Of Love and Loss" in August

that explores the journey of grief from its desolate beginnings to the redemption that is possible on the other side. The book follows Tim's journey of grief which began in 2014 when his brothers, David and Greg, tragically and unexpectedly drowned in Florida's Blackwater River.

"Of Love and Loss" is available at Amazon.com, Saint Meinrad Books & Gifts, and The Next Chapter bookstore in Jasper, IN. ✝

Saint Meinrad welcomes students back on the Hill for the fall semester



As the trees begin changing, Saint Meinrad too welcomes change as a new group of students move in this fall. There are many new faces on campus with a large group of 19 propaedeutic students arriving on the Hill.

This year's seminary enrollment has matched last year's with a total of 116 students. The seminary community comes from 21 dioceses and seven religious communities.

To incorporate the new Program of Priestly Formation, the fourth configuration seminarians will graduate in December. They will then complete a semester in their assigned parish before being ordained priests in the summer. There are 21 seminarians who are expected to graduate in December.

Each year Saint Meinrad's international community grows. Twenty-seven percent (32 seminarians) of our seminary student body consists of international students born in other countries, a slight increase from last year's 26% (30 seminarians). The seminary community represents 16 different countries of origin.

Sixty-seven students are enrolled in the Graduate Theology Program this fall,

including four full-time students and 56 part-time students.

The Permanent Deacon Program has strong enrollment this year. Partnering with 15 dioceses, the program has 248 students enrolled.

In August, we welcomed two new staff members to the Seminary and School of Theology, Fr. Hyeonggyu Lee and Bella Thompson.

Fr. Hyeonggyu Lee, a priest of the Diocese of Busan, South Korea, returns to the Hill as formation dean of the house of St. Matthew. Fr. Lee is an alumnus of Saint Meinrad, graduating with his Master of Divinity in 2017. He also has a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from the Catholic University of Pusan. From 2018 to 2022, he worked as the parochial vicar for two separate parishes, Mangmi Parish and Holy Family Parish, both in Busan. In

2022, he was appointed the secretary of the bishop for the Diocese of Busan. On August 20, Fr. Lee arrived at Saint Meinrad to begin work as formation dean.

Bella Thompson of Lanesville, IN, has taken on the role of associate director of graduate theology. She recently graduated from Indiana University Southeast with a B.A. in interdisciplinary studies with concentrations in English literature, English writing, and communication studies. Thompson comes to Saint Meinrad with experience as a

peer advisor and event coordinator in the IU Southeast Honors Program and as a business resources intern at One Southern Indiana Chamber of Commerce. She was also a regular participant in the University of Louisville Catholic Campus Ministry.

"I am so blessed to be part of Saint Meinrad's wonderful community," says Bella. "I look forward to meeting and assisting all the students in the Graduate Theology Program. I am grateful to be working in a place with such a rich monastic tradition as Saint Meinrad." Bella began work on August 26. ✝

