



JESUITS
Midwest

PARTNERS

Spring 2015



Making the Greatest
IMPACT
by Serving the Greatest Need

From the Provincials

Dear Friends,

“How do we measure the impact of Jesuit ministry?” is a question heard often in Jesuit communities around the Midwest (indeed, around the world!). By “Jesuit ministry,” we mean the work of Jesuits and of our lay and religious colleagues who serve or lead Jesuit-sponsored ministries. We know, too, that our colleagues, alumni, friends, and benefactors have similar conversations about the effectiveness of Jesuit ministry.

As the question itself reveals, our mission is to make the greatest impact by serving the greatest need.

The Society’s Constitutions and the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius outline rather simple criteria for determining what ministries the Jesuits should undertake to make the greatest impact. Foundationally, we are to invest in apostolic projects that give hope for yielding “greater fruit” for advancing the values of the Kingdom of God—God’s dream for our world, as Jesus gave witness to in his preaching and his ministry.

Within that broad base, Ignatius highlights key characteristics of Jesuit ministry that we as provincials weigh carefully when assigning Jesuits and sponsoring Jesuit institutions and projects: Our ministry is to be a “learned ministry”; we engage young people because they are the future of our church and society; we go to the frontiers and peripheries of our society where the needs are greatest; we provide ministries “of the Word” and ministries of interiority (retreats and spiritual direction); we educate future leaders; and we foster a multiplier-effect of whatever we do.

This past February, we experienced firsthand a powerful example of how Jesuit ministry makes a significant impact where the needs are greatest—where others are not able or willing to go. Joined by our fellow provincials from the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America, we visited the Kino Border Initiative (KBI) in Mexico, just across the border from Nogales, Arizona. The KBI ministers to men, women, teenagers, and children who have been recently deported from the United States.

The KBI leadership team consists of five Jesuits from the United States, a Jesuit from Mexico, several religious sisters from Mexico, and several lay volunteers who live in Nogales, Arizona, and cross the border each day for work. The team runs the *comedor*, or “cafeteria,” which serves meals to a hundred or so people on a daily basis, for at most a week at a time, until these migrants figure out what their next move will be. At night, the sisters from Mexico provide shelter for the migrant women.

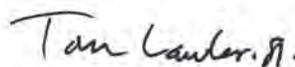
Our group of provincials from both sides of the border attended a Eucharist and a meal at the makeshift *comedor*. After Mass, we talked with those who came for food and shelter. Their stories of separation from loved ones and shattered dreams moved us deeply. As we wrestled with ways to respond to the call of US bishops for comprehensive immigration reform, we took some consolation in the work of our Jesuit companions and their lay and religious colleagues who are ministering in the name of Jesus at the frontiers where the needs are greatest, in the spirit of Matthew 25 and the Beatitudes.

In this issue of *Partners*, you will read stories of Midwest Jesuits and colleagues like you who also are on mission. It gives us great hope to know that we share this mission together with you, our readers, as baptized Christians and companions of Jesus.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Brian G. Paulson, SJ
Provincial, Chicago-Detroit Province



Thomas A. Lawler, SJ
Provincial, Wisconsin Province



On Sunday, February 8, 2015, US and Canadian Jesuit Provincials and members of the Jesuit Conference visited the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, AZ. Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ (top left), and Fr. Thomas Lawler, SJ (top right), were deeply moved to see firsthand how this Jesuit ministry serves those who have been deported from the United States.

Fr. Brian G. Paulson, SJ
PROVINCIAL, CHICAGO-DETROIT PROVINCE

Fr. Thomas A. Lawler, SJ
PROVINCIAL, WISCONSIN PROVINCE

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PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT FOR ADVANCEMENT,
CHICAGO-DETROIT AND WISCONSIN PROVINCES

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PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
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ON THE COVER

Jim Skerl surrounded by the Saint Ignatius High School community on October 3, 2014, on his last day of teaching due to a battle with cancer. He went home to God 20 days later.

Photo provided by Saint Ignatius High School

Features



Honoring the Life and Legacy of Jim Skerl

(Cover story) Fr. Raymond Guiao, SJ, reflects on the profound impact of his former theology teacher and colleague, Jim Skerl (1956–2014). For 37 years, the Jesuit-educated Skerl taught at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, transforming lives from the classroom to the city streets.



A Jesuit's Journey

Fr. Joe Eagan, reflects on 75 years as a Jesuit teacher, parish priest, author, and world traveler.



Jesuit Brothers Celebrate Year of Consecrated Life

In this Q&A, Br. Patrick Douglas, SJ, reflects on what it means to be a Jesuit Brother and why he loves his vocation.



Jesuit Education at the Frontiers

This fall, **Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago** opens its doors and a world of possibilities for students seeking an affordable, two-year program designed to maximize academic success. **Loyola Press** has launched a revolutionary new adaptation of its popular *Finding God* catechesis program to serve children with special needs.



Ignatian Partners Serve the Greatest Need

Students and alumni of Jesuit schools find creative ways to make a difference regionally and internationally.

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Midwest Jesuits



20

Cities nationwide where Ignatian Spirituality Project (ISP) offers retreats for the homeless and those recovering from addiction

\$35

Amount a first-year Jesuit novice has in his pocket, aside from a one-way bus pass, to begin a month-long pilgrimage

9%

Percentage of the 114th US Congress who are Jesuit alumni

950,000

Refugees and other forcibly displaced persons served by Jesuit Refugee Services worldwide

\$34,000

Average family income of students in the Cristo Rey Network

4

Loyola University Chicago is the 4th Greenest University in the US as ranked by Sierra Club

120 kW

The amount of clean wind and solar energy that Creighton University can collect on the grounds of the main campus, a project in partnership with US Department of Energy

241

The number of languages spoken in the Kohima Region of Northeastern India, which has partnered with Midwest Jesuits since 2002

500+

New patients were served last year in the new St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic located on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota

JCU Becomes Fifth Jesuit Fair Trade University

John Carroll University became the fifth Jesuit university to earn “Fair Trade University” status from Fair Trade Campaigns. John Carroll joins **Creighton University, Loyola Marymount University, Saint Joseph’s University, and Seattle University**, and is also the first university in Ohio to earn the status. Fair Trade Campaigns is a grassroots movement mobilizing thousands of conscious consumers and Fair Trade advocates on campuses and communities across the US.

Rev. Robert L. Niehoff, SJ, president of John Carroll University, signed a resolution on December 17, 2014, to declare John Carroll a Fair Trade University, surrounded by members of the campus student organization JCU Students for Social Justice, who organized the campaign. Prior to Niehoff’s official signing, John Carroll’s student government and faculty senate overwhelmingly endorsed resolutions in support of the campus effort.

“As a Jesuit university committed to human dignity, environmental sustainability, and economic justice for all, the decision to become a Fair Trade University is a natural expression of our mission,” said Fr. Niehoff. “I am proud of our students and congratulate [them] for their persistent dedication to this important work. These students have already been educating the campus about what this commitment means for us and how it will impact others. What was begun as advocacy developed into educational engagement, and this is an important step for our learning community.” ■



John Carroll University President Fr. Robert Niehoff, SJ, signs the fair trade agreement with JCU students (left to right) Andrew Schettler '17, Grace Donnelly '16, Catherine Looby '17, Dominic Gideon '18, and Kaylee Quanbeck '17.

Archbishop Romero to be Beatified May 23; Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande’s Beatification Process Opened

March 16, 2015 — The Vatican has announced that Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero will be beatified in San Salvador on May 23. Italian Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia announced the beatification date on the eve of the anniversary of the assassination of a close friend of Archbishop Romero: Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande, the first priest executed by Salvadoran death squads on March 12, 1977.

On February 3, Pope Francis formally recognized that Archbishop Romero, who was shot and killed on March 24, 1980, as he celebrated Mass in San Salvador, was murdered “in hatred of the faith” — and not for purely political reasons. Last month, the Vatican also announced that the beatification process for Fr. Grande had been opened.

Scholars and theologians agree that Archbishop Romero was strongly influenced by the pastoral work that Fr. Grande carried out in poor rural communities in northern San Salvador.

