PARTNERS

Summer 2015

Embracing the Future with Hope

Also in This Issue: The Spirituality of Solidarity | The Pope’s Call to Action | Celebrating Jesuit Jubilarians
Dear Friends,

During this “Year of Consecrated Life,” Pope Francis has asked the Church to “look to the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion, and to embrace the future with hope.”

This summer the Midwest Jesuits, and indeed Jesuits throughout the world, have had a very special opportunity to respond to the pope’s call for reflection by conducting “province congregations” in preparation for the Society of Jesus’ General Congregation, which will take place in Rome in October 2016. The Midwest Jesuits of the Chicago-Detroit and Wisconsin Provinces who were elected to attend the regional congregations gathered at Loyola University Chicago to pray, reflect, and elect delegates to attend the upcoming General Congregation.

This international meeting will be the 36th General Congregation since the time of Saint Ignatius and will include Jesuits from every region of the world. Delegates will also elect a new Superior General to continue the good work that Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, has accomplished in the role since 2008. The delegates will pray together and discuss important issues of our time, seeking the Spirit’s guidance on how the Society can best serve the needs of the Church and respond to urgent needs around the world.

As in the past, we will invite the Holy Father to address the congregation delegates. As a Jesuit, and before becoming archbishop of Buenos Aires, Pope Francis attended the Jesuits’ 32nd General Congregation in 1975 and the 33rd General Congregation in 1983. He understands from personal experience the importance of such a worldwide gathering of Jesuits and its implications for our mission. We look forward to his guidance for the future direction of our service to the universal Church. Please join us in praying for the Spirit’s guidance in the preparations for these important events in our history.

Every summer we have a wonderful opportunity to look to the past with gratitude by honoring our Jesuits who have gone home to God and our jubilarians who continue offering their lives in service to God and God’s people. We invite you to read the reflections in this issue by some of our jubilarians celebrating 50 years in the Society (see pages 14–15).

We also invite you to join us in embracing the future with hope by celebrating the eight Jesuits who were ordained on June 13 at Queen of All Saints Basilica in Chicago by the Most Reverend Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R., archbishop of Indianapolis, Ind. (see pages 10–13).

Finally, we invite you to enjoy the many news items and articles in this issue that show how together, with your help and prayers, we are living the present with passion.

We continue to pray for you, and we ask for your prayers in return.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

Thomas A. Lawler, SJ
Provincial, Wisconsin Province
Summer 2015

Features

A Jesuit’s Journey
Fr. Schlegel’s Living Sermon
Fr. John Schlegel’s life took an unexpected turn when he was diagnosed with inoperable pancreatic cancer. The university president, magazine publisher, teacher, and pastor has responded by turning his remaining time into a remarkable, living sermon on the things that matter most.

The Spirituality of Solidarity
The Ignatian Solidarity Network is a national social justice network inspired by the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Executive Director Christopher Kerr reflects on the organization’s mission and what it means to be in solidarity with those in need.

Ordination 2015
Embracing the Future with Hope
Eight Midwest Jesuits were ordained to the priesthood this summer. The ordinands share what inspired them to join the Society, how they have been moved throughout their journeys, and the many ways they are grateful for those who have supported them along the way.

Jesuit Jubilarians
Share Words of Wisdom and Gratitude
Each year we celebrate our jubilarians and ask those marking 50 years in the Society to reflect on a word that captures their lives as Jesuits. Enjoy their wisdom and gratitude.

The Pope’s Ecological Call to Action
In his much-anticipated encyclical “Laudato Si,” Pope Francis issues an unprecedented papal call to ecological conversion. The pope appeals to people of faith to care for God's ongoing creation and those in need.

