



JESUITS

USA MIDWEST PROVINCE | SUMMER 2018

Ordination 2018

Celebrating the New
Midwest Jesuit Priests

Also in This Issue:

- Remembering Jesuit Giants of Spirituality
- Jesuit Jubilarians Share 50 Years of Wisdom
- A Jesuit's Journey Leads Him Back to the High School Where His Vocation Began



Dear Friends,

This time of year is always filled with joy as we celebrate ordinations. Of the 27 Jesuits ordained this summer across the United States, Canada, and Haiti, five are from our Midwest Province. In this issue you will learn more about four of these remarkable men—a physician, a lawyer, a paramedic, and an MBA graduate—who were ordained together on June 9 at Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee. In the fall, we will cover the ordination of Andrij Hlabse, SJ, a Ukrainian Greek Catholic who was ordained July 15 according to the Byzantine Rite at St. Josaphat in Parma, Ohio.

We give thanks for our Jesuit jubilarians, especially our four golden jubilarians who offer wonderful (and brief) reflections on their 50 years of ministry. We also remember our Jesuits who have gone home to God with special tributes to two giants of Ignatian spirituality: Fr. Howard Gray, SJ, and Fr. Richard “Dick” Hauser, SJ.

As you will see from our news, Jesuit reflections, and upcoming events, the Midwest Province has many reasons to give thanks—to God and to you, our companions in ministry. We currently have 75 Jesuits in formation, and this August we will welcome the new class of novices as our second-year novices take their first vows and move into first studies. Please join me in praying for these Jesuits who are taking the next steps in response to God’s call.

We also give thanks to the many benefactors and friends who have helped our \$25 million *With Others. For Others. Campaign for Senior Jesuit Healthcare* cross the \$11 million mark. To learn more about this essential campaign to ensure necessary healthcare for today’s historically high number of senior Jesuits and for generations to come, please visit www.WithOthersForOthers.org. With your help, we can reach our goal and honor Jesuits who have meant so much to so many.

As we enter the second year in the life of the new USA Midwest Province, I am filled with gratitude for the powerful difference we are making throughout the region and the world. With your help, we are able to recruit and form Jesuits for an amazing array of ministries, care for our senior Jesuits who have given their all for the Lord, support our international missions, meet the needs of our operating budget, and serve wherever the needs are greatest. It cannot be said enough—thank you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian Paulson, SJ'.

Brian G. Paulson, SJ
Provincial, USA Midwest Province

(From left to right) Newly ordained Jesuit Frs. Tho Vu and Kyle Shinseki, Most Rev. David Ricken, bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wis.; Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, provincial of the Midwest Province; newly ordained Jesuit Frs. Nathaniel Romano and Kevin Embach.





ON THE COVER

Four Midwest Jesuits were ordained priests by the Most Reverend David L. Ricken, bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wis., on June 9, 2018, at Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee.

Celebrating 50 Years in the Society

Page 10



Concelebrant and homilist Father J. Michael Sparough, SJ (right) and Fr. Provincial Brian Paulson, SJ at a Mass honoring 2018 jubilarians.

For additional content and more information, connect with us online:

WWW.JESUITSMIDWEST.ORG



Search "Midwest Jesuits" on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest, LinkedIn, and Instagram

Visit our photo galleries at midwestjesuits.smugmug.com



Page 4

Ordination 2018

A decade ago, five men from diverse backgrounds answered the call to join the Midwest Jesuits. Meet four* of these men—a physician, a lawyer, a paramedic, and an MBA grad—who were ordained priests together on June 9, 2018.



Page 9

Let the Spirit Drive

For Daniel Kennedy, SJ, the Spirit of God "dwells both in the extraordinary and the ordinary moments of our lives." The Spirit led him to the Jesuits and ministries serving homeless men and women, students, and callers on a crisis line.



Page 12

A Path Marked By Many Graces

As a student at St. Xavier High School, Fr. Dennis Ahern, SJ, was drawn to the Jesuits who worked hard, but also laughed often. His call came full circle when he returned to the school, this time as a Jesuit ready to inspire a new generation.



Page 15

Celebrating Lives Well Lived

Fathers Howard Gray, SJ, and Richard Hauser, SJ (left), were both giants of Ignatian spirituality. Their fellow Jesuits fondly remember their extraordinary lives and contributions.

JOIN THE JESUIT PRAYER COMMUNITY!



JesuitPrayer.org

- Daily Scripture, Ignatian reflection, and Ignatian prayer
- Free iPhone, iPad, and Android Apps
- Submit a prayer request
- Download prayer cards
- Free daily email

* Fr. Andriy Hlabse, SJ, was ordained according to the Byzantine Rite in a separate ceremony on July 15. Coverage of his ordination will appear in the fall/winter magazine.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

News	2-3
Assignments.....	13
In Memoriam.....	14
Advancement	17

Jesuit Superior General Makes First Visit to North America



Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, visits with a student at Mother Teresa Middle School in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Father Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, made his first trip to the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States in late May when he visited Canada for 12 days to participate in the conference's spring meetings.

"The visit gave him an opportunity to engage in our important discussions as well as express his vision for the Society of Jesus today," said Fr. Timothy Kesicki, SJ, president of the Jesuit Conference. "In his remarks to us, he commented on our ongoing discernment of Universal Apostolic Preferences for the Society. He reminded us that we are looking for apostolic orientations which will bind the many Jesuit ministries around the world in light of the needs of the world."

Born in Venezuela in 1948, Fr. Sosa is the first Latin American Superior General of the Society, having been elected in 2016. On his first official visit to Canada, Fr. Sosa met with all of the provincials; attended the ordination of Jesuit priests and deacons in Toronto and Quebec City; and visited the Martyrs' Shrine in Midland, Ontario, Loyola High School in Montreal, and Regis College in Toronto. Fr. Sosa also met with Indigenous leaders and Jesuit representatives from these ministries, including Red Cloud chairperson Norma Tibbitts and St. Francis Mission chief operating officer Rodney Bordeaux, to engage in an important dialogue on Jesuits' history with Indigenous people and harmful connections between evangelization and colonialism.