New School Appointments



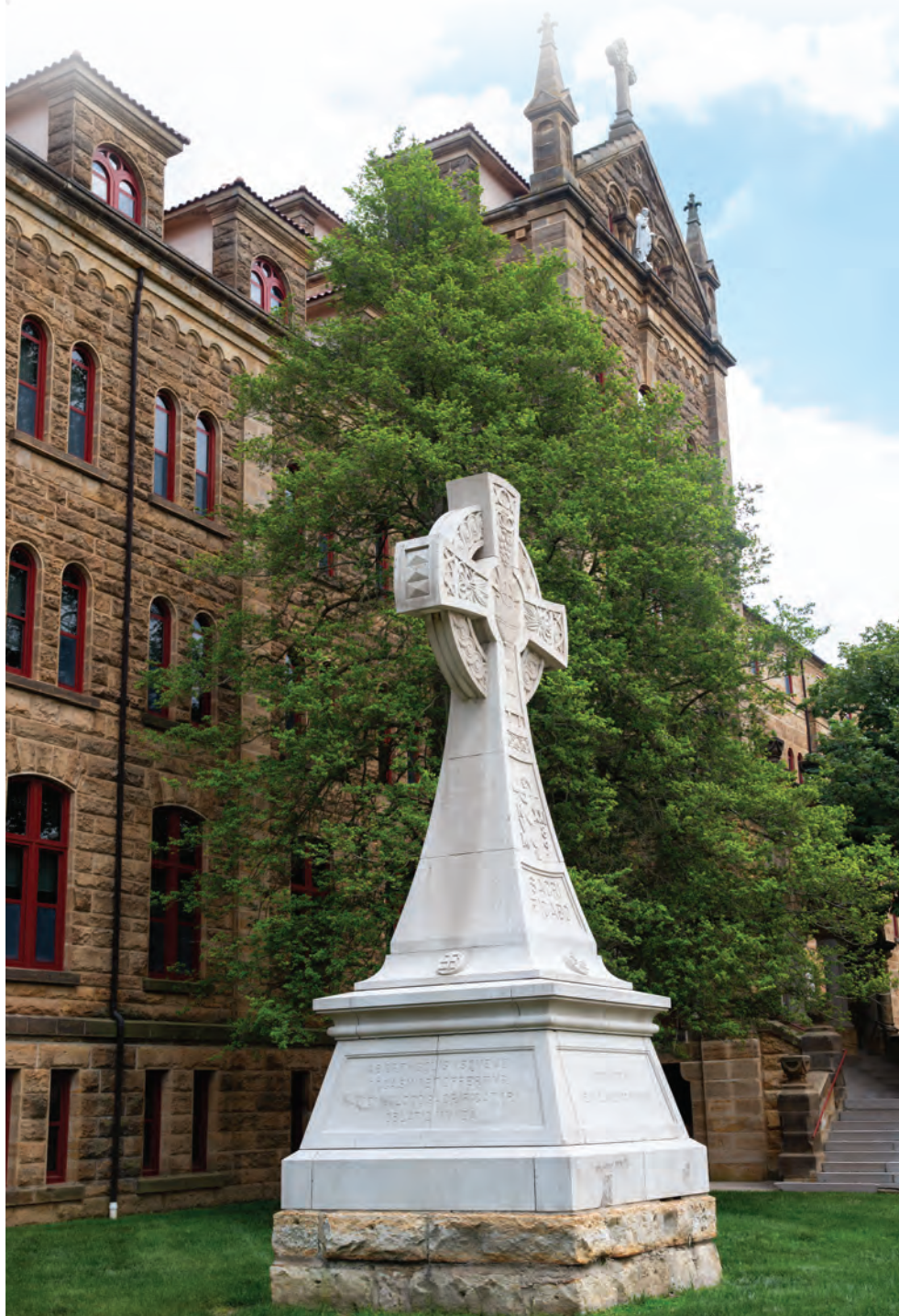
Fr. Hyeonggyu Lee



Bella Thompson

“I am grateful to be working in a place with such a rich monastic tradition as Saint Meinrad.”

—Bella Thompson



EVENTS ON THE HILL

November 1-3

Guest House Retreat: “Integrating Catholic Faith and Patient Care in Today’s World” by Fr. Simon Herrmann, OSB, and Dr. David Freyer

November 2

Abbot Martin Marty Guild and Einsiedeln Society Day of Recollection

November 2

Guest House Workshop: “Photography Basics: Camera, Composition, and Technique” by Krista Hall

November 8-10

Guest House Retreat: “Spiritual Poverty and the ‘Magisterium of Frailty’” by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB

November 15-17

Guest House Retreat: “The Passion Narrative of Mark’s Gospel” by Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB

November 18-December 9

Guest House Workshop: “Session 3: Sculptural Basket Weaving: Object Form and Ornamentation” by Br. Jean Fish, OSB

December 13-15

Guest House Retreat: “Benedictine Spirituality as Lived in Marriage” by Deacon Rich and Cherie Zoldak

December 24-26

Guest House Retreat: “Christmas Celebration at Saint Meinrad Archabbey”

December 31-January 2

Guest House Retreat: “A New Year’s Silent Retreat”

January 5

Guest House Workshop: “Family Goal Setting” by Josh and Angie Greulich

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

Four join Saint Meinrad Board of Overseers

Four new members have been added to the Board of Overseers, the advisory board for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

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.

New to the board are Robert Armbruster of Pittsboro, IN; Audra Douglas of Evansville, IN; Bennett Plessala of Tucker, GA; and Joy Roose of Moscow, OH.

New Board Members



Robert Armbruster

Robert Armbruster is the director of payer relations and contracting at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital Indiana. He is a current member of the Einsiedeln Society at Saint Meinrad and the

St. Malachy Knights of Columbus Council #12540 and a past member of the Monsignor M. Downey Knights of Columbus Council #3660. He was the co-chair of the Cardinal Ritter High School Annual Fund Event.