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Stay Connected with the Jesuits
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Free App JesuitPrayer.org
By the Numbers

2
Number of majors Dallas Jesuit High School alum Jordan Spieth, 22, has won in the 2015 PGA Tour. He has won the Masters and U.S. Open

53
Number of Jesuits canonized by the Catholic Church

474
Years since St. Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus

36,524
Total Examens prayed by each Golden Jubilarian celebrating 50 years in the Society of Jesus

3 million
People in need of food assistance following Nepal’s Gorkha earthquake

6,222
Households served by Nepal Jesuits and collaborators in the wake of the earthquake

3,375
Students who have graduated from 19 secondary and pre-secondary Jesuit schools in the Chicago-Detroit and Wisconsin Provinces in 2015

Jesuits Respond to the Earthquakes in Nepal

On Saturday, April 25, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake rocked a mountainous region near Kathmandu, Nepal, killing more than 9,000 people, injuring more than 14,500, and leaving 1,400 schools leveled and 3 million people in need of food assistance. The tragedy threw the already impoverished country — it ranks 157 of 187 on the United Nations’ Human Poverty Index — into crisis.

Many of Nepal’s 62 Jesuits, with whom the Midwest Jesuits share a special relationship, were attending the ordination of a Nepali Jesuit in his home village six hours east of Kathmandu when the earthquake struck. Nevertheless, they sprang into action, making their way back to their ministries, turning them into makeshift relief centers, and developing initiatives and structures to begin the long process of rebuilding Nepal.

Targeted emergency relief efforts have included opening campuses to accommodate homeless and displaced people and delivering food and tarpaulins to hard-to-reach rural villages. Coordinating with other relief groups, the newly established Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) has assessed 25 villages in nine of the hardest hit districts and is providing recovery assistance, including both food and non-food kits, training, educational initiatives, and temporary and permanent shelters. After three months, the Jesuits will move from early recovery to the rehabilitation and continued response phases.

In spite of the many tragedies and setbacks, Nepal’s people are persevering. “The people of Nepal are ever strong, powerful, resilient, and cheerful in every circumstance, even crisis,” observed NJSI Finance Director Fr. Boby Thadathil, SJ.

The Midwest Jesuits established the Nepal Earthquake Relief fund in response to the initial quake and subsequent earthquakes that took additional lives. To date, generous donors have contributed $757,000, and the Jesuits have donated an additional $50,000.

Nepal, however, is far from full recovery. With the potential for landslides and aftershocks still looming, the country continues to face significant risk of more damage and suffering.

The Midwest Jesuits continue to accept donations on behalf of their friends in Nepal. Visit https://connect.jesuitsmidwest.org/nepalearthquake to make your gift.

Homeless Jesus Comes to Warming Center in Detroit

The famous Homeless Jesus statue found its latest home with a dedication ceremony at Saints Peter and Paul Jesuit Church following the parish’s 11 a.m. Sunday Mass on June 28.

The bronze structure, designed by Ontario artist Timothy P. Schmalz, who attended the event, is a life-size sculpture of a body lying under a blanket on a park bench. The figure’s identity is only revealed by the nail holes in the feet protruding from under the blanket.

“When I first saw a picture of the statue I did not notice the wounds on Christ’s feet,” said Michael Thomas, outreach coordinator for Saints Peter and Paul’s Warming Center, a ministry that serves people dealing with addiction, poverty, homelessness, and other issues. “Sometimes you have to look closer. Jesus was wounded by the lack of understanding and compassion in the world. Isn’t this true of so many of our guests? Being homeless can result in much guilt, shame, and self-condemnation, all of which reflects the judgment and condemnation of a society in which they have been dislodged.”
Pope Francis Plans Visit to the United States

Pope Francis will travel to the United States this September, marking his first visit to the country since being named pope in 2013. He will arrive in Washington, D.C., from Cuba on September 22 and will be welcomed at the White House the following day by President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. On September 24, he will address a joint session of Congress before speaking at the United Nations General Assembly in New York and a correctional facility in Philadelphia.

The White House Office of the Press Secretary indicated Pope Francis and President Obama will continue the dialogue they began with the president’s visit to the Vatican in March 2014, covering a range of issues including “caring for the marginalized and the poor; advancing economic opportunity for all; serving as good stewards of the environment; protecting religious minorities and promoting religious freedom around the world; and welcoming and integrating immigrants and refugees into our communities.”