IVC Chicago Volunteers and Ministers Recognized for Service



Fr. Paul Faulstich, SJ (right), was granted the Ignatian Spirituality Award from IVC Chicago.

Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) Chicago was recognized by the Cook County Board of Commissioners for their service to the poor and marginalized in a resolution crafted this spring. IVC Chicago was one of seven Chicago-based organizations that was included in the resolution calling for Cook County residents to "recognize the positive impact of national service in our community and to thank those who serve."

"The faith-focused organization Ignatian Volunteer Corps has served in close to 50 partner agencies working with youth and young adults in education and mentoring programs, refugee and immigrant services, women's and children's services, and hospital and prison ministry," the resolution stated, noting the depth of IVC Chicago's service.

...

At their annual Evening of Gratitude, IVC Chicago recognized Father Paul Faulstich, SJ, with the Ignatian Spirituality Award.

"I am very grateful for his friendship, his insights, and his gentle and prayerful guidance," said Patrick McCourt, who presented Fr. Faulstich with the award. "He has helped me appreciate God's presence in my IVC work with the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program."

For more information on the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, visit www.IVCUSA.org.

Midwest Jesuit Schools Thankful for Generous Gifts



Students at Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Neb., walk with Fr. Thomas Neitzke, SJ.

Several Midwest Jesuit schools have been the beneficiaries of generous gifts recently, further enabling them to teach the next generation of Ignatian leaders.

Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Neb., received a historic \$8 million lead gift from the Heider family for the building of a new \$16 million student learning commons on the campus in honor of Father Timothy Lannon, SJ, who served as president from 1988 to 1995.

"Creighton Prep's mission to care for the whole person will be significantly enhanced by this gift," said Fr. Thomas Neitzke, SJ, president of Creighton Prep.

Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago received a \$1.5 million gift from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation in support of diversity and student success programming.

"This is another game changer brought to us by McCormick," said Fr. Stephen Katsouros, SJ, dean and executive director of Arrupe College. "All of us at Arrupe are extremely grateful to McCormick."

John Carroll University received \$10 million to establish the John M. and Mary Jo Boler College of Business, which will include two new schools: The School of Accountancy and Information Science and the School of Leadership and Social Innovation.

"The vision for what the Boler College can achieve with new schools and programs will have a powerful impact on how we prepare our students for careers in business," said JCU president Michael Johnson.

JRS/USA Announces New Executive Director



Joan Rosenhauer joins Jesuit Refugee Service/USA from Catholic Relief Services.

As the number of forcibly displaced people worldwide has reached a historic high, Jesuit Refugee Service/USA (JRS/USA) has announced that Joan Rosenhauer has been appointed as its new executive director.

"With more than 65 million people displaced around the world, the work of the Jesuit Refugee Service has never been more critical," said Rosenhauer. "I have personally seen that the approach JRS takes is effective, essential, and gives refugees the dignity that they deserve. I am proud to join JRS and look forward to advancing this critical work alongside our partners and supporters."

Rosenhauer is a former JRS/USA board member and has spent most of her career advocating for social justice and mobilizing the U.S. Catholic community to do the same. As the executive vice president of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Rosenhauer led the organization's outreach, marketing, and communications.

Under her leadership, CRS programs, followers, and revenue grew. Before joining CRS, Rosenhauer spent 16 years with the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), where she served as associate director of the Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development. Prior to that role, she held a variety of positions, including special projects coordinator and outreach coordinator for the USCCB's Department of Social Development and World Peace.

To learn more about Jesuit Refugee Service, visit www.JRSUSA.org.

Fr. FitzGerald Named to Creighton Endowed Chair



Fr. Kevin FitzGerald, SJ, holds PhDs in both molecular biology and bioethics from Georgetown University.

Father Kevin FitzGerald, SJ, will join Creighton University as the new holder of the John A. Creighton University Professor endowed chair and associate professor in the Creighton University School of Medicine, Department of Medical Education.

"We are extremely excited to welcome Fr. FitzGerald to Creighton," said Creighton president Fr. Daniel Hendrickson, SJ. "His research and expertise in healthcare ethics and bioethics are a perfect fit for our Jesuit, Catholic university, as we continue to position ourselves as a leader in values-centered healthcare education, research, and patient care."

Fr. FitzGerald was the Dr. David Lauler Chair of Catholic Health Care Ethics in the Pellegrino Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University. He has also been an associate professor in the Department of Oncology at the Georgetown University Medical Center since 2001.

"I enjoyed my time here a great deal, and I've always been interested in Creighton," said Fr. FitzGerald, who studied humanities at Creighton from 1979 to 1980 and also served on the university's board of trustees from 1997 to 2005.

Fr. FitzGerald has published articles on both science and ethics in peer-reviewed journals, books, and in the popular press, and has given presentations nationally and internationally. To learn more, visit www.Creighton.edu.

Education Leaders Begin New Roles Across the Province



Vanessa Solis, new principal of Nativity Jesuit Academy, regularly spends time in the classroom.

There are several new faces in education leadership positions in the Midwest Province this summer. They are all highly qualified for their roles, and the Midwest Jesuits are excited to welcome them to their new positions.

In Chicago, **Brendan Conroy** has been named the associate provincial assistant for secondary and pre-secondary education for the Midwest Province. Conroy succeeds Cathy Karl, who retired on July 1. Conroy joins the Midwest Jesuits from St. Rita of Cascia High School on Chicago's South Side, where he served as principal for eight years. He was the founding principal of Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory School in Chicago and has served in many roles at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago.

Lucas Schroeder, formerly assistant principal for student services at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati, has become the principal of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago. Before becoming assistant principal at St. Xavier, Schroeder was an AP Spanish teacher for more than ten years at St. Xavier; Bloomington High School South in Bloomington, Ind.; and The Pike School in Andover, Mass.

In Milwaukee, **Vanessa Solis** was elevated to her new role as principal of Nativity Jesuit Academy. She previously served as director of the elementary school.