Robert graduated from Roncalli High School in 1985. He received a bachelor's degree in public health administration from Indiana University at Indianapolis in 1993.

Robert and his wife, Marijane, live in Pittsboro, IN, and are the parents of three children, Father Anthony, Luke (wife, Barbara and daughter, Martha Anne), and Grace. They are members of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg, IN, where Robert has served as a member and president of the Pastoral Council, chair of the parish

festival, and the chair of the capital campaign for a new school building. He currently serves as the co-chair of the Welcome Committee and helps with the parish festival.



Audra Douglas

Audra Douglas is a family nurse practitioner at Ascension Medical Group in Newburgh, IN.

She earned a bachelor's degree in literature from the University of Evansville in

1997, a Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of Southern Indiana in 2005, a Master of Science in nursing from the University of Southern Indiana in 2008, and a master's degree in theology in 2015 from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

Audra resides in Evansville, IN, and is the mother of one child, Jack. She is a member of St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville where she is a lector, an extraordinary ministry of Holy Communion, an RCIA catechist, and a women's group leader.



Bennett Plessala

Bennett Plessala received a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy from Loyola University, New Orleans, in 2020. He went on to earn a Master of Arts in philosophy from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium in 2021.

He and his wife, Sallie, reside in Tucker, GA. Bennett is the son of former Overseer, Deneen Plessala, and a brother to Frs. Peyton and Connor who are both

alumni of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.



Joy Roose

Joy Roose is a retired nurse anesthesiologist and is a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology.

Joy graduated from the University of

Florida, Gainesville, with a Bachelor of Science in nursing in 1984. In 1993, she graduated from Medical University of South Carolina with a Master of Health Science in anesthesia. She received a master's in theological studies from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in 2017.

Joy and her husband, Robert, reside in Moscow, OH, and have two daughters, Kelsey and Graylyn, and a son, Colin. They attend Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish where Joy is involved in Worship Commission, co-director of Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, director of Mass coordinators, and bereavement ministry. She is also the director of volunteers for Mater Filius Queen City in Cincinnati, OH. ✝

Smugmug

*For more photos of
Saint Meinrad events, visit:*

saint-meinrad.smugmug.com

Two join Alumni Board

Two new members have been added to the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors. The Alumni Board works to nurture a lasting relationship between each alumnus and Saint Meinrad; inform alumni about the ongoing mission and work of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, Seminary and School of Theology; listen to responsively and represent alumni concerns; recommend and evaluate alumni events, programs, and initiatives; and foster, enhance, and support Saint Meinrad in carrying out its institutional mission.

New to the board are Fr. Sean Aaron of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana, and Fr. Joseph de Orbegozo of the Diocese of Little Rock, AR.

Fr. Sean Aaron, T'19 ('13-19), is a priest of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana.

He currently serves as pastor of St. Isidore the Farmer Pastorate. The Pastorate includes parishes in Benton and Newton Counties in Indiana. Previously, Fr. Sean served as parochial vicar at Holy Spirit at Geist in Fishers, IN, and St. Louis de Montfort in Fishers, IN.

Prior to seminary, Fr. Sean earned a bachelor's degree in business management. Fr. Sean graduated with a Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in 2019. He was ordained for the priesthood in 2019 at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Lafayette, IN.

Fr. Joseph de Orbegozo, T'18, ('14-18), is a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock, AR.

He currently serves as rector of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Little Rock, AR, and professor of philosophy for the Little Rock House of Formation through Newman University in Wichita, KS.

Fr. Joseph studied at Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas, TX, after high school. He went on to study philosophy and rhetoric at Catholic University/Theological College Seminary in



Fr. Sean Aaron



Fr. Joseph de Orbegozo

Washington, D.C., earning bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy. Fr. Joseph earned his Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in 2018.

He was ordained to the priesthood on June 2, 2018, at Christ the King Church in Little Rock, AR. ✝



Left: Fr. Simon Herrmann, OSB, finds a seat in the choir stalls before the Alumni Reunion Mass on July 30.



Right: Alumni Director Erinn Evans celebrated her birthday on Monday of the Alumni Reunion. Reunion guests at the Anniversary Class Banquet sang "Happy Birthday" and surprised her with a slice of cake.