The pope’s visit to the United Nations will include separate meetings with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and President of the United Nations General Assembly Sam Kutesa, as well as a town hall gathering with U.N. staff. Ban pointed out that the pope’s visit will come as the U.N. is celebrating its 70th anniversary and discussing sustainable development, climate change, and peace.

Last November, Pope Francis announced his desire to travel to the United States and attend the 2015 World Meeting of Families.

The World Meeting of Families was initially envisaged by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1992 and first held in Rome in 1994. This year will mark the first time the meeting occurs in the United States. The Society of Jesus in the United States is particularly enthusiastic for the first Jesuit pope’s inaugural visit to the country.

“We have been deeply inspired by the pope’s leadership, pastoral care, and witness on behalf of people living on the margins of our society,” said Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, provincial of the Chicago-Detroit Province. “We look forward to his visit to the United States and continue to look to the past with gratitude, live the present with passion, embrace the future with hope, and enthusiastically respond to his call to live out our faith, lay and religious alike.”

St. Louis Jesuits Announce 40th Anniversary Benefit Concert for Cristo Rey Milwaukee

The St. Louis Jesuits, world-renowned composers and performers of Catholic spiritual music, will reunite in celebration of their 40th anniversary at a concert to benefit the newest Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee.

The concert is scheduled for Sunday, September 20, 2015, at 3 p.m. at Milwaukee’s Pabst Theater. Tickets are available via the Pabst Theater’s website, www.pabsttheater.org.

Cristo Rey Milwaukee’s president, Andy Stith, is excited for the reunion. “I am thrilled to welcome the St. Louis Jesuits to Milwaukee to celebrate the opening of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School with a benefit concert,” he said. “Their music has given life to the Church for decades and, once again, helps breathe life into the Church through this support of Cristo Rey Jesuit’s new educational mission in Milwaukee.”

The St. Louis Jesuits, who formed when the members were Jesuit scholastics at Saint Louis University in the early 1970s, include Bob Dufford, Roc O’Connor, Dan Schutte, John Foley, and Tim Manion. Their contemporary liturgical music has crossed denominational boundaries and is as popular in Anglican, Lutheran, and Presbyterian churches as in the Catholic liturgy.

Special appreciation for the Cristo Rey benefit is owed to group member Fr. Roc O’Connor, SJ, who serves as an associate pastor at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee and is organizing the benefit. “Viva Cristo Rey!” announced Fr. O’Connor. “Come, sing, support, and rejoice in the good God has been doing in Milwaukee!”

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School Milwaukee is part of a nationwide network of 30 Catholic, college preparatory high schools for low-income students. Its unique and innovative educational model empowers students to pursue higher education, arms them with the tools they need to thrive, and provides invaluable professional experience through its Corporate Work Study Program. Cristo Rey Milwaukee will open its doors in August, welcoming the Class of 2019. To learn more about the school or how you can sponsor the St. Louis Jesuits’ concert, visit www.cristoreymilwaukee.org.
ASSIGNMENTS

Leadership in Jesuit Schools

Fr. Michael Marco, SJ, has been named 11th president of Marquette University High School in Milwaukee, effective July 1, 2016. Fr. Marco has served as special assistant to the president since 2013 and previously served as president of Georgetown Preparatory School in Maryland (2010–2013) and Walsh Jesuit High School in Ohio (2003–2010). He succeeds Fr. Warren Sazama, SJ, who will accept a new assignment after 25 years at Marquette High, including the past nine years as president.

Fr. Michael Garanzini, SJ, stepped down after 14 years as president of Loyola University Chicago and became chancellor of the university, effective June 30, 2015. He continues as secretary for higher education for the international Society of Jesus. John Pelissero, the university’s current provost and chief academic officer, will serve as interim president. The university will begin a national search for a president in 2016.

Fr. William Muller, SJ, has been named executive director of the newly established Jesuit Schools Network of North America (JSN). JSN will replace the Jesuit Secondary Education Association (JSEA) in providing services and programming to the 80 Jesuit pre-secondary and secondary schools in the United States and Canada. Fr. Muller succeeds Fr. James Stoeger, SJ, who served JSEA as vice president from 2008–2011 and more recently as president for the last four years.