"I am particularly excited to be serving Nativity Jesuit Academy and its families during this period," said Solis.

Ordination

2018

Four Midwest Jesuits were ordained Catholic priests on June 9, 2018, at Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee. (From left to right) Jesuit Frs. Tho Vu, Kyle Shinseki; Brian Paulson, provincial of the Midwest Province; Nathaniel Romano, and Kevin Embach.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me.

— Isaiah 61:1

Meet the New Midwest Jesuit Priests Ordained in 2018.

Fr. Andrij Hlabse, SJ, was ordained according the Byzantine Rite in a separate ceremony on July 15.
Coverage of his ordination will appear in the fall/winter magazine.

Fr. Kevin J. Embach, SJ

■ **Entered Society:** August 29, 2009

■ **As a Jesuit:** Fr. Embach has served as an assistant professor of medicine at Loyola University Medical Center and the Stritch School of Medicine.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:** Creighton University School of Medicine.

“First and foremost, I am thankful to God for life and all that exists. I’m also grateful to my parents, who are the first teachers of the faith, and my grandparents and extended relatives who also bore witness to that faith. I am grateful to my parents for wonderful educational opportunities and those who taught me, including many wonderful priests who have been good examples of priesthood and what a good priest can do for the people of God.

All of healthcare is close to the heart of Christ. When we look in the Gospels we see numerous examples of Jesus having compassion for the sick and for healing physically, emotionally, and spiritually. This is something that he models for us in the Gospel, and I am grateful to all the physicians who have mentored and formed me.

I’m also thankful for the Society of Jesus for accepting me into the novitiate and helping form me, and to other Jesuits who have helped form me along the way. I’m grateful for the many people I’ve met at ministries, such as in medicine or ministry to the incarcerated, who have helped form me as well. I look forward to serving God and his people as a Jesuit priest and physician. I hope to continue to follow Christ in having compassion for the sick and helping to form younger people as healthcare providers and being able to care for other people as a way to follow Christ.”

Fr. Nathaniel V. Romano, SJ

■ **Born:** November 7, 1981

■ **Entered Society:** August 23, 2008

■ **As a Jesuit:** Fr. Romano has represented low-income clients at the Creighton University School of Law's Milton R. Abrahams Legal Clinic.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:** Church of the Gesu in University Heights, Ohio

“A story that jumps out at me is when I was working with a client as a regent in the Creighton University Law School Abrahams Legal Clinic. My client and I had gone to court and the judge and opposing counsel were unjustifiably beating up on my client, so I was getting angry on my client's behalf. My client was suffering and things didn't go the way I thought they should have gone. However, I was able to walk with my client and minister to them because of my training as a Jesuit, to listen and to accompany them even when they were struggling. I was able to channel this anger into prayer, where I was able to pray for the other side and the judge. It led me to this place where I felt like I was walking with Christ while I was walking with my client.

I'm grateful to God for loving me, for being a place of peace and healing reconciliation even when I feel I don't deserve it. I'm grateful to God for all the people he has put in my life, including my parents, my brother, and my family. There have been a number of Jesuits who have been mentors, spiritual directors, and friends. Any list is too short. I am also incredibly thankful for the women and men I've had the opportunity to minister with and minister to. The people we are set to walk with form us far more than any studies.”



Fr. Kyle K. F. Shinseki, SJ

■ **Born:** January 14, 1973

■ **Entered Society:** August 29, 2009

■ **As a Jesuit:** Fr. Shinseki coordinated Asian/Pacific Islander initiatives for the Office of Multicultural Affairs and taught in the business school at Creighton University.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:** Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, Calif., to complete a licentiate in sacred theology.

“As I reflect upon my ordination to the priesthood and the past nine years of Jesuit formation, first and foremost, I am grateful to God for the gift of my vocation. When I became Catholic as a junior in college, I would have never imagined that one day God would call me to be a Jesuit priest. Throughout my life, with its ups and downs, God has always been generous in love and grace with me, which ultimately gave me the courage to say yes to this call. I would like to express my gratitude to my family, godparents, brother Jesuits, and friends who have accompanied me along this journey with their love and care. I would like to thank my parents, who, while not Catholic, have supported my vocation unconditionally even while they may not ever fully understand it. I also greatly appreciate the prayers and generous support of our benefactors who enabled me to have an incredible range of ministry experiences, education, and travel that have formed me to be the Jesuit I am today. Finally, as I look forward to priestly ministry as a Jesuit, I thank all those who I have had the privilege to serve in ministry and especially those with whom I have served—colleagues, lay ministers, religious women and men, diocesan seminarians and priests, and fellow Jesuits—for their faith, example, and wisdom.”



Fr. Tho Vu, SJ

■ **Born:** August 18, 1984

■ **Entered Society:** August 18, 2007

■ **As a Jesuit:** Fr. Vu has served as an associate pastoral intern at Saint Thomas More Catholic Community in Saint Paul, Minn., and has completed medical immersion trips to Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, and India.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:**

Loyola University Chicago to complete a pre-med, post-baccalaureate program.

“There was a time when I first came to the United States when everything was new to me, and I did not know English that well. When I was in first grade at recess, standing alone, watching the others play, one of the kids came up to me, put out his hand, took mine, and brought me into the game. I felt so much acceptance and gratitude, and for the first time, I recognized that gratitude had no boundaries or limits. It was a very similar feeling I had when standing at the novitiate door eleven years ago when a hand reached out to shake mine, and the novice director greeted me with such warmth and love.

I believe that all of us share in God’s unique gifts and in the Lord’s care as God continues to bless us. I can never be grateful enough for all the Lord has done for me. Being ordained a Jesuit priest is the most wonderful and also humbling gift that I could have been given. When I looked around the church during my ordination, I saw family, relatives, brother Jesuits, friends, all those who share in my faith. If it weren’t for them, I certainly wouldn’t have been able to answer and fulfill this call. There are so many people who ‘have ignited the flame’ of faith, hope, and love within my own heart, over so many years leading up to my ordination. I can only offer my thanks to them in my prayer and my priestly, sacramental, pastoral service to God’s people.”