Archbishop Romero once said: “When I looked at Rutilio lying there dead I thought, ‘If they have killed him for doing what he did, then I, too, have to walk the same path.’”

The Italian newspaper *Avvenire* reported that the archbishop met Fr. Grande in 1967 at the seminary of San Jose de la Montana, where the Jesuit taught.

According to one colleague, Fr. Grande believed the only solution to “the evils of Salvador” lay in taking the Gospel to the people. He was convinced that by following Christ and being inspired by love, the Gospel could transform people and institutions more deeply than any political program or policy, the newspaper reported. ■



Archbishop Oscar Romero (left) and Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande

Ignatian Lent Program a Hit

Building on the success of last year’s “Moved to Greater Love” multimedia Lent program, the Jesuits have expanded their audience this Lent with “Igniting Our Values.” More than 21,000 users worldwide have journeyed through Lent with the new program, which is available online at jesuits.org/igniting, as a daily email, or as a weekly PDF file for those who prefer an offline experience.

“Our goal is to encourage Jesuits, Ignatian colleagues, and a wide range of others to think about Ignatian values as an entry point for daily meditation,” explained Jesuit Brother Michael Breault, who, in addition to leading the National Vocation Promotion Office, spent the better part of the past year putting the program together.

The 47 “Igniting Our Values” contributors are Jesuits and lay people, friends and

family, alumni, teachers, administrators, retreat directors, social workers, parish staff, spiritual directors, Ignatian partners and colleagues in mission. Their occupations range from sound editor to general contractor, from nurse to policy maker, from lawyer to chef—a diverse group of ordinary people who share the extraordinary impact of Ignatian spirituality.

Jesuit Father Jack Bentz composed daily prayers to complement the reflections and connect themes from the Scriptural readings to the particular Jesuit/Ignatian value under consideration.

The immersive program is enhanced with a carefully curated selection of music, video, art, prose and poetry, as well as a special weekly focus on the Blessed Mother. Reflections and the Gospel readings are

available in Spanish and English.

Br. Breault points out that the deciding factor for most young people who are choosing a religious order is how well the members “own” their collective religious identity. “Stats show that young people are most likely to join those religious communities whose members consistently exhibit a clear and joyous appropriation of the order’s unique identity,” he said. “So by clarifying our identity as

Jesuits and ‘Ignatians,’ we are also promoting vocations to the Society of Jesus.”

It’s not too late to experience “Igniting Our Values”! Visit jesuits.org/igniting to join people around the world in prayerfully considering the meaning of discipleship in today’s dizzyingly distracted world. ■



Jesuit Refugee Services Celebrates 35 Years and a New Leader

In 1980, a refugee crisis seized world headlines. Vietnamese were fleeing their county in anything that could float, and images of the “boat people” were seared into many peoples’ hearts. Father Pedro Arrupe, SJ, then-Superior General of the Society of Jesus, was one such person. He motivated

its headquarters in Rome.

German Jesuit Father Peter Balleis is finishing his eight-year term as JRS International Director this year. Fr. Balleis worked extensively in southern Africa before moving to Rome, and under his leadership, JRS is now present in Iraq and Syria, among

North Kivu Province, learning from refugees and staff about what it is to “be part of JRS and how I can best serve in my new assignment.” While he’s there, Fr.

Smolich is working as the JRS Bureau bookkeeper and accompanying refugees in the camps — as well as learning to speak French and read Swahili.

Working in seven refugee camps in and around Masisi, JRS offers services to displaced people in each community: education; pastoral counseling and psycho-social accompaniment; supplies and services for the most vulnerable; and income-generating training, such as carpentry, soap making and hairdressing. JRS’ focus on formal and informal education helps provide structure and normalcy to lives destroyed by war.

Father Smolich is grateful for the opportunity to work with refugees in Masisi. “It was Fr. Balleis’ idea to send me here. I’m getting the best preparation possible, and I am honored and excited to succeed him.” ■



Fr. Tom Smolich, SJ, is in the Democratic Republic of Congo to prepare for his upcoming role as international director of Jesuit Refugee Service.



Children in the Jesuit Refugee Service nursery in Masisi

Jesuits around the world to respond to the crisis, and the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) was born. The organization’s motto—to accompany, serve and advocate—distinguishes JRS from other refugee-service agencies and is the foundation for its response to other refugee crises throughout the world. As JRS celebrates 35 years, it also prepares to welcome a new international director to

other recent refugee crises.

Father Balleis’ successor, Fr. Tom Smolich, SJ, is currently immersing himself in JRS’ mission by accompanying refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Father Smolich, a California Province Jesuit who finished his term as president of the Jesuit Conference last year, is spending four months in the town of Masisi in the

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

Visit www.jesuitsmidwest.org for more information
 CDT=Chicago-Detroit Province
 WIS=Wisconsin Province



Fr. Leon S. Rausch, SJ (WIS)
 March 25, 1924 to March 14, 2015
 Parish ministry at St. Francis Mission on Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota and hospital chaplaincy in Omaha, NE



Br. Robert G. Cardosi, SJ (CDT)
 November 21, 1926 to March 11, 2015
 Cook at Saint Ignatius College Prep, kitchen manager at Bellarmine Retreat House, and chaplain at various hospitals in Cincinnati



Br. David L. Henderson, SJ (CDT)
 October 27, 1943 to March 6, 2015
 Religious education teacher at St. Xavier High School, counselor at Loyola Academy, and facilities manager at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School Chicago



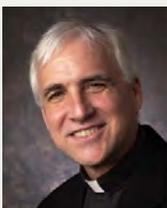
Fr. Harold J. Sommer, SJ (CDT)
 December 19, 1926 to February 14, 2015
 Physics and engineering teacher at the University of Notre Dame, engineer consultant, and pastoral ministry at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Milford, and retreat director at Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford



Fr. James L. Michalski, SJ (WIS)
 April 30, 1942 to December 6, 2014
 Founding president of Jesuit Middle School (now Jesuit Academy) in Omaha, and parish work among Lakota at St. Francis Mission in Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota



Fr. Gerald T. Regan, SJ (WIS)
 April 19, 1931 to October 23, 2014
 Professor and professor emeritus at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama



Fr. J. William Harmless, SJ
 (Central and Southern Province, applied to WIS)
 July 30, 1953 to October 14, 2014
 Professor of historical theology and patristic studies at Creighton University, and scholar contributing significant writings about St. Augustine and early monasticism

Leadership in Jesuit Schools

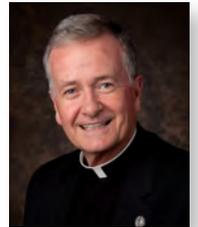


Fr. Raymond Guiao, SJ, has been named the 26th president of Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, Ohio, effective July 1, 2015. Fr. Guiao served for seven years as assistant to the provincial for formation for the Midwest Jesuits. He succeeds Fr. William J. Murphy, SJ, who will complete the school year and then move to a new assignment.

Fr. Thomas Neitzke, SJ, has been named the 33rd president of Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha, Nebraska. He will succeed interim president John Naatz in March 2015. Fr. Neitzke has been president at Jesuit Academy in Omaha since 2011.



Fr. Daniel Hendrickson, SJ, has been named the 25th president of Creighton University. He will leave his post as associate provost for academic initiatives at Marquette University and take office on July 15, 2015. He succeeds interim president J. Chris



Bradberry, Pharm.D. who took over for **Fr. Timothy Lannon, SJ**, who was president from 2011–2015. After a sabbatical, Fr. Lannon will be “president in residence” at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.



Jeb Myers has been elected the 3rd president of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School – Twin Cities. Since 2007, he has been a founding faculty member, assistant principal, and interim president of the school.

NEW RESIDENTS OF SENIOR JESUIT COMMUNITIES

COLOMBIERE



Fr. Dennis Ahern, SJ

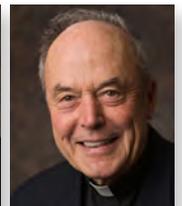


Fr. Robert Welsh, SJ

ST. CAMILLUS



Fr. Thomas Caldwell, SJ



Fr. James O'Leary, SJ



Fr. George Lane, SJ



Fr. Robert Dolan, SJ



Fr. James Warosh, SJ

RETREAT MINISTRY



Anne Kelly Williams has been named executive director for Charis Ministries, a Jesuit ministry that reaches out to those in their 20s and 30s with peer-led retreats. Williams succeeds Pam Coster who led and helped Charis grow from 2009–2014.