Susan Smith became the fifth president of Nativity Jesuit Academy in Milwaukee on July 20, 2015. Smith most recently served as vice president of marketing and communications for the Greater Milwaukee Foundation and served for six years on the Board of Directors for Nativity. She succeeds Melodie Wyttenbach, who accepted a faculty position at the University of Notre Dame.

Province Office

Fr. Timothy Lannon, SJ, will become the provincial assistant for formation for the Midwest Jesuits, effective September 8, 2015. Most recently, he served as president of Creighton University. Fr. Lannon succeeds Fr. Raymond Guiao, SJ, who served as assistant for formation for the Chicago-Detroit Province since 2008 and for the Wisconsin Province since 2012. Fr. Guiao became president of Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 1, 2015.

IN MEMORIAM

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. William J. Sullivan, SJ (WIS)
December 20, 1930 to June 16, 2015

Fr. Lawrence A. Jonas, SJ (WIS)
March 5, 1921 to June 5, 2015

Fr. Lúcas (Yiu-Sing Luke) Chan, SJ (CHN)
Chinese Province, Applied to WIS
June 7, 1968 to May 19, 2015
First Chinese Jesuit to be missioned to apostolic work outside the Chinese Province, one of the world’s top moralists, and Marquette University theology professor

Fr. Roland J. Teske, SJ (WIS)
October 29, 1934 to May 18, 2015
Philosophy professor for 40 years and head of Honors Program (1978–1981) at Marquette University, contributed scholarly work on St. Augustine and medieval Augustinians

Fr. Benjamin R. Morin, SJ (CDT, transcribed to Peru)
August 15, 1920 to April 23, 2015
WWII army lieutenant in the Philippines, POW in Japan, University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Loyola Academy teacher, missionary in Peru, and pastor in Los Angeles

Fr. John F. Pennington, SJ (CDT)
March 14, 1937 to March 27, 2015
Religion and philosophy teacher, night chaplain at Loyola University Medical Center, director of Catholic Chaplains at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, and writer on ethics of compassion

Br. Donald H. Bengert, SJ (CDT)
September 16, 1926 to March 25, 2015
Registered nurse and infirmarian at Milford Novitiate, West Baden College, and Bellarmine School of Theology; nurse at Xavier University’s Student Health Center, home visitor to the elderly, and social minister at St. John Social Service Center in Cincinnati, Ohio
Fr. James Stoeger, SJ, will become the new provincial assistant for vocations for the Midwest Jesuits beginning fall 2015. In addition, he will serve as regional vocation director for Chicago, Milwaukee, and northern Indiana. Other regional vocation directors include Br. James Boynton, SJ, who will oversee central and southern Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio, and Fr. Paul Coelho, SJ, who will serve Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Br. Patrick Douglas, SJ, and Fr. William Murphy, SJ, have been assigned to serve as vocation promoters.

International

Fr. James Gartland, SJ, and Fr. Robert Geisinger, SJ, were elected by the Chicago-Detroit Province Congregation to be sent to the Society of Jesus’ General Congregation, scheduled to begin in Rome on October 2, 2016. Fr. Thomas Stegman, SJ, was elected by the Wisconsin Province Congregation.

Jesuit Communities

Fr. Stephen Krupa, SJ, has been appointed superior of the Clark Street Jesuit Community in Chicago. He succeeds Fr. Paul Brian Campbell, SJ, who has served as superior since 2008 and will continue as publisher of Loyola Press. In addition, Fr. Krupa will care for the Jesuits living in Henri de Lubac House in South Bend, Ind.

Fr. Douglas Leonhardt, SJ, became superior of the St. Camillus Jesuit Community on July 1, 2015, after serving as associate vice president in the Office of Mission and Ministry at Marquette University. He succeeds Fr. Jonathan Haschka, SJ, who has served as superior since 2011 and will prepare for a new mission.