Daniel Kennedy, SJ, was drawn to the Jesuits by the story of St. Ignatius and by the influence of Jesuit mentors in his life.

Let the Spirit Drive...

By Daniel Kennedy, SJ

We as a Church commemorate the moment Jesus went into the wilderness of the desert because the Spirit was leading him (Mk. 1:12). I find the image of the Spirit leading Jesus powerful and true for all of us. When looking back on our lives, we can see God quietly conspiring for our benefit in decisions that drew on a wisdom beyond us, on the people who taught us to love, and on the experiences that challenged our faith to find a new depth. My vocation in the Society has been where I am able to see the Spirit leading me beyond my awareness in the moment.

The Spirit of God dwells both in the extraordinary and the ordinary moments of our lives. I grew up in Toledo, Ohio, where I went to a parish grade school. I was fortunate that I had an excellent pastor that sparked my early imagination about being a priest. It led to an incessant amount of cheek squeezing by my aunts when I said I thought I could grow up to be a priest. It was the Spirit's first

movement in my vocational discernment that I look back on and think that either I was a weird kid or the Spirit had been tugging at my heart from a young age. I selfishly choose the latter option!

I first met the Society when I attended St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo. I remember sitting in freshman theology class when I first heard the story of St. Ignatius. His conversion from soldier and courtier to pilgrim and saint shows a transformation we can only attribute to the Spirit's work. I could not shake Ignatius's story from my memory. I also met wonderful Jesuits like Fathers Thomas Pipp, SJ, and Francis Canfield, SJ, who served in the high school. They had a joyful air that they brought to their encounters with students that led me to think about a vocation to the Society. When I studied at Boston College, I met more Jesuits who were men of great faith, joy, and compassion. I credit the Holy Spirit's guidance for the exemplary models of Jesuit life I have experienced.

The Spirit eventually led me to enter the novitiate in Saint Paul, Minn., and has led me to different ministries in my Jesuit formation. I have been able to serve men and women facing homelessness, grade school students, callers on a suicide and crisis line, and now the students of Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Neb., as the director of student activities. At each new place, I've been challenged to trust the Spirit that brought me there and to continue to let it guide me. I take comfort in the ways the Spirit has been generous to me in this vocation with the people that I have been able to encounter because I am a Jesuit. I pray to stay out of the Spirit's way with my own plans so I can go where and to whom it leads me. ✠



Daniel Kennedy, SJ, is a Jesuit regent serving as a theology teacher and director of student activities at Creighton Prep in Omaha, Neb.

Celebrating 50 Years in the Society

Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, provincial of the Midwest Province (second from left), with 2018 jubilarians (left to right) Frs. Robert Thesing, J. Michael Sparough, and Mitchell Pacwa. Not pictured: Fr. Simon Hendry, SJ.

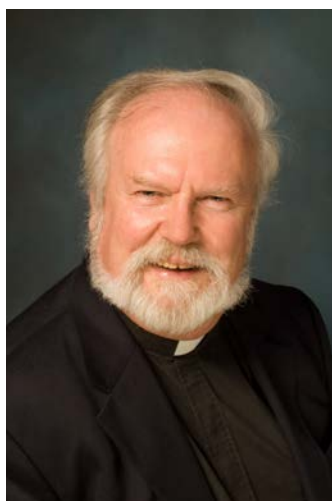
HAPPY AND GRATEFUL

By Fr. Simon Hendry, SJ

As I look back on my 50 years as a Jesuit, my overriding sense is that I am incredibly happy and grateful. I am happy and grateful that God has been interested in me, has loved me, and has been faithful to me. And I am happy and grateful because of the people who are and who have been part of my life.

God kept me a Jesuit. I do not get credit (or blame) for that. My momentous decision when I first made the Spiritual Exercises was to stay until tomorrow. It turned out to be 50 years of tomorrows.

I appreciate the way God has led me on a winding path: teaching high school, doing spiritual direction and giving retreats, working in minority communities, directing the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, studying in grad school, teaching in universities, and guiding Jesuit communities



as their superior. Each job challenged and delighted me, and each called forth something new and different from me.

Each community where I lived and where I worked touched my heart and taught me something of how to be loved and how to love. Each brought forth deeper and deeper places in myself. Each has enhanced my awareness of Jesus' presence in my life and

my desire to follow and serve him.

Long-term friendships have become incredibly valuable for me. I have walked with so many good and wonderful people. When I was younger, I had good Jesuit role models and mentors. Various Jesuit companions have become life-long, intimate friends. I have developed and deepened relationships with men and women outside the Jesuit community. These include people I knew before I entered, former students, Jesuit volunteers, work colleagues, and so many others. They all provide a richness that I cannot fully describe except to say that I have been amazingly blessed by them.

So, after 50 years, I find myself grateful, especially for the people, and I also find myself looking happily toward the future.

GRATITUDE FOR THIS VOCATION

By Fr. Mitchell Pacwa, SJ

Tremendous gratitude to God our Lord, to the Catholic Church, and to the Society of Jesus dominates my reflections on these first decades as a Jesuit.

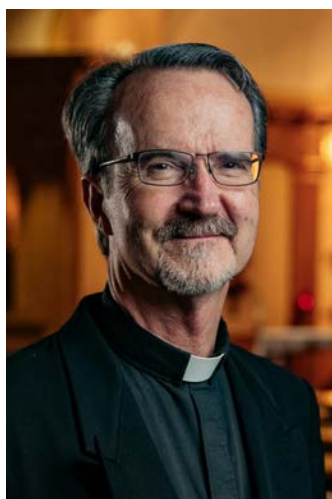
First, to God our Lord for this vocation to the Society as a circumvention of my adolescent temptations to



acquire property. Beyond that, the Society opened the more important gifts of the Spiritual Exercises, which gave a vision of service to Christ our King and the greater good, in personal accompaniment of Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to the Church for her array of gifts. Her schools and universities offered an education that opened unimaginable vistas, plus the opportunities to share ideas and experiences about truth, goodness, and beauty. Ordination to the priesthood is the gift of acting *In persona Christi*, bringing Christ to his people in many ways, particularly in the sacraments. I stand in amazement at engaging people in their most privileged moments from birth, through Holy Communion and the extension of God's mercy in Confession, and their final moments in death. Because the Church trusts us priests to speak and act for Jesus Christ, we easily move from being strangers to sharing their deepest moments.