[Meet the Student]

Christopher Elser

Diocese: Diocese of Little Rock

Hometown: Little Rock, AR

Q. *What attracted you to the priesthood?*

The Eucharist. The Eucharist has been and continues to be the heartbeat and compass of my life. My home parish, Christ the King in Little Rock, has a Perpetual Adoration chapel, and it is in this chapel where I began to fall in love with God. Throughout junior high and high school, a desire in my heart grew to stay close to Christ and follow him in the Eucharist. During this time in my life, my family was enduring difficulties, and I truly felt Christ inviting me to rest in his presence. I saw in the midst of all of my life's changes, the one person I knew who would never change was and is Christ in the Eucharist.

Ultimately, this led me to explore the possibility of a priestly vocation, and I joined seminary in May 2019. The seminary is where I have had the ability and space to cultivate a deep and personal relationship with Christ in the Eucharist. I am learning the truth of who I am through the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, Christ takes care of me. It is surreal that I have the daily opportunity to love Christ in the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration.

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

Growing up, I was surrounded by a culture of vocations that was fostered by my family and home parish, Christ the King. I have an uncle who is a priest for the Diocese of Little Rock as well as a great uncle who is a priest for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. When I was in the third grade, my oldest brother, Fr. Stephen Elser, joined the seminary. As I grew up, I remembered

attending various seminarian events in the Diocese. Watching my brother go through seminary was something that I began to picture myself doing. I remember Stephen and his seminarian friend visited my fifth-grade classroom, and during their visit, I can still clearly recall how the thought of me being a priest came into my mind.

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

Before I joined seminary in May 2019, I had graduated high school in May 2018 and attended college for one year at the University of Arkansas.

Q. *Favorite saint and why?*

St. Joseph is my favorite saint because he lived his life totally for Christ and the Blessed Mother. He took care of them and protected them during his lifetime, and I also desire to live my life totally for Christ and the Blessed Mother. St. Joseph has played a big role in my spiritual life during my time in seminary. Through his intercession, I am learning what spiritual fatherhood is and how to be a true man of God.

Q. *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

Luke 2:19—"And Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart." Mary lived her life enveloped in the mystery of Christ. From her heart she prayed, reflected, and saw the events of her life through the lens of the life of Christ her son. Through Mary's intercession, I too desire to see everything in my life through the lens of the life of Christ, so as to conform my daily life to his life.

Q. *Hobbies?*

I enjoy playing and watching basketball, football, and soccer. I also love to run and take walks with my family and friends as well as hike Pinnacle Mountain in Little Rock.

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

In the seminary, it is a great blessing to have my spiritual director, formator, and counselor all in the same building. Having the space to openly express what is on my mind and heart has been very freeing and has given me the ability to grow and mature in a healthy and wholesome way.

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

There are many opportunities and ways to be a part of the seminarian community. The challenging aspect is that I cannot possibly say "yes" to every single activity or invitation, and it can be hard for me to pick one over the other.

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

Until you are convinced that prayer is the best use of your time, you will not find time for it.

Q. *Other comments?*

There are many various roles and jobs that make up the Saint Meinrad community. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who makes this community what it is. The whole community here truly cares about fostering vocations, and it is a blessing to be a part of this place. ✚

SAINT MEINRAD INSTITUTE FOR SACRED MUSIC

BENEDICTINE *Arts*

New Certificate in Liturgical Music creates strong foundation in music and liturgy

Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology offers a Certificate in Liturgical Music that can be completed independently as an 18-credit certificate or in conjunction with a Master of Arts degree in theology.

The certificate, which does not require an audition, is geared toward both classically trained musicians who lack a strong foundation in liturgical studies and active musicians looking to develop their musical background in the context of liturgical theology.

Students can expect to take classes on liturgical theology, chant, theory of music as well as electives in the sacred music or liturgy categories. Classes will be offered in-person and online to meet the diverse needs of students.

Br. John Glasenapp, OSB, director of the Institute for Sacred Music at Saint Meinrad, says that most liturgical musicians are either performers trained in

a conservatory-like setting or are liturgists who have not earned a previous degree in music.