INTERNATIONAL



Fr. Douglas Marcouiller, SJ (UCS), now has the title of Fr. General's Regional Assistant for Canada and the USA, adding in Canada to the relational duties that he recently inherited from Fr. James Grummer, SJ, a General Councilor to Father General.



Fr. Thomas Smolich, SJ (CFN), has been appointed by Father General as the international director of the Jesuit Refugee Service after serving as president of the Jesuit Conference for eight years. (For more, see page 3.)

JESUIT COMMUNITIES

Fr. Frederick Benda, SJ, has been appointed vice-superior of the Saint Ignatius Dependent Jesuit Community in Cleveland, Ohio. He succeeds



Fr. Lawrence Ober, SJ,



who, after 35 years at Saint Ignatius High School, will become socius to director of novices at the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Alberto Hurtado in St. Paul, Minnesota.

minister at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He succeeds Fr. Daniel Reim, SJ, as superior. Fr. Ferone will serve as a campus minister at St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan.

Fr. Keith Muccino, SJ, has been appointed vice-superior of the Oak Park Jesuit Community in Oak Park, Illinois. He succeeds **Fr. John O'Callaghan, SJ**,



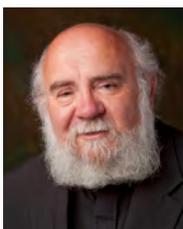
who has served as vice-superior since 2005 and will continue to serve as university ministry chaplain for the health science division at the Stritch School of Medicine.



Fr. Joseph Daoust, SJ, will return from sabbatical and serve as superior of the Holy Rosary Mission Jesuit Community, and assist with pastoral needs at local parishes, effective July 31, 2015. He succeeds **Fr. David De Marco, SJ**, who served as superior and assisted with pastoral needs at Pine Ridge Reservation and on the medical team at Indian Health Services in Pine Ridge.



Fr. John Ferone, SJ, has been appointed superior of the Ann Arbor Jesuit Community in Ann Arbor, Michigan, effective in summer 2015 after serving as campus



PASTORAL



Fr. Lorn Snow, SJ, will become pastor at St. John's Parish on the campus of Creighton University, effective June 2015, after serving as pastor at Church of the Gesu in University Heights, Ohio, for the past 9 years and as associate pastor from 1999–2006.

Fr. James Von Tobel, SJ, will return to Gesu and serve as interim pastor after serving as parochial vicar of St. Ann's Parish Cluster in Cadillac, Michigan.



PROVINCE OFFICE



Sheila McClure joined the Midwest Jesuits as the assistant treasurer and director of finance in December 2014. Most recently, McClure was director of finance for The Northridge Group.

Ann Greene has been named director of annual appeals and new campaigns for the Midwest Jesuits. She has served in the advancement office for 6 years.



Honoring the Life and Legacy of Jim Skerl

By Fr. Raymond Guiao, SJ

In the cover story, Fr. Ray Guiao, SJ, celebrates the life and legacy of his former theology teacher and colleague, Mr. Jim Skerl, who taught at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland for 37 years. As Fr. Guiao prepares for his new role this fall as Saint Ignatius's 26th president, he remains grateful for Jim Skerl, who died at age 58 of pancreatic cancer on October 23, 2014—exactly 523 years after Ignatius of Loyola was born.

I spent a lot of years in my Jesuit formation studying graduate theology to prepare for priesthood. All that study also prepared me to teach theology at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland alongside Jim Skerl, who deeply inspired me when I was a student at the school. A product of Jesuit education (Gesu School, Saint Ignatius High School, and John Carroll University '78), Skerl embraced the Jesuit ideals of forming men and women for others and serving where the need is greatest.

Jim was a master theology teacher, inspiring and transforming countless students, with the gospels as his textbook and his lived example as his method. He taught Eucharistic theology, especially the theology of the Real Presence of Christ, as clearly as I have ever seen. Not in the classroom, mind you, but in the school cafeteria kitchen, school chapel, and city streets of Cleveland every Sunday evening in the St. Benedict Joseph Labre Ministry to the Homeless.

"Labre," as the students call it, was the brain child of Jim Skerl as a way to make the Corporal Works of Mercy come alive by sharing food, faith, and friendship with the homeless poor of Cleveland.

Students "doing Labre"—some regulars, some occasionals, and some first-timers—gather in the school's cafeteria kitchen every Sunday evening, roll up their sleeves, and get down to the business of making sandwiches and stocking essentials, such as hygiene kits, into the back of school vans that journey on established routes through the city to reach out to those in need. Since 2003, thousands of students have delivered food and comfort to nearly 90 homeless people each week.

It's an upbeat vibe at the school kitchen prep counter, the sandwich assembly line humming away with bread bag openers, peanut butter and jelly spreaders, and the wrappers and baggers. Ignatius students (and sometimes their girlfriends, too) dressed in jeans, t-shirts, and hoodies,

spinning tale after teenage tale about their weekend exploits as their hands stay busy with sandwich assembly.

At the kitchen stove, another group of students hover over giant stock pots filled with instant hot chocolate heating up before it's all poured into plastic beverage urns. Just outside the kitchen, students form a bucket brigade to load the coolers full of sandwiches; vats brimming with hot chocolate; and sacks of travel-size soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and even flashlights, spare batteries, and donated blankets, pillows, and clothing.

Once the vans are loaded, the teens shuffle off to the school chapel, chatting away until they reach the Blessed Sacrament alcove, where, without a cue, they fall to their knees for 10 minutes of silent prayer. One of the students lights the six candles flanking the tabernacle on the antique carved wooden altar.



Saint Ignatius's Labre Ministry serves Cleveland's homeless on Sunday evenings. Jim Skerl (far right) helped found and lead Labre for 12 years.

Until the very end of his life, Jim Skerl—still looking like the basketball player that he was—would stand next to the altar before everyone piled into the vans to break bread with their homeless friends. A broad smile would spread across his face, and, in a warm, hushed tone, he'd say: "Thanks for coming everyone. It means a lot that we do this, week after week. We could be doing so many other things on a Sunday evening, but we choose to be here, we choose to do this. So, just as we have found the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, let us now find the Real Presence of Christ in our homeless brothers and sisters."

And with that simple statement, Jim Skerl taught his students the deepest truth about the Real Presence of Christ. And in chorus, the teens would respond with the Labre Ministry mantra: "Poor in the eyes of men, but rich in the eyes of God! St. Joseph Labre, pray for us."

But Jim Skerl's reach didn't end with

teaching his students to feed and befriend the homeless. For years, Jim was friend to the mentally and physically disabled residents of Cleveland's L'Arche Community. On a regular basis, Jim would introduce his students to his L'Arche friends to whom he was so devoted.

Even the dead had a special place in Jim Skerl's heart. In 2002 he started the St. Joseph of Arimathea Pallbearer Ministry. Through the years, Jim would train hundreds of Saint Ignatius upperclassmen to serve as pallbearers and ministers of consolation at the funerals of Clevelanders who had little to no means or mourners at their funerals. Like the Labre Ministry, the Arimathea Ministry is a quiet service, one that attracts little or no attention. Yet hundreds of upperclassmen participate each school year. There was nothing glamorous about what Jim Skerl taught his students about living Christ's love, but to them, there's everything cool about living it, about being a part of it.

Jim was waked in the school chapel, his simple pine box coffin lying in state, just yards away from the tabernacle where he and his students would silently fall to their knees to pray on Sunday evenings before serving where the need is greatest. And for hours at his wake, I listened and watched as hundreds of people—students, alumni, colleagues, friends, family—poured into the chapel to linger over cherished memories of a man who let his example of Christian love for society's last and least do the teaching.