I am particularly grateful to the Society for accepting me. Christians form the temple of the Lord (Eph. 2:19-22), as roughedged stones needing to be smoothed out to be joined in line with the foundation. God bless the many Jesuits who have patiently smoothed out some of my rough edges and continue to do so.



A FOOL FOR CHRIST

By Fr. J. Michael Sparough, SJ

When I entered the Society of Jesus I knew I wanted to be like the Jesuits who had inspired me while I was a student at Loyola Academy. They were talented, fun-loving, hard-working, manly men who had given their lives to Christ. I wanted to walk in their footsteps following Jesus.

My dream was to become a doctor priest — because I loved science, math and religion. But when I made the Spiritual Exercises, another part of my brain awakened — a love for drama, poetry, dance, mime, and storytelling. The more I prayed, the stronger was my desire to bring others to Christ, to teach them how to pray, and to use the arts as a vehicle for this pursuit. I've become, quite literally, a fool for Christ — embracing St. Paul's metaphor for those who seek God's kingdom above all else.

It's been a call to deep humility as I've discovered what I'm good at and what I'm not. What surprises me

is that in this life of self-surrender, I continue to uncover ever-deeper levels of my heart's true desire. I could not imagine the joy Christ has gifted me with the amazing education I've received and the loving colleagues with whom I am privileged to serve. Sure, there are problems, but they pale in comparison to the treasures given. Even my own sin and failure have become opportunities for me to discover the unfathomable depths of Jesus' love. To what a gifted life we companions of Jesus have been called!



COMPANIONS IN JESUS

By Fr. Robert Thesing, SJ

As a Jesuit I have had many opportunities to work with two of my greatest loves: sharing the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola and fostering communities of faith and justice.

Making the Spiritual Exercises in the novitiate opened for me the possibility of personally encountering the Lord. In surprising and moving ways, God meets us in our prayer and in our daily lives. In pursuing that quest I have felt the call to be a companion of Jesus.

I find I often learn best when I attempt to teach others, and I have had many opportunities to teach and mentor others in the spirit of St. Ignatius through my work training spiritual directors and being a superior for young Jesuits in formation. The faith and commitment of these lay and Jesuit companions

of Jesus has again and again broadened and strengthened my own faith, hope, and love. For this I am most grateful!

Early in my Jesuit training I had the opportunity to work at Holy Family Parish in Chicago, an inner-city church with African-American, Latino, and white parishioners. I'm sure I learned more there than I ever gave to them! I learned about community, trust in God, cultural diversity, the lives of the poor, and striving for justice. That foundation set the stage for my serving as pastor in four different parishes in Chicago and Cincinnati during my Jesuit career. In these faith communities I have continually found fellow companions of Jesus. I have been deeply touched by their example, friendship, and support. My ministry as a Jesuit has been an enormous blessing for me, and I pray for others as well.

A Path Marked by Many Graces

By Amy Korpi, *staff writer*

The call to ministry for Fr. Dennis “Denny” Ahern, SJ, can be traced to his days at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati. “I could not help but notice that the Jesuits, who worked very hard, also laughed a lot and enjoyed so much about their lives — like playing basketball on gym nights,” he recalls, adding that the seeds for his vocation were also sown at home in a faithful Catholic family.



Yet by the end of high school, when several in his class entered the Jesuits, he did not feel ready to begin religious life. But he did attend a Jesuit college — Georgetown University — and that was where his calling to the Jesuits truly took root.

Fr. Ahern explains, “I began thinking about lifetime plans, asking myself, ‘What is life all about, anyway? Is there anything more to it? Where is God in all of this?’ And I thought about my high school years — the classes, the gym

nights, and all the peace-filled, talented, and happy Jesuits; men who experienced positive directions in and through their lives.”

THE DIE WAS CAST

He sought guidance from a director of vocations, who believed God was calling him to the Society of Jesus. “As our conversations went on, I grew much more at peace with this conclusion and began

discerning the particular path I might need to follow,” Fr. Ahern says.

Fr. Ahern’s early work as a Jesuit included teaching Latin and French at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. Then, shortly after ordination, he returned to St. Xavier High School in 1971,

teaching French, religious education, and theological reflection and serving as a department chair.

For several years, Fr. Ahern also accompanied St. Xavier High students on service trips to help poor, elderly, and disabled people in the Appalachian region to improve and repair their homes.

In 1981, Fr. Ahern moved to Xavier University as a campus minister and associate pastor at Bellarmine Chapel, helping with liturgies, reconciliation, and infant baptisms. He was also put in charge of the Marriage Preparation Program.

Over six years (with help from a team of couples), more than 150 couples were prepared and married — with Fr. Ahern witnessing most of the weddings.

Joining the staff at Loyola University Chicago in 1989 as a university chaplain, Fr. Ahern chaired the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program and, aided by laypeople, initiated some 200 students and graduates into the Catholic Church.

The RCIA program also played a role while Fr. Ahern served as chaplain at the Loyola Rome Center from 1997 to 1998. “In addition to Sunday liturgies, opportunities for reconciliation, and attendance at a papal audience each semester, we set up and completed the RCIA for a young man who had begun the program at John Carroll University; he was baptized while in Rome,” he recalls.

FULL CIRCLE

When Fr. Ahern finally returned to St. Xavier High School in 2001 as alumni chaplain, he also began a monthly luncheon for his own class (1956) that continues to this day. Additionally, he wrote “The Beginnings of the Long Blue Line,” a paper chronicling the Jesuits, Cincinnati, and St. Xavier College from 1840 to 1865.