“The Certificate in Liturgical Music brings the two areas together so that

musical ministers can be musically adept, liturgically aware, and pastorally sensitive,” he says. “Students graduate with a much fuller understanding of the musical tradition of the Church and the liturgical theology that shapes it.” ✚







Photos, opposite page, from top, left to right: Second Configuration seminarian Caleb Goff serves as thurifer at the Mass for Candidacy in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel on August 21; Br. Isaac Levering, OSB, professes his temporary vows as a Benedictine monk in the Archabbey Church on August 6; Fr. Ben Syberg, from left, Fr. Jonathan Meyer, and Fr. Tim Wyciskalla chat during the annual presbyteral convocation for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis at Saint Meinrad on June 25; A Eucharistic Procession to Memorial Lobby Steps was held after Mass during the “One Bread, One Cup” Liturgical Leadership Conference on June 17.

Photos, this page, from top, left to right: Fr. Meinrad Brune, OSB, helps Bishop Emeritus Gerald Gettelfinger prepare for Mass on July 29 during the Alumni Reunion; The Office of Hispanic and Latino Ministry (OHLM) hosted catechist formation in Spanish at Saint Meinrad on Saturday, August 3; OHLM hosted the Peranezcan Youth Retreat at Saint Meinrad on August 30. After an opening discussion, participants enjoyed games around a bonfire; Fr. Caleb Scherzinger embraces his mom, Karen, after he celebrates his first Mass as a priest at St. Celestine Catholic Church in Celestine, IN, on June 23; Abbot Joel Rippinger, OSB, of Marmion Abbey in Aurora, IL, celebrates his 50th anniversary at the Alumni Reunion on July 29; “One Bread, One Cup” College Ministerial Interns, from left, Tyson Dinkel, Avery Werth, and Hanna Vosburg, dance to music played by Steve Angrisano between morning large group sessions during the first summer conference on June 14.



Time capsule ceremony honors *100-year tradition*

In 1924, the Alumni Association placed a time capsule inside the Celtic cross by the Memorial Lobby Steps with the intent to reopen it and step back in time every 25 years. One hundred years later, Saint Meinrad still honors the tradition of replacing the time capsule with mementos.

Earlier this year, the time capsule placed in 1999 was opened, but the box and its contents were damaged and unsalvageable. It was decided to hold a time capsule ceremony during the annual Alumni Reunion, with new items to be enclosed in a new box and location.

The new box's history dates back as far as Saint Meinrad itself. Built in the 1850s, the sturdy wood container served as a toolbox and represents the care of the person who made it. Instead of burying the time capsule where it might be forgotten, it will be on display in the Narthex of the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel.

This year's time capsule holds photos and documents showcasing life at Saint

Meinrad in 2024. Also included are monk-made items to showcase the creative talents of the monastic community.

The time capsule ceremony kicked off the 96th annual Alumni Reunion on Monday, July 29. Several alumni who were present when the previous time capsules were replaced were in attendance: Abbot Joel

Rippinger, OSB, from the Ordination Class of 1974; Fr. Prior Bede Cisco, OSB, who professed vows at Saint Meinrad in 1974; Deacon Paul Lim from the College Class of 1999; Fr. Gary Padgett from the Theology Class of 1999; and Theresa Secord from the School of Theology Class of 1999. The time capsule has been sealed and will be opened again in 2049. ✝



ALUMNI ETERNAL

Fr. Lucas Amandua, S'07, of Uganda, died in 2017.

Mr. Michael A. Amrhein, O'67 ('55-58), of Batesville, IN, died on May 14, 2024.

Fr. Michael J. Barras, O'73 ('67-69), of Lake Charles, LA, died on July 7, 2024.

Mr. Ralph George Bettag, O'63 ('51-52), of Mariah Hill, IN, died on April 24, 2024.

Mr. John F. Borchertmeyer, O'61 ('49-51), of Valparaiso, IN, died on January 26, 2024.

Dr. John Francis "Jack" Brunner, O'53 ('45), of Toledo, OH, died on July 8, 2024.

Mr. John Joseph "Joe" Bruno, O'60 ('48-59), of Indianapolis, IN, died on June 8, 2024.

Rev. Msgr. Paul Victor Canonici, O'57 ('51-57), of Madison, MS, died on February 15, 2020.

Dcn. David "Dave" Allan Cook, PD'05 ('01-05), of Evansville, IN, died on July 24, 2024.

Mr. Robert A. Dall, O'58 ('46-47), of Ferdinand, IN, died on July 31, 2024.

Mr. James Arthur Dewes, C'82 ('78-82), of Indianapolis, IN, died on May 16, 2024.

Dcn. Michael Joseph Gouge, PD'07 ('03-07), of Knoxville, TN, died on July 11, 2024.