I once had a theology professor in seminary pose a question to us in a Eucharistic theology class: "What good is the transformation of bread and wine on the altar into the Body and Blood of Christ if we, the faithful standing around the altar, are not similarly transformed, too?" It was only years later, by "doing Labre" with a bunch of Jim Skerl's students, that I finally got what my professor was asking. No one taught—indeed, no one transformed—students the way Jim Skerl did. I know. I was blessed to be transformed by Jim Skerl. ■

Fr. Ray Guiao, SJ, is the provincial assistant for formation for the Midwest Jesuits. In fall 2015 he will become the president of his alma mater, Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland.





Fr. Joe Eagan, SJ, celebrates Mass in the chapel at St. Camillus Jesuit Community.

“All Is Gift”

By Amy Korpi

**Teacher. Campus minister.
Parish priest. Author. World
traveler. Photographer.
Mountain climber.**

These are just some of the words that describe Fr. Joe Eagan, SJ, during his 75 years as a Jesuit. And today, in his early 90s, he shows no signs of stopping. Well, maybe his mountain climbing has slowed down, but not much else.

For example, he recently wrote *Vatican II Renewal, Path to the Future of the Church*. “When I moved to our Jesuit Community at St. Camillus five years ago, it was the first time I had time on my hands,” he recalls. “I wanted to share the riches of our Church, to explain the renewal-reform of Vatican II as the sure way for our Church to renew herself and regain lost credibility, and especially to give hope to so many disillusioned Catholics, young and old today, as Pope Francis has done so well.”

Fr. Eagan heard this often-expressed need for hope when, as associate pastor in two San Francisco Bay area parishes, he taught adult theological education to hundreds using his prize-winning 1995 book, *Restoration and Renewal, the Church in the Third Millennium*.

His research for the present book included three weeks in Rome—a city to which he was no stranger, having organized and chaperoned two European tours for students from Creighton Prep and Campion Jesuit High School (a 1963 tour featured 27

students attending the coronation of Pope Paul VI). On a later visit, Fr. Eagan had the privilege of talking with Pope John Paul II and concelebrating Mass with him in his private chapel. In addition, he earned his doctorate in ecclesiology and ecumenism at Rome’s Gregorian University.

Other highlights of Fr. Eagan’s remarkable life include: serving as director of campus ministry at Creighton University

in Europe, Africa and Asia; and a “wonderful second career” of 15 years as parish priest.

Perhaps most poignant were his visits to Latin America. “My brother [the late Fr. John Eagan, SJ] was a great inspiration to me in many

ways, including his passion for social justice,” he explains. “John opened my eyes to the tragic situation in Central America in the 1970s and 1980s. As a result, I made three trips to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua to interview key persons, including Jesuits, to learn the true reality there for my USF classes on liberation theology.”

Reflecting on these many places, experiences and ministries, Fr. Eagan says, “I thank God every day for the amazing blessings and many good friends of my rich Jesuit life—and now, here at Camillus, for the inspiration of my Jesuit brothers, their nearness to God, their acceptance of diminishment and suffering, and their strong faith. Plus, they’re fun to be with. I’m so blessed. As the English mystic Julian of Norwich never tired of saying: ‘All is gift.’” ■

Dear Fr. Eagan,

**Thank you for your
years of service to
the Church, to Jesuit
education, and for your
witness to the people
of Central America.**

—LAURA GELLOTT

(during which he organized and accompanied a study abroad group to the Jesuit Sophia University in Tokyo, and climbed Mt. Fuji in the process); two decades teaching theology at the University of San Francisco, which included two round-the-world sabbatical years to study the world religions and the global Catholic Church and biennial meetings of Jesuit ecumenists



Fr. Joe Eagan, SJ

Photo by Don Doll, SJ

The Jesuits invite you to experience spiritual reflection and renewal.

For more <http://jesuitsmidwest.org/sp15r>

SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES

CHARIS MINISTRIES

Founded in 2000, Charis Ministries provides opportunities for peer-led retreats in the Ignatian tradition to those in their 20s and 30s. Retreats are offered in Chicago and, through the Charis Partner Program, in 37 cities throughout the country, including specific initiatives to serve Hispanic young adults and active duty military personnel.

**1333 West Devon Avenue, Box 415
Chicago, IL 60660-1329
(773) 508-3237
www.charisministries.org**

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT

Founded in 1998 by Fr. Bill Creed, SJ, the Ignatian Spirituality Project has offered retreats to hundreds of homeless men and women. ISP has retreat teams in 27 cities across the country that use the great intersection of the 12-Step program (e.g., AA) with the guiding principles of Ignatian Spirituality.

**1641 South Allport Street
Chicago, IL 60608-2131
(312) 226-9184
www.ignatianspiritualityproject.org**

RETREAT MINISTRIES

BELLARMINE JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE

Founded in 1948 in Barrington, IL, the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House today provides a variety of retreats for men and women and student groups, and veterans who have returned home.

**420 West County Line Road
Barrington, IL 60010-4011
(847) 381-1261
www.bellarmineshall.org**

JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE – CLEVELAND

Inspired by the gospel of Jesus Christ and rooted in the spirituality of St. Ignatius, Jesuit Retreat House provides a sacred setting for retreats and programs of growth.

**5629 State Road
Parma, OH 44134-2201
(440) 884-9300
www.jrh-cleveland.org**

JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE – DEMONTREVILLE (LAKE ELMO, MN)

Each year more than 3,000 men from all walks of life participate in retreats at the Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House. Retreats have one theme; to know oneself is to know, love, and serve God in this world.

**8243 Demontreville Trail N.
Lake Elmo, MN 55042-9546
(651) 777-1311
www.demontrevilleretreat.com**

JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE – OSHKOSH

The Jesuit Retreat House offers a variety of retreats including weekend, 12-Step, couples', a women's Advent retreat, and a men's holy week retreat. Located on Lake Winnebago, we welcome men and women of all faiths to our silent conference retreats.

**4800 Fahrwald Road
Oshkosh, WI 54902-7502
(920) 231-9060
www.jesuitretreathouse.org**

THE JESUIT SPIRITUAL CENTER AT MILFORD

The center creates a Christ-centered oasis where people of all walks of life are encouraged to experience a deeper relationship with God. Countless retreats are offered for reflection for adults and students.

**5361 South Milford Road
Milford, OH 45150-9746
(513) 248-3500
www.jesuitspiritualcenter.com**

MANRESA JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE

Through group and individually directed retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of

St. Ignatius Loyola, Manresa Jesuit Retreat House is a place of quiet, peace, and prayer that seeks to help people grow in their spiritual life.

**1390 Quarton Road
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-3554
(877) 626-7372
www.manresa-sj.org**

AFFILIATED MINISTRIES

CASA ROMERO RENEWAL CENTER

An urban, multicultural and bilingual spirituality center motivated by the integration of faith and justice, our programs offer formation and renewal for youth and adults, in the Ignatian tradition.

**423 West Bruce Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204-1506
(414) 224-7564
www.casaromerocenter.org**

SIOUX SPIRITUAL CENTER

In addition to retreats and spiritual programs, the center offers spiritual and educational programs for Native American mission personnel and catechists to develop local native clergy and leadership on the reservations.

**20100 Center Road
Howes, SD 57748-7703
(605) 985-5906
www.rapidcitydiocese.org/ministries/ssc**

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY RETREAT CENTER

Consistent with our Jesuit tradition and Ignatian heritage, we offer individual 8-day and 30-day directed, and silent retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. As a department of Creighton University, we also serve Creighton students, faculty/staff and alumni as well as parishes, school groups, organizations and private individuals.

**16493 Contrail Avenue
Griswold, IA 51535-9406
(712) 778-2466
www.creighton.edu/ministry/retreatcenter/**

Falling in Love...Again

Reflection by Emily Schumacher-Novak, a victim advocate in the Office of Student Affairs at Marquette University. Emily and her husband, Greg attended a "Christ Alive in Our Marriage" retreat offered by Charis Ministries in Milwaukee in January 2015.

“Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way,” says Pedro Arrupe, SJ, former Superior General of the Jesuits. Many presume that Arrupe is talking about falling in love in a Hallmark card kind of way. I believe he’s talking about finding what it is that makes us feel ‘most alive.’ He’s talking about that vocation to which God calls us. For me, an essential piece of my own vocation is finding myself challenged, loved, nurtured, and grown beyond what I thought possible through marriage to my fabulous partner, Greg.