In 2015, Fr. Ahern moved to the Colombiere Center near Detroit, where senior Jesuits live in community, serve in ministries as they are able, and pray for the Church and the Society. “In addition, I continue to pray for all the wonderful people and their families with whom I have come in contact during my many years in this amazing vocation as a Jesuit,” he says. ✠

Formation

Fr. Martin Connell, SJ, has been appointed rector of the Jesuit Community of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University. He previously served as a professor of education at John Carroll University and as rector of the John Carroll University Jesuit Community.



Fr. Thomas Krettek, SJ, has been named the academic director of the Loyola University Chicago First Studies Program and the dean at St. Joseph Seminary. He previously served as vice president for mission and ministry at Marquette University in Milwaukee.



Fr. Robert Kroll, SJ, has been named the director of spiritual formation at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in St. Francis, Wis. He was previously a theology and French teacher at Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Neb.



International

Matthew Ippel, SJ, has been missioned to work with Jesuit Refugee Service, in South Sudan. He previously was in the first studies program in Peru.



Parish

Fr. James Gartland, SJ, has been appointed parish administrator of St. Mary Student Parish in Ann Arbor, Mich., for the 2018-2019 academic year. He was previously rector of the Saint Peter Faber Jesuit Community and an area vocation coordinator in Boston.



Fr. Thomas Lawler, SJ, has been appointed administrator of Bellarmine Chapel in Cincinnati. He was previously on sabbatical after serving as provincial of the former Wisconsin Province.



Province

Fr. Richard Baumann, SJ, has been appointed as a province vocation director. He previously served as the co-director of tertians for the Assistancy of Africa and Madagascar.



Br. Patrick Douglas, SJ, has been appointed as the new provincial assistant for vocations for the Midwest Province. He previously served as a regional vocation director in Omaha, Neb.



The following Jesuits have been missioned to pray for the Church and Society at one of the province's two senior Jesuit healthcare communities.

Fr. Richard Anderson, SJ
Fr. James Arimond, SJ
Fr. Joseph Bracken, SJ

Fr. William Gerut, SJ
Fr. Leon Klimczyk, SJ
Fr. William Kurz, SJ
Fr. Richard Murphy, SJ

Fr. G. Paul Peterson, SJ
Fr. George Von Kaenel, SJ
Br. Michael Wilmot, SJ



**WITH OTHERS.
FOR OTHERS.**

The Campaign for
Senior Jesuit Healthcare

Learn more about how you can support those who have spent their lives in service of others at www.WithOthersForOthers.org

We give thanks for the following Jesuits who have gone home to God.



Fr. George R. Menke, SJ

August 31, 1942
June 15, 2018

"George was able to use his diverse talents to help Brebeuf by working on the school's databases, in the

school's business office, driving school buses, and volunteering for school athletic events. George truly was devoted to Brebeuf and its students and will be missed by the entire school community."

Spanish teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; administrative assistant to the president, teacher of Spanish and social justice, special assistant to the development director, assistant in campus ministry, and special assistant to the principal at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis.



Fr. Michael G. Morrison, SJ

March 9, 1937
May 24, 2018

"Mike was a respected administrator and a familiar figure to thousands of Creighton students who

remember him occupying his favorite bench on campus. He served on numerous boards and was a province consultor for many years. In his 19 years as president of Creighton, he made a tremendous impact on the school and the community. All his life he was a voracious reader."

History professor at Marquette University; history professor, academic vice president, and president at Creighton University; pastoral minister at Oshkosh Jesuit Retreat House.



Fr. Robert J. Ochs, SJ

January 22, 1930
May 4, 2018

"Bob published two books: The Death in Every Now (1969) and God is More Present Than You

Think (1970). Bob studied the Enneagram system of personality and is significantly credited with bringing it to Catholics in the USA—first to the Midwest Jesuits, and then to students at Berkeley."

Teacher at University of Detroit Jesuit High School; professor of theology at the Jesuit School of Theology in Chicago; spirituality teacher in Berkeley, Calif., adjunct professor of theology at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley; writer and researcher.



Fr. Francis P. Chamberlain, SJ

March 15, 1937
April 29, 2018

"Frank was involved in efforts to help those affected by the "Shining Path" in the 1980s and

1990s. He was instrumental in founding the Matteo Ricci House which is a place where the 26 groups (who came to the capital city to avoid the war) meet once a week to get the reparations they justly need for having to leave everything they had to save their families from the killing. He was beloved in Peru by Jesuits, the poor he served with great love and dedication, and the professionals he accompanied and inspired."

Pastoral work in Ilo, El Agustino, and Ayacucho, Peru.



Fr. James E. Chambers, SJ

April 17, 1924
April 3, 2018

"In the community Jim was never without a smile or a joke. He also loved to bring guests for dinner,

sometimes forgetting, of course, to tell the cook. Jim also loved to ride his bike totally oblivious, of course, to traffic. Jim remained a valued member of the community and was greatly missed when he moved to Colombiere, where he was equally cherished by his brothers there."

English teacher and assistant principal at St. Xavier High School in Kathmandu, Nepal; associate pastor at Saint Ignatius Church in Chicago; chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lexington, Ky.; associate pastor at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis; chaplain at Cook County Hospital in Chicago.



Fr. Robert L. Bireley, SJ

July 26, 1933
March 14, 2018

"Bob was a faithful Jesuit whose life was grounded in his prayerful love of the Lord; he lived

the vows with great integrity; he integrated well the intellectual apostolate of the Church through his scholarship, research, and teaching, alongside his love of the priesthood, celebration of the sacraments, and preaching. Bob enjoyed and invested in community life. He loved a lively discussion around the dinner table and, while strong in his opinions, was always eager to listen to those of others as well."

History professor at Loyola University Chicago; history teacher at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland.



Fr. Robert H. Schmidt, SJ: A Jesuit Contemplative Remembered By Sr. Benedicta A. Pinto, AC

Ever joyful and happy, loving and lovable, full of life and enthusiasm, humble and hard-working, Father Bob Schmidt, SJ, was deeply spiritual and human. He was a genuine, religious man and a perfect blend of deep spirituality and humanness. He was a true Jesuit contemplative.