Pastoral

Fr. Timothy Manatt, SJ, has been missioned as the next pastor and administrator of St. Patrick Parish and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Milwaukee. He previously served as president of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities. Fr. Manatt succeeds Fr. José Moreno, SJ, who served as St. Patrick’s pastor for 14 years and Our Lady of Guadalupe’s for nine years. Fr. Moreno will begin a sabbatical in August.

NEW RESIDENTS OF SENIOR JESUIT COMMUNITIES

COLOMBIERE

Fr. John Cuddigan, SJ
Fr. Robert Finn, SJ
Fr. Robert Grib, SJ
Fr. Eugene "Dutch" Dutkiewicz, SJ
Fr. James Gladstone, SJ
Fr. James O’Reilly, SJ
Fr. Bernard Streicher, SJ
Fr. James Gladstone, SJ
Fr. William Kidd, SJ
Fr. John White, SJ
Fr. William Kelly, SJ
Fr. Walter Stohrer, SJ
Finding Beauty in Simplicity
By Christopher Staab, SJ

When we think of Brazil, images of soccer, Samba, or Carnival often come to mind. No doubt, these are images that do give us an idea of the people in this vast and very diverse country. Yet, as a Jesuit student of theology here, I have had the unique opportunity to discover that though soccer is a fundamental passion for Brazilians (the 7-1 loss to Germany in the World Cup still stings the people) and that yes, the country does stop for celebrations during Carnival, these are images that often times are not so helpful in understanding the culture. I think of my own experiences here: drinking tea with a family in southern Brazil; taking the bus to attend Mass at a favela and greeting the people who so attentively welcome the parishioners; and studying with other theology and philosophy students in our library at the theologate. I wish I could share with you insightful, deep experiences, uncover the richness of this country, but what comes to mind as I reflect on my own journey here: drinking tea with a family in southern Brazil; taking the bus to attend Mass at a favela and greeting the people who so attentively welcome the parishioners; and studying with other theology and philosophy students in our library at the theologate. I wish I could share with you insightful, deep experiences, uncover the richness of this country, but what comes to mind as I reflect on my own journey as a Jesuit are the simpler images. But I suppose finding beauty in the simplicity is exactly what my Jesuit formation is helping me to see. Yes, we pursue the magis, but it strikes me that the magis is right before all of us, in the more quotidian, simple routines of our lives. I entered the Society of Jesus in 2005 in what was our former novitiate in Berkley, Mich. Upon taking vows in 2007, I was sent to Lima, Peru, where I studied philosophy. Returning to the United States in 2011, I was then missioned to Chicago, where I taught English and Spanish literature at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. And now I am in Brazil, a full-time theology student at a Jesuit center for theology and philosophy studies in the city of Belo Horizonte. Though this itinerary may seem anything but simple, having studied philosophy in Spanish and now doing theology studies in Portuguese, I am learning to be a Jesuit by finding this Jesus who is right before me, calling me to find him in the people who are with me. To learn their language, their ways of thinking, and how they perceive the world. That is why those 20 minutes after Mass talking with the people are so important and why that moment of drinking tea in a small village with a Brazilian family is central to my Jesuit formation. For Ignatian spirituality — whether lived in Jesuit formation or in the context of a family — asks me, and all of us, to learn to put others at the center of our lives. And in doing this, we become more like Jesus, who puts you and me at the center of his life.

Christopher Staab, SJ, has discovered the joy of life’s simple moments while studying theology in Brazil.

Messages of encouragement received for Christopher Staab, SJ, in response to his “A Heart on Fire” email sent to Jesuit Partners in April 2015.

“Thank you for reminding me to put others in the center of our lives. May our Lord be with you in all you do.”
— Mary Elizabeth Day

“Thanks for your message from Brazil. Keep seeing Jesus in those around you. That way you will never be alone. Peace & hope.”
— Fr. Jack Kieffer, SJ

“May you be blessed throughout your journey in becoming the best Jesuit you can…may those who have gone before you help you along the way. Thank you for devoting your life to God and all of us!”
— Dorothy Stout

“Thank you for being involved in the lives of the people and having a heart for the people. You bring a living example of Jesus to the community every day. May the Lord continue to richly bless you!”
— Kimberly Kinlow

Christopher Staab, SJ, is currently studying theology in Brazil in his final year prior to ordination.
“I’m doing what I’ve always wanted to do at the end of my life, and that’s to be pastoral. But I never thought I’d be doing it in quite this directive way.”