In both planning and participating in the Charis retreat, “Christ Alive in Our Marriage” in January, we had the opportunity to return to those essential ideas that drew us into this vocation. It was a great day-long break from the busy-ness of our lives to encounter one another again, and others on a similar path. We found in front of us a community of faith-filled married folks to share the



Emily and Greg Schumacher-Novak and their son Jacob.

journey. We listened to one another’s struggles and rejoiced in the joys we find in common. And we found ourselves renewed in important conversations of faith that we often don’t make time for on a regular

basis. I’m grateful for the example of Ignatius at Manresa; seeking quiet to listen intently for God’s ever-present invitation. ■

What People Are Saying...

Bellarmino Retreat House (Barrington, IL)

“I look forward to my annual retreat at Bellarmino as much as any weekend of the year. The retreat master, staff, and beautiful grounds all work together to create an ideal atmosphere for truly thoughtful reflection and self-examination in the context of my Christian beliefs. It is a respite from the daily demands of work and family life that allows me to refocus my attention and energy towards the things that are most important to me.

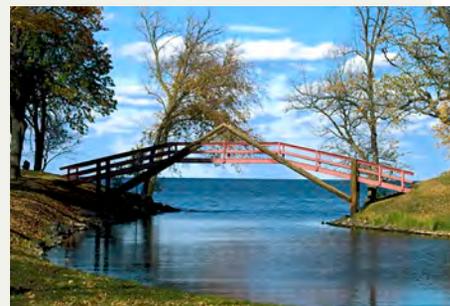
—Jim McMahon



Jesuit Retreat House (Oshkosh, WI)

“Thanks for a wonderful retreat weekend. Our group—seven of whom were first timers—cannot stop talking about how the retreat caused them to re-think their life choices and re-commit to a Christian lifestyle based, in part, on the Spiritual Exercises. See you next year!

—Parishioners of Christ King - Wauwatosa, WI



Responding to the Call of Christ

By Lukas Laniauskas, SJ

The alarm rings and everyone leaps into action, rushing to the scene to care for those in need. Working as the Berkeley fire department chaplain serves as a perfect parallel to my life journey as a Jesuit. I perceived the alarm of my vocation ringing at a young age. As a child, I served Mass and



thought to myself that one day I would be a priest. As I developed through high school and college, the alarm of my vocation only became stronger.

I entered the Jesuit novitiate as a novice (initial stage of formation) in Lithuania. Being born in a Lithuanian-American family, I was happy to return to the land of my ancestors. Upon completion of the novitiate, I professed perpetual vows (pov-

Messages of Encouragement received for Lukas Laniauskas, SJ, in response to his "A Heart on Fire" email sent to Jesuit Partners in January 2015.

"Lukas, your ministry is very admirable. Working with and spiritually supporting first responders is so important. They deal with horrific situations and have to make very tough decisions daily. A man like you can be God's soothing strength." — Steve Geis

"Your story about fire alarms was very touching. Prayerful best wishes as you get closer to ordination. I am so grateful to the Jesuits for all that I have received from them that I do want to be involved with your journey and contribute." — Deacon Rodolfo Salinas

"As a Jesuit, you have so much to offer as an inspiring role model by sharing your life with others, especially in time of need, through your service in emergencies and your work with young people." — Rich Ciccarone

"Having received both my bachelor and masters degrees from the University of Detroit Mercy, I have a solid grounding in philosophy and theology which has helped to shape my life. I think highly of the Jesuits and their emphasis on social justice." — Mary Gibbons

erty, chastity, and obedience) and returned to the States to complete my formation. It was then that I studied philosophy at Loyola University Chicago for three years (second stage of formation), went on to teach and serve as campus minister at St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio, for regency (third stage of formation), and finally landed where I am today, in my third and final year of theology (fourth stage of formation). I look forward to being ordained a priest in June of 2015!

When I rush with the firefighters to the scene, I never know whom we will encounter, whom we will serve, or in what situation we will find ourselves; every situation is unique. As I reflect about my ten years in the Society of Jesus, I thank God for the many people, faces, and situations in which I have been privileged to serve. When I entered, my desire was to serve people unconditionally, to be free to respond to the alarms of others' lives, and to walk with them in their joys, sorrows, and most precious moments. Though the journey has not always been easy or paved in gold, I have found myself continually consoled and inspired. My desires and expectations upon entering have not only been fulfilled but also exceeded.

The genius of Saint Ignatius of Loyola is the way in which he envisioned Jesuit formation. I could not be the man and soon-to-be priest that I am without the many



Lukas Laniauskas, SJ, serves as chaplain to the Berkeley, California, fire department.

significant experiences of God's grace—in my prayer, my living in community, my studies, my ministries, and, more importantly, in the many people I have met because I have been afforded these moments as a Jesuit. As the alarm of my vocation as a priest waits to ring, I feel I have been prepared to respond and respond well.

The alarm rings and everyone leaps into action. I rush to the engine as chaplain ready to tackle another call. The officer on duty (a fellow Christian) looks at me and says, "Let's go do his work." Indeed, I thought, let's go do his work! ■

For more "A Heart on Fire" stories, visit jesuitsmidwest.org/reflections/Heart-on-Fire



Lukas Laniauskas, SJ, was born in 1984 to parents of Lithuanian-American descent and grew up in Cleveland. He felt called to a vocation as a young boy. That call grew stronger over the years and in 2004 he entered the Jesuit Novitiate in Lithuania, professed perpetual vows in 2006, and returned to the US to continue his Jesuit formation. He is currently studying theology at Berkeley and is set to be ordained in June 2015.

Jesuit Brothers Celebrate Year of Consecrated Life

By Jeremy Langford

Q: What is the Year of Consecrated Life?

A: I'm very excited that Pope Francis is using this year to focus on the many gifts that consecrated religious men and women bring to the Church and world. A couple of years ago I was part of a think tank of religious brothers from different orders tasked with finding ways to promote the brothers' vocation. One of our recommendations, which went to the Vatican, was to complement Pope Benedict's declaration of 2009 as the Year of the Priest with the Year of Consecrated Life in 2015. Apparently, Pope Francis took the idea to heart!

Q&A
with Br. Pat Douglas, SJ



Br. Pat Douglas, SJ, in South Dakota with two members of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps serving at St. Francis Mission.

Q: What are the goals of this year-long celebration?

A: The Vatican has called for the Church to "make a grateful remembrance of the recent past" while embracing "the future with hope." The Year of Consecrated Life has three main goals—to provide renewal for men and women in consecrated life; to give thanks for the service of sisters, brothers, priests, and nuns; and to invite young Catholics to consider a religious vocation.

Q: When considering your vocation, why did you become a Jesuit brother?

A: When I discerned that I was being called to serve Christ and the Church, I felt called to be a Jesuit. I knew the Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality through my family and my high school experience at Creighton Prep in Omaha. I also knew great Jesuit brothers, like Mike Wilmot and Jerry Peltz, who inspired me with their humble service and showed me the possibilities of a religious vocation outside of sacramental ministry. I knew that I did not want to get married or to be a priest, so vowed religious life as a Jesuit brother made perfect sense as a way for me to live in community and share my gifts, work, and prayer broadly.

Q: What is unique about being a brother?

A: *Unique* is a good word. Sometimes people ask me, "Why be just a brother?"

Besides being hurtful, the question places limitations on what it means to serve God. We wouldn't ask a parent, "Why be just a mother, or just a father." "Just" equals "less than," and whenever we serve God or others, there is no such thing as "less than." Saint Ignatius believed in the diversity of vocations and considered priests and brothers in the Society as different ways of fulfilling the same mission.

Q: What do you love most about your vocation?

A: Having the spiritual freedom to serve wherever God and the Society call me. As long as God is the focus of my work, I can make everything—from cutting grass to coaching to counseling—about God. I also love the relational aspect of being a brother. Through my ministries, I enter into many spiritual conversations with people who want to talk about life, faith, struggles, and many other related things. From there, I work to bring people closer to God. I love being a brother!

Q: What is the formation process for Jesuit brothers?