The secret of Fr. Bob's continuous joy, zeal, and kindness lies in this: Conversation with God in prayer leads one to total transformation in God through love. Affability, gratitude, discretion, gentleness, and other social qualities were the fruit of his life of prayer.

Fr. Bob was a person always positive with a "never say die" attitude. The funeral brochure – "The Servant Priest has Returned to the Master," really fit him well.

Read the rest of the reflection and remembrances of Patna Jesuits at JesuitsMidwest.org/PatnaSummer18

Celebrating Lives Well Lived: Fr. Howard Gray, SJ

Fr. Howard Gray, SJ, died on May 7, 2018. He held many academic and administrative roles and was one of a group of Jesuits and lay people who helped bring back the one-on-one personally-directed retreat.



Photo: Georgetown University

Excerpted from the funeral homily given by Fr. John W. O'Malley, SJ

If the church is a field hospital, I have known a place within the Church where both the badly wounded and the lightly wounded have flocked for many decades. I am speaking, of course, of Howard Gray.

What an extraordinary life he had as a Jesuit! The day he died the province sent out a biography that listed the important positions he held, including provincial of the Detroit Province, where he was not only esteemed as provincial, but loved as provincial — not a small achievement in the Society of Jesus!

Howard was, moreover, a key player in the rescue of Jesuit spirituality from the moralism into which it had largely fallen over the course of the centuries, and in promoting Ignatian spirituality, whose blossoming we experience today. He was one of the first to promote the individual-directed retreat, and he helped establish programs to teach others how to be compassionate and prudent guides for those making such retreats. He opened the programs to lay men and women. Today we take such things for granted, but we need to realize that they constitute a significant turning point in the history of Christian spirituality.

That was Howard the public person.

Then there was the human being we all knew. There is so much that could be said, but if I say simply that Howard was a deeply affectionate person, I have hit upon one of his deepest traits. He loved his sister Marge and considered her his best friend.

He formed friendships easily and quickly but never superficially. Once his friend, always his friend. He and I were friends for 70 years, since we were teenagers, and I consider his friendship one of the most precious blessings of my life. We bantered and teased and feigned indignation at one another's foibles.

Howard looked, he saw, he loved. A Jesuit who for years has been engaged in a courageous and difficult ministry wrote me the other day when he heard of Howard's death: "Nothing prepared me better for the ministry I have been engaged in for over 30 years than the affection Howard gave me and showed me how to extend to others. He was a tender glance of God, empowering us all to be that tender glance in the world."

That was the gift that drew people to Howard with their darkest secrets, their deepest wounds, and their highest hopes. They came to the field hospital he called

spiritual direction, and there they found balm for their wounds and comfort for their souls. To that hospital came bishops, university presidents, students, faculty, staff, countless Jesuits, sundry others, and at least one cardinal.

Several weeks ago, Howard was at Georgetown University, where he gave a marvelous lecture. In it he quoted a passage from the spiritual diary of St. Peter Faber, one of the founding members of the Society of Jesus along with St. Ignatius:

With great devotion and new depth of feeling, I hoped for and beg this from God, that it be given me to be the servant and minister of Christ the consoler, the minister of Christ the helper, of Christ the healer, the enricher, the strengthener. Thus it would happen that even I might be able through him to help many — to console, liberate, and give them courage ... and thus bring help to each and every one of my neighbors whomsoever.

What better description could there be of the life of our beloved Howard, that little guy and that great man. ✠

Celebrating Lives Well Lived:

Fr. Richard "Dick" Hauser, SJ

Excerpted from the funeral homily given by Fr. Donald Doll, SJ

We joined the Jesuits the same year, 1955; I didn't think much of the rules, and Dick got migraines trying to follow the rules. He was made spiritual father for the incoming first year novices. We had both novice experiments together, a month in a local hospital and eight weeks at the Saint Paul retreat house. Our novice master, Joe Sheehan, had asked Dick to keep an eye on me. And Dick never did report that I arranged for myself a family visit in the hospital and in the train station during the Milwaukee stopover between Oshkosh and Saint Paul while Dick wandered around the station alone, missing his Milwaukee family.

We really didn't become close friends until seven years later. He joined me teaching in our third year of regency at St. Francis Mission, where we each had life-changing experiences. He learned to pray in a new way by taking long walks at night under the beautiful South Dakota skies. I wondered what I was going to do as a Jesuit and asked myself what I love doing and answered "photography." It was Dick who eventually helped me realize it was how the Spirit speaks to each of us in our hearts.

We developed a deeper friendship and love when Dick arrived at Creighton in 1972 and began teaching theology classes. Those early years were extremely difficult for Dick. He was teaching about God, the Holy Spirit, in our hearts, not concepts in our heads. Some theology professors termed his classes "window dressing" and lobbied to get Dick fired from the faculty. Those were difficult years for Dick. He was finally vindicated

when Abbot Thomas Keating labeled Dick's book one of the best spiritual theology books in America. To this day, Creighton's theology department stands out among Jesuit universities for its focus on discovering God in our lives.

This is Dick Hauser's legacy.

We made many retreat trips together in Wyoming's Ten Sleep Canyon. In the '70s he introduced me to Centering prayer during those retreats. We camped around the West and thoroughly explored Nebraska, following the Great Platte River Road while reading the diaries of the 1849 travelers. And yes, he thoroughly enjoyed sitting in a camp chair watching the sun set with a Manhattan in his hand. He loved praying, reflecting, and writing in his journal in the midst of nature.

The final leg of our sacred journey was at Creighton during Dick's last eight weeks, as my brothers and I did home hospice with him, in his "room with a view." He loved praying and journaling each morning overlooking the Jesuit Gardens.

In his room, Dick came to terms with dying, which he described so honestly in

Fr. Richard "Dick" Hauser, SJ, died on April 3, 2018. He was a mainstay at Creighton University, where he shaped theology programs and influenced the vocations of young Jesuits for more than 40 years.