Fr. Colman Grabert, OSB, O'65 ('53-65), of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, died on August 4, 2024.

Mr. David Elmo Heathcott, O'68 ('59-60), of Bluffton, SC, died on July 1, 2024.

Mr. Stanley James Janiak, O'74 ('70-74), of Ukiah, CA, died on December 7, 2023.

Mr. Melvin J. Knapp, O'77 ('69-70), of Newburgh, IN, died on June 16, 2024.

Mr. Patrick Joseph "PJ" Maloney, O'72 ('60-66), of Pittsburgh, PA, died on August 17, 2024.

Dcn. Clarence Robert "Bob" Markert, O'67 ('61-63), of Louisville, KY, died on June 25, 2024.

Mr. Charles Patrick McGuckin, O'63 ('55-57), of Somerset, PA, died on November 19, 2023.

Dr. Nathan D. Mitchell, O'70 ('63-70), of South Bend, IN, died on July 31, 2024.

Fr. John F. "Jack" Murphy Ph.D., O'59 ('51-53), of Cleveland, OH, died on May 27, 2024.

Fr. Stephen E. Naas, O'78 ('67-74), of Kalamazoo, MI, died on May 29, 2024.

Mr. Albert G. Nuzzi, O'67 ('57-61), of Niles, OH, died on June 25, 2024.

Dr. Paul Receveur, O'62 ('54-59), of New Albany, IN, died on June 7, 2024.

Fr. Dennis Riccitelli, T'85 ('81-85), of Mesa, AZ, died on June 17, 2024.

Mr. James Ferd Stein, O'74 ('62-63), of New Albany, IN, died on June 24, 2024.

Save the Date!

August 4-6, 2025

97th Annual Alumni Reunion

July 27-29, 2026

98th Annual Alumni Reunion

Mr. Steven Donald Tinkle, O'83 ('76-79), of Tampa, FL, died on May 23, 2024.

Mr. Lawrence Edward Todd, PD'16 ('12-16), of Lexington, KY, died on January 25, 2024.

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 ✝

Mr. William R. Cavins Jr., O'80 ('75-76), of Winter Park, FL, recently published his seventh book, *The Life of Christ Rosary*. Other books he has published include: *The Wounds of Christ: Meditations for Lent*, *A Time for Prayer: A Family Prayer Book*, *Journeying Through Advent with Mary and Joseph*, *The Psalms: A Lenten Journey 2023*, *The Advent of Our God 2022*, and *Stations of the Cross for Justice and Peace*.

ALUMNI NEWS

Fr. Robert Dowd, C'87, of Notre Dame, IN, became the 18th president of the University of Notre Dame on June 1, 2024.

Dcn. Paul C. Lim, LSW, C'99 ('95-98), of Pittsburgh, PA, directed the annual retreat for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston deacons and their spouses at

the Priest Field Pastoral Center in Kearneysville, WV. The theme of the retreat was "Scriptural Reflections for the Diaconate."

Fr. Jim Morrison, C'83 ('80-83), of Houma, LA, joined the Terrebonne General Board of Commissioners at Terrebonne General Health System. ✝



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Day of Service set for March 8

Every March, the Saint Meinrad Alumni Office partners with alumni and friends across the country to participate in various service projects for the Saint Meinrad Day of Service. For over 10 years, the Benedictine motto of *Ora et Labora*, Pray and Work, has extended beyond the Hill and into the communities where our alumni and friends live and work every day.

Our largest event to date was held last year, with 16 sites and over 350 participants. Projects included staining a fence at a local parish, preparing Easter cards, packaging meals for homeless, and more.

The next Day of Service is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2025. We are currently seeking site leaders for this event. Site leader duties include choosing a local nonprofit organization or church, working with site staff on project details, recruiting and organizing a group of volunteers for the day, and developing a plan for snacks or a meal during the project. Site leaders can choose to serve with a project that is already taking place like a local soup kitchen or food pantry that needs volunteers.

If you are interested in hosting a site in your area or would like more information, please contact the Saint Meinrad Alumni Office at

812-357-6501 or email us at alumni@saintmeinrad.edu. ✝

Saint Meinrad
**DAY OF
SERVICE**

Current 2025 sites:

**Indianapolis, IN
Copley, OH
New York, NY
New Albany, IN
Bloomington, IN
Louisville, KY
Denver, CO
Toledo, OH**