A: The two-year novitiate is the same for all Jesuit novices, then a man either takes vows as a scholastic or as a brother. The scholastics go on to study philosophy and

theology in depth, and brothers complement some philosophy and theology with further studies based on their personal gifts and the needs in the Society. For example, I was a social worker before I became a Jesuit. Once I took vows as a brother, I went on to earn Master's degrees in counseling and in spirituality, as well as a certification in spiritual direction. Jesuit formation for priests is 10 to 12 years, and for brothers 8 to 10 years.

Q: What advice would you give to someone considering a religious vocation?

A: Be not afraid! One of the saddest things I encounter is young people who are terrified to make a commitment. I see people in discernment for religious life sitting on the fence, scared to commit to one side or the other. Have you ever sat on a fence? They are very uncomfortable! My advice for someone considering religious life would be to pray for courage! We need courage to get off the fence. I tell guys who are entering our novitiate that they do not have to have it all figured out, they just need the courage to show up and see if religious life is for them. ■

Br. Pat Douglas, SJ, is a vocation promoter for the Midwest Jesuits and chaplain at Creighton University.

Loyola University Chicago Opens World's First Jesuit Community College

By Jeremy Langford

“Come hear about a first for Jesuits, Chicago, the world,” read an invitation sent out last fall by Fr. Stephen Katsouros, SJ, the dean and executive director of the new Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago. “The Jesuits—recognized throughout history as leaders in education—are at it again,” the message continued, “with a new model to address



Jesuit Father Stephen Katsouros, Arrupe College's first dean and executive director, is preparing for the school to open on August 17, 2015.

one of society's greatest needs . . . offering deserving, low-income students an innovative, two-year education that has been carefully designed to maximize academic success.”

Since sending the invitation, Fr. Katsouros has been busy. “Our focus,” said the seasoned educator, “has been on hiring faculty and staff, recruiting students, and preparing for the school's opening this coming August.” Arrupe College will be located at Loyola University's Water Tower campus in downtown Chicago.

Currently Fr. Katsouros is hiring associate deans and working with them to hire six full-time professors and four part-time professors. Full-time faculty also will serve as academic advisors, meeting with students at least twice per month to help them navigate higher education and ensure their success. Also, at least one counselor will work with students, who will commute to school, by organizing them into learning communities and helping them manage their studies, jobs, and everyday life issues. Arrupe is actively working to place students with businesses, especially in the heart of the city, that need reliable part-

time employees.

Prior to leading Arrupe College, Fr. Katsouros served as director of the Institute for Catholic Educational Leadership at the University of San Francisco's School of Education, was president of Loyola School in New York City, and co-founded a Nativity-model middle school in Harlem. In addition to experience as a service program director, dean of students, and development director, Fr. Katsouros holds a doctorate in organizational leadership from Columbia University Teachers College. He was ordained in 1998.

“This school is really the result of Loyola University's president, Fr. Michael Garanzini, SJ,” said Fr. Katsouros. “His vision is to make Jesuit education, particularly higher education, accessible to people who otherwise would be unable to afford it or unable to imagine themselves earning a college degree.” The school also represents Loyola's commitment to President Barack Obama's call for institutions of higher education, elected officials, and community leaders to make new commitments to increase college opportunity. Loyola's board of trustees approved the plans last June.

In his fall 2014 State of the University address, Fr. Garanzini, who has led Loyola University since 2001 and has served as

secretary of higher education for the Jesuits worldwide since 2011, called Arrupe College a “game changer.”

Arrupe College has committed to helping 2,275 students earn associate's degrees by 2025.

“Father Garanzini's great generosity in making Loyola's infrastructure and resources available to Arrupe provides many benefits,” said Fr. Katsouros. “From the outset, we are able to help students graduate debt free by setting the annual tuition at \$14,000 and then whittling it down to around \$2,000 through a \$2,500 scholarship from Loyola and Pell and Illinois MAP grants. Also, by sharing James F. Maguire, SJ Hall with Loyola's School of Social Work, we are able to provide our students, and even their families, with additional support while providing master's of social work (MSW) students with the in-service training they require.” Arrupe will have a dedicated social worker who will supervise the MSW students. The school is also partnering with Loyola's School of Education to chronicle Arrupe's growth as a model that can be replicated at other Jesuit universities and beyond.

To help ensure that students graduate, Arrupe will use a block schedule composed of five, eight-week periods for each year ▶



Potential students eagerly wait in line for one of Arrupe College's informational sessions. Father Michael Garanzini, SJ, president of Loyola University Chicago, calls Arrupe a “game changer” for people who otherwise would be unable to afford or imagine themselves earning a college degree. The school has committed to helping 2,275 students earn associate's degrees by 2025.



Loyola Press Brings Faith Formation to the Frontiers

By Joellyn Ciccirelli and Tom McGrath

of the program. Each block is flexible enough to allow students to take two classes for six credits while working and receiving additional help such as tutoring. Between blocks and over the summer, students will participate in special programs from financial literacy to leadership training to retreats.

Arrupe is reaching out to a wide range of Chicago Catholic, charter, and public high schools, including Cristo Rey schools, which may serve as feeders. “We are working with academic counselors at these schools to help us identify students who have the grit, perseverance, and resilience to do a two-year, hard-charging, academically demanding traditional Jesuit liberal arts education,” explained Fr. Katsouros. For students who want to continue their education, Arrupe will serve as a feeder for Loyola University and other four-year institutions.

The school is named after Very Rev. Pedro Arrupe, a Basque Jesuit who, as Superior General of the Society of Jesus from 1965 to 1983, emphasized a “faith that does justice.” For Fr. Arrupe, the Jesuit mission is not only to promote justice, but to “educate for justice.” “Today,” he said in a now-famous address delivered in Spain on the Feast of Saint Ignatius in 1973 to alumni of Jesuit schools in Europe, “our prime educational objective must be to form men-and-women-for others” who will participate “in the promotion of justice and the liberation of the oppressed.”

“Arrupe College will be an answer to the hopes and prayers of many high school students who have difficulty seeing a way into higher education because of an inability to pay for college,” Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, provincial of the Chicago-Detroit Province, explained. “This school is an example of the creativity of Jesuit institutions at our best, going to the ‘frontiers’ of our society where the needs are greatest—in this case, socioeconomic and educational frontiers. As with all our Jesuit schools, we hope to form graduates who will help make the world a better place.” ■

Learn more at luc.edu/arrupe

Loyola Press, a Jesuit ministry, has created a revolutionary program that gives teachers and catechists, parents and grandparents, the ability to provide complete religious education to children with special needs.

Recently released, the *Adaptive Finding God Program* offers an adaptation for every lesson in Loyola Press’s Ignatian-inspired *Finding God* religious education series, as well as hands-on learning tools and guidance to provide one-on-one lessons for children with disabilities.

The product development team at Loyola Press felt inspired by Saint Ignatius’s advice to his Jesuit companions to “go in their door” when seeking to preach the Gospel to those on the frontiers. It’s clear that children with cognitive differences, like those with autism spectrum disorder, often learn best when clear and concrete concepts are presented by the use of learning tools that they can hold, manipulate, and practice with. This is the doorway that *Adaptive Finding God* offers to those who wish to welcome children with special needs into parish religious education programs or to teach these children at home.

The need for this program is great: About 1 in 68 children in the United States has been identified with autism spectrum disorder, according to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control, while approximately 1 in 6 children has some form of developmental disability. “Children with autism and other disabilities are capable of having rich spiritual lives, yet many parents and children have suffered for the lack of appropriate materials,” explained Teresa Locke, president of Loyola Press.

The *Adaptive Finding God Program*, developed in consultation with the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, builds on the success of Loyola’s *Finding God* curriculum for grades 1–8, which integrates the themes of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with Scripture, Catholic social teaching, and prayer. The program heeds the Pope’s call to support the spiritual development of disabled youth. *Finding God* presents the authentic teachings of the Catholic faith in a systematic way that broadens children’s knowledge of their faith. *Adaptive Finding God* presents those



For more information or to order *Adaptive Finding God* materials, visit: www.loyolapress.com/special-needs-products.htm

same teachings—distilled into their clearest form, one idea at a time—in creative ways that children with cognitive and other disabilities can learn and take to heart.