Photo: Creighton University

his last homily to his Renew group that met regularly for the last three decades. At that Mass, he reflected on the Gospel reading of the day: "Everyone who believes in him will have Eternal Life," he said. "My focus on finding God in this life is the right focus, but it hasn't made me look forward to the next life." He paused: "I like this life and I don't want to die." Then he reflected: "The spirituality I've been doing would be enhanced by a realization that this life is a prelude to the next life."

At the end of Dick's last homily, he asked a question that he often did in a dialog homily: "What occurs to you as we begin to think about our next life?"

Dick's great gift is to remind us to always look to our God, to speak to the one who loves us so deeply, and to find that Spirit in our hearts. ✠



Fr. Brian G. Paulson, SJ
PROVINCIAL

Jeremy Langford
PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT (VP) FOR ADVANCEMENT
AND COMMUNICATIONS

Quentin Maguire
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Ben Gartland
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Kurt Metzler
DESIGNER

USA MIDWEST PROVINCE

1010 N. Hooker St., Chicago, IL 60642
(800) 537-3736

Regional Advancement Directors

Al Bill (Minneapolis/Saint Paul)
abill@jesuits.org | (952) 715-0770

Nora Dabrowski (Detroit)
ndabrowski@jesuits.org | (773) 368-6399

Jeremy Langford (Omaha)
jlangford@jesuits.org | 773-975-6913

Jeff Meyrose (Cincinnati/IN/KY)
jmeyrose@jesuits.org | (513) 751-6688

Dan O'Brien (Milwaukee)
dobrien@jesuits.org | (773) 975-5755

Jeff Smart (Chicago/Cleveland)
jsmart@jesuits.org | (773) 975-6920

SPECIAL THANKS

Fr. Glen Chun, SJ; Nora Dabrowski;
Fr. Donald Doll, SJ; Ann Greene;
Nancy Hrdlicka; Dave McNulty;
Br. John Moriconi, SJ; Dan O'Brien;
Fr. John W. O'Malley, SJ; John Sealey;
Becky Sindelar

FOR MORE INFORMATION
WWW.JESUITSMIDWEST.ORG

IRA Taxwise Giving

Don't miss the chance to make a charitable IRA gift this year! If you are 70½ or older and own a traditional IRA, please consider making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year. A gift of up to \$100,000 made from your IRA to us will:

- Not be included in your taxable income.
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.
- Not be subject to the 50% limitation on charitable gifts.
- Help the work of our organization.

Contact us or your plan administrator to make a qualified transfer from your IRA to us.
Jeff Smart, Regional Advancement Director, jsmart@jesuits.org, 773-975-6920

An IRA rollover gift to the Midwest Jesuits can educate the next generation of Jesuits while reducing your taxes

Virginia DePorre, and her late husband Dr. Pierre DePorre, were blessed with a wonderful family and a great veterinary practice in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Pierre passed the practice onto his son and nephew who have continued and grown the business with great success. Virginia and Pierre came to know of the work of the Jesuits through Jesuit Father Francis Dermott Rabaut's sister, Carolyn DePorre. Fr. Rabaut was a beloved educator at Loyola Academy '45 to '46 and University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy '56 to '60.

With Pierre's wise retirement planning, Virginia was able to provide for her grandchildren's education through her IRA

distributions. Now, with her last grandchild finished with school, she provides for the education of Jesuits by directly making her charitable gift from her IRA to the Midwest Jesuits.

"I knew that I would never use all the money in my IRA," said Virginia. "My son Paul is an estate planning attorney, and he shared with me that a pre-distribution gift from my IRA could reduce my income taxes this year while educating a Jesuit who would go out and serve where the need is greatest."

NOW, WITH HER LAST GRANDCHILD FINISHED WITH SCHOOL, SHE PROVIDES FOR THE EDUCATION OF JESUITS.

The formation of a Jesuit takes more than ten years and costs over \$500,000. Virginia made a four-year pledge to support the education of a Jesuit from her IRA each year, including naming the Midwest Jesuits as a beneficiary in order to honor her commitment should she pass away before her pledge is fulfilled.

To learn more about IRA rollover gifts, contact Jeff Smart, Regional Advancement Director, at jsmart@jesuits.org or at 773-975-6920.

Join Us for Events This Fall

Jesuit Connections — Chicago*

Sept. 5, 2018

Speaker: **Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ**, retreat director at Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House

Location: Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60661

For more information, contact

Lauren Gaffey at (773) 234-5482 or at lgaffey@jesuits.org
or Dan O'Brien at (773) 975-5755 or at dobrien@jesuits.org

* Program for Young Adults

Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network of Milwaukee

Sept. 10, 2018

Speaker: **Dr. Michael Lovell**, president of Marquette University

Location: The Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233

Contact Dan O'Brien at (773) 975-5755 or at dobrien@jesuits.org

Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network of Cincinnati

Sept. 19, 2018

Speaker: **Fr. Michael Graham, SJ**, president of Xavier University

Location: US Bank Tower, 425 Walnut St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

For more information, contact Jeff Meyrose at
(513) 751-6688 or at jmeyrose@jesuits.org

Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network of Chicago

Sept. 25, 2018

Speaker: **Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ**, provincial of the Midwest Province

Location: University Club of Chicago, 76 E. Monroe St., Chicago, IL 60603

For more information, contact Jeff Smart at (773) 975-6920 or at
jsmart@jesuits.org

Jesuit Alumni and Friends of Detroit

Oct. 4, 2018

Speaker: **Fr. Thomas Smolich, SJ**, international director of Jesuit Refugee Service

Location: Detroit Athletic Club, 241 Madison Ave., Detroit, MI 48226

For more information, contact Nora Dabrowski at (773) 368-6399 or at
ndabrowski@jesuits.org

Ensuring the future

The process of forming a Jesuit can take ten years or more and costs approximately \$50,000 per year per Jesuit. Your generosity today will make a lasting difference for generations to come. Learn more at

www.JesuitsMidwest.org/FormationSummer18