The wealth of innovative materials includes colorful Loyola Learning Tools™, such as The Order of Mass Floor Puzzle, Steps to the Eucharist Movement Mats, biblical and family stick puppets with panoramas, and a Praying the Rosary Concept Kit.

Supporting the adults who serve the children is a key factor in the success of any faith formation program, and *Adaptive Finding God* offers unique and comprehensive resources for catechists, parents, and pastors. Even the parish community is helped through pew cards with suggestions on how to welcome people with special needs to Mass.

When asked to assess the success of the program, Fr. Paul Brian Campbell, SJ, publisher of Loyola Press, said, “Parents come up to us with tears in their eyes, thanking us for making it possible for their children to participate fully in the sacraments and in the life of their parishes. What better reward and affirmation is there than that?” ■

Joellyn Ciccirelli is vice president for new product development, and Tom McGrath is director of new product development for trade books for Loyola Press. The press, founded in 1912, is a nonprofit Jesuit ministry of the Midwest Jesuits serving the Catholic community.

Why We Support the Jesuits in Tanzania

By Laurie and Lowell Peterson

Fr. Jonathan Haschka, SJ, has been a close friend for many years (Laurie has known him since they were childhood classmates at Visitation School in Minneapolis) and has inspired us in many ways. During the 10 years he served at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Mwanza, Tanzania, Fr. Haschka corresponded with us about the challenges and the satisfaction he, and the

Nyashana, and we were honored to make some financial contributions to support his vital ministry. We were sure we'd get to visit him in Mwanza and maybe go sailing in the Seychelles, but he was sent back to the states to assume his current job as superior of the St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

Despite Jonathan's absence, our desire

textbooks at the nearby school, a quiet reflection space, a women's training center, a small business coffee shop, and a well-equipped playground for use by the school and community at large. All of these places were administered by a very competent staff led by Johanna Seles, director of the Lubango Center.

After a tour of the grounds of the church and living areas, we also met with the St. Francis priests, Frs. Gaspar Sunwah and Tarimo and Fr. Spillane. The warmth of the three priests, the simplicity of their lives, and genuine caring for the flock and us were humbling. A major surprise, to us, was the size of the church and the parish, which we saw at the Swahili Mass on Sunday.

So it all fit: the educational aspect, the clear need in the Nyashana community, a staff and procedures in place to ensure that money provided will be spent wisely. It is our dream that in coming years graduates of the women's training classes will be better able to support their families through the skills they have learned there. And perhaps a few years from now the school's students will be young business professionals and political leaders making meaningful contributions in Nyashana, Mwanza, and Tanzania.

We are thankful to have had the opportunity to see God's grace in action. These folks are gentle warriors, indeed! ■

Laurie and Lowell Peterson live in Jackson, Missouri. Laurie is a childhood friend of Fr. Jonathan Haschka, SJ.



Richard Ross, Fr. Aquinine Tarimo, SJ, Johanna Seles (kneeling, former director of Lubango Center), Fr. Jim Spillane, SJ, Lowell and Laurie Peterson, Sophia (new director of Lubango Center), Joan (kneeling), a volunteer and Florentine.

other priests, encountered in serving this community.

We decided many years ago that we wanted to emphasize Global South education in our charitable giving. Addressing



Fr. Jonathan Haschka, SJ

today's needs for adequate housing, medical care and nutrition is critical. But we also believe that education helps youth achieve their full potential, enabling them to make meaningful contributions to their

society, giving them life skills necessary to craft local solutions to local problems.

So, we were thrilled when Fr. Haschka shared with us that St. Francis had established an outreach church and training center in Nyashana, a struggling community outside of Mwanza. Through his letters, Fr. Jonathan very subtly sold us on

to learn firsthand of the Jesuits' work in Mwanza led us to make the trip last October. Father Jim Spillane, SJ, Business professor at St. Augustine University of Tanzania, and Dan O'Brien, regional director of advancement for the Midwest Jesuits, were very helpful in sharing what was happening at the parish and what we'd be able to witness during our four-day visit.

We arrived to find a neat, well-constructed campus that is obviously the pride of the Nyashana community. The Lubango Center is made up of a kindergarten, a library to augment the lack of



Kindergarteners playing at the Lubango Center in Nyashana.

Birds of a Feather Make an Impact Together in the Twin Cities

The Twin Cities' Alumni Associations of Marquette and Creighton universities gathered on January 14, 2015, at the 508 Restaurant and Bar in Minneapolis to watch their men's basketball teams compete in the first of two matchups this year, and to support a good cause. Marquette won the "friendly challenge" (53-52), but everybody came out winners in supporting families in need. The Golden Eagles and Bluejays alums collected 110 receiving blankets for Second Stork, a non-profit organization in the Twin Cities that supplies critical items such as diapers, wipes, formula, and cribs to thousands of new parents who would otherwise not be able to afford them.

Marquette alum Deb O'Halloran co-founded Second Stork, which has partnered with nearly 20 hospitals to serve families in the Twin Cities metro area. She and Creighton alum Tom Stack both serve on the Second Stork board and are extremely grateful to their alumni associations for helping the organization help others in need.



Twin Cities Marquette University Alumni Association's president Leif Bronson, Deb O'Halloran (MU alum and co-founder of Second Stork) join Twin Cities Creighton University Alumni Association's vice president Tom Tack, and president, Alex Beckey.

Al Bill, regional director of advancement for the Midwest Jesuits in the Twin Cities, attended the event and came away inspired. "These Jesuit alums really enjoy getting together to support the cause," he said.

The Creighton Bluejays defeated the Marquette Golden Eagles (77-70) at the "rematch" on February 14, 2015, in the Twin Cities where alums gathered to watch at Billy's on Grand in St. Paul. ■

Sweepstakes for Scholarships at Ocer Champion in Gulu

Nearly 30,000 Northern Ugandan children were abducted and thousands more people maimed or killed by rebels of the so-called Lord's Resistance Army led by Joseph Kony. Nearly everything in their lives had been broken down—culture, family life, morale and morality, health, economy, and education. Now that peace has come to the region for the first time since 2007, education is the key for a successful post conflict transition as it helps people break free of cycles of violence and suffering.

In the midst of this destruction, one such institution stands. Founded in 2010, **Ocer Champion Jesuit College** educates over 500 high school students in the Gulu province in northern Uganda. Father Tony Wach, a Jesuit of the Wisconsin Province, serves as president of the school and hopes to accommodate up to 1,200 boys and girls at this boarding school. Liberal arts and vocational schooling is offered to promote self-reliance as well as respect for the manual arts and the related trades. Many of

the students still bear psychic wounds from the abductions, loss of family members, the harshness of life in the camps, or present poverty.

Sam Wadsworth, a junior at St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco spent a week at Ocer Champion as part of a cultural exchange program. "From the minute I met the students, I knew that it was no ordinary school. The hard work and determination radiating from the young men and women I met is one of the most impressive things I have encountered," said Wadsworth. "Many of the students described their situations and feared they might not be able to return to school due to lack of funds. This upset me." Inspired by #GivingTuesday, Sam teamed up with "DJ Skee" and Dash Radio in Los Angeles to launch a sweepstakes on Facebook and YouTube where anyone who donated \$20 or more had a chance to win a trip to the Skee Lodge in Los Angeles and be inter-



Tailoring classes are fully incorporated in the curriculum to give students vocational skills they need.

viewed on the air by Sam and DJ Skee about their interest in helping students at Ocer Champion. Over \$4,200 has been raised through the "DJ Skee for Ocer Champion Sweepstakes" Facebook page and the Midwest Jesuits giving page at <http://connect.jesuitsmidwest.org/ocer> ■

Learn more at ocercampion.org

Jesuit Superior General Convoles 36th General Congregation

By Becky Sindelar

A General Congregation of the Society of Jesus is an event steeped in history and significance—but one that most people know nothing about. In the 474-year history of the Society, it's happened only 35 times; that changed on December 8, 2014, when Father General Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, Superior General of the Jesuits, convoked the 36th General Congregation.

Fr. Nicolás, who has served as Superior General since 2008, has announced his intention to resign, making a General Congregation, or “GC” for short, necessary. The congregations are held for only two reasons: to elect a new Superior General and to discuss major issues of importance to the Society—“matters of greater moment” according to the Jesuit Constitutions.

Jesuit Father John Padberg, a historian and the former longtime director of the Institute of Jesuit Sources, describes the congregations as dealing “with those matters that would preserve, protect, and advance the life of the Society, the individual and common religious life of its members and its external apostolates.”

Convoking General Congregation 36, which will be held in October 2016 in Rome, puts in motion a series of preparatory steps. Why two years of planning? As Jesuit Father James Grummer, General Counselor for the Society and Assistant *ad providentiam*, explains, “In the US we don't have a formal convocation before an election because everyone knows it's the first Tuesday of November. Because the Society of Jesus doesn't have a regularly scheduled time for General Congregations, we have to have a formal convocation.”

Fr. Grummer adds, “Once the process gets started, there's a whole lot of things that have to happen,” from Province Congregations held throughout the world to finding rooms for more than 200 Jesuits who will attend GC 36.

The Journey to Rome

Throughout the spring and summer of 2015, Jesuit provinces will hold Province Congregations, or meetings, where the Jesuits of the province elect representatives,



Delegates from over 90 provinces from around the world attended the General Congregation 35 in Rome.

called electors, to attend the General Congregation. The provincial usually attends by virtue of his office, but typically one or two other electors are chosen, depending on the size of the province.

The Province Congregation's other important role is to review postulates, which are suggestions any Jesuit can submit about topics for discussion at GC 36.

In the fall of 2015, the US provincials and electors will meet to prepare for the congregation. Among other matters, they will elect one of their number to serve on the *De Statu* committee, which examines the current state of the Society of Jesus. “If you're going to elect a new general, you need to know the current situation,” Fr. Grummer says of the committee, which is comprised of individuals from around

the world.

Matters of Greater Moment: General Congregation 36

With preparations complete, more than 200 Jesuits will converge in Rome in October 2016. The group will include Jesuit provincials, electors, and particular Jesuits officials. While the electors will know for certain what day to arrive in Rome, they won't know when to book their return ticket home. The shortest General Congregations are about a month long, and the longest have lasted nearly five months.

When the day arrives to elect the 31st

Superior General of the Society of Jesus, those with the right to vote will gather for an hour-long period of reflection and prayer.

“It was totally, totally awesome,” Fr. Grummer recalls of GC 35. “One of the most senior Jesuits gave a brief exhortation, reminding us of what we were supposed to do, and then we spent the rest of the hour in prayer. It was very moving. No one said a word, people just sat there and prayed in profound silence.”

Each Jesuit must vote and after counting the ballots, the names are read aloud. When Fr. Nicolás was elected at GC 35, Fr. Grummer says that everyone applauded. “Then he came down to the front, put his hand on a Bible, and read the Creed. Then everyone came up to shake his hand, and we let the Holy Father know who was elected.”

While all eyes will be on the election of a Superior General, the decrees that come out of General Congregations are very significant. Recent General Congregation documents have informed the current mission of the Society, such as Decree 4 of GC 32, which articulated Jesuits' mission and identity as the “service of faith and the promotion of justice.”

“A General Congregation is an incredible experience,” says Fr. Grummer. “You're there with Jesuits from all over the world, and they're really wonderful people. It's fascinating to talk to them and find out what interests them and to know what the issues are. You get to know new people from all over and connect with people you've known for a long time.” ■

Becky Sindelar is a freelance writer for the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States.



The Jesuit delegates of the 35th General Congregation (2008) enter the Church of the Gesù in Rome.

Photo by Fr. Don Doll, S.J.

Photo by Fr. Don Doll, S.J.

\$20,000 and a Rock

By Howard Craig

Most of the time, my work day is fairly predictable and constant. But every once in a while, something leaps out of the humdrum to jolt me and remind me that God is good and you, our benefactors, are faithful. Recently, I received a package at the province office. Curious, I opened the package to find a note, a rock, and a gift for one of our works in Tanzania, Eastern Africa. The note explained it all:

I have enclosed... \$20,000 to support the work of the Novitiate in Arusha... to provide an ample, safe, clean water supply [and] for repainting their buildings... Finally, as a remembrance of our shared interest in supporting the Jesuits' mission... I have enclosed a small volcanic rock that

I collected at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro. I Peter 2:4-5 calls us to become like "living stones" building His spiritual house. May this work help fulfill that call.

Like this benefactor, our support of the Jesuits makes us partners in their mission. As partners, we have some part in building God's spiritual house, making the greatest impact where there is the greatest need. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your faithful support of the Midwest Jesuits. Help us build that legacy, that spiritual house made of "living stones." ■

Howard Craig is the provincial assistant for advancement for the Midwest Jesuits.



Included with a gift to support the Jesuit novitiate in Arusha, Tanzania, was a rock. Collected from the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, the rock serves as a reminder that we are called to become like "living stones" building God's spiritual house.

Why I Support the Jesuits

By Jim Mahaffey

Many years have passed since I was a student at Champion Jesuit High School in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, but the impact of that experience is still very fresh in my mind.

It was the foundation of my education and the greatest influence of my later life.

Since my time at Champion, my appreciation for my Jesuit roots has only grown.

I also took advantage of Jesuit-led retreats and developed a friendship with Fr. Richard McGarrity, SJ.

This relationship started when I read a publication about Fr. McGarrity, who headed the Jesuit Partnership. Interested in learning more, I called to ask about the work he was doing. At that time, his assignment was in advancement for the Society's Wisconsin Province, raising funds for the care of elderly and infirm Jesuits, training of seminarians, and support of national and international Jesuit ministries.

I told him I was interested in financially supporting the Jesuits' efforts, but I wanted to know firsthand where my donations were specifically going. So I flew to Milwaukee

and Marquette University, and together with Fr. McGarrity, toured the St. Camillus facilities where elder Jesuits "retire." Seeing how the retired priests are cared for, and continue to serve, impressed me.

When it came time for estate planning, my Financial and Estate Planner advised me there were significant tax advantages in benefiting a charity. While I've given to various causes over the years, I've never been what I'd consider a philanthropist. So this was an opportunity to think about where I believed a meaningful donation would do a great deal of good.

For me, the choice was clear: I named the Jesuits—and particularly their efforts to care for the elder retiring priests—as a beneficiary in my trust. I think when you're choosing a cause to support, it's important you know something about it, and have a relationship with it, versus a worthwhile, but "distant" charity. In my case, the Jesuits have had a powerful, personal, special effect on my life, and I know they will use the funds well. ■



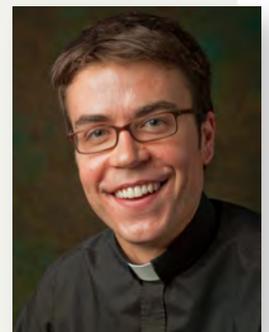
Fr. Richard A. McGarrity, SJ (1931-2009) was a marketing professor and later an associate vice president for academic affairs at Marquette University. He served as president of Jesuit Partners in Milwaukee.

Arriving in your mailbox soon...

Michael Rossmann, SJ, a Jesuit scholastic and 2007 valedictorian from the University

of Notre Dame, attributes his vocation to a retreat on Ignatian Spirituality led by Fr. Brian Daley, SJ, a theology professor at the university for over two decades. Fr. Daley lit a spark that led to a vocational fire for Michael Rossmann, SJ. Read about the impact Fr. Daley had on Michael's journey through Jesuit formation.

For more, jesuitsmidwest.org/ImpactSJ



Michael Rossmann, SJ
Jesuit Scholastic and
Editor-in-Chief of *The Jesuit Post*

For more on planned giving, visit jesuitmagisgift.org

Midwest Jesuits Ordination

June 13, 2015

9:30 a.m.

Queen of All Saints Basilica
6280 North Sauganash Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Society of Jesus
2050 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60614

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Meet the 2015 Ordinands



L. Adam DeLeon, SJ



Ryan G. Duns, SJ



Joseph A. Koczera, SJ



Christopher J. Krall, SJ



Lukas M. Laniauskas, SJ



Jacob D. Martin, SJ



Timothy M. McCabe, SJ



James R. Shea, SJ

Save the date for 2016 Ordination
June 4, 2016, 10:00 a.m., Gesu Church, Milwaukee, WI