Fr. Schlegel’s Living Sermon

By Brian Harper

Jesuit Fr. John Schlegel’s desire for a peaceful close to his priestly ministry has been well-earned.

He spent the majority of his career in the stressful hub of higher education, serving as president of the University of San Francisco and Creighton University in addition to holding posts at John Carroll University and Marquette University. He also served as president and publisher of America, the Jesuits’ national weekly magazine.

So when he returned to Milwaukee as pastor of Church of the Gesu, it seemed his wish to lead a parish had been granted.

It had. In ways he never could have imagined.

In February, Fr. Schlegel was diagnosed with inoperable pancreatic cancer. The diagnosis was not entirely a surprise. For six months, he had been experiencing a mysterious stomach ailment. Initial tests were inconclusive, but he found himself beginning to confront the possibility of his impending mortality while vacationing with friends over Christmas last year.

“I said, ‘There’s something going on inside, and how are you going to respond to this?’ I did that reflection, looking at my past life. It’s been incredibly rich, gifted, and I’ve done some wonderful things, they tell me. I’ve touched many, many people, and I just sat there and said, ‘That’s enough.’

“And maybe my best lesson is yet to come.’

Father Schlegel’s first lesson came in his calm acceptance of his fate. He opted for “a noninvasive approach, no chemo or radiation treatment.”

“In the end,” he wrote in a letter to Creighton’s community, “I was interested in the ‘quality of life’ not the longevity of life. I wanted to have time to say ‘goodbye’ and farewell to the people and places I love.”

These goodbyes have happened at joyful “living wakes” planned and attended by friends in San Francisco, Denver, Omaha, and other places throughout the country. He also takes time to graciously respond to the letters, cards, and e-mails overflowing his inbox. “Be at peace,” he revealed to Marquette’s student newspaper, is his go-to response. “I am.”

While he acknowledges physical discomfort — “You just have to somehow offer that up or baptize it into the form that you want it to be” — Fr. Schlegel has already outlived his doctors’ predictions.

Upon receiving his news, he drew up a bucket list that included a return to England, where he earned his doctorate, as well as new experiences, like a Mass and private audience with Pope Francis.

“I found it as sort of a summation of my entire Jesuit life,” says Fr. Schlegel. “I was affirmed by not just a pope, but a Jesuit pope.”

Father Schlegel’s homilies and interactions have also taken on a new depth colored by his “lens adjustment.” His sermon on Holy Thursday was particularly profound, as he shared his insight that Jesus washing his disciples’ feet was not only an act of service but also, in light of their imminent denial, betrayal, and abandonment, an act of forgiveness.

“I looked out at the congregation and said, ‘I’ve just discovered this. Don’t take 40 years to find the place of forgiveness in your life.’”

Revelations like this, he says, are not uncommon since his “wake-up call.”

“My thing about finding God in all things,” he says, “you just never know where it’s going to happen. So you just let it happen.”

Letting it happen is an apt description for the way Fr. Schlegel initially discovered his vocation. When signing up for a mandatory retreat in college, he accidentally chose a weekend for seminarians.

“Once I got over the initial shock of ‘Oh, my God, I’m with a group of seminarians,’ I started to listen, and the Jesuit retreat director started to make sense. And four months later I was in the Jesuits. So it was either a lark or the Holy Spirit, but 52 years later, I think it was about the Spirit.”

That the Spirit could have led him where it has brings two words to mind: wonderment and gratitude.

“A little, blue collar kid finding himself at Oxford, finding he had a fit in higher education, seeing the world, looking at the Great Wall, looking at the Sydney Opera House, looking at Kruger National Park, etcetera, etcetera,” he marvels. “I’ve done it all. It’s wild. Who would have thought this would happen?”

For the most part, though, Fr. Schlegel keeps his gaze on the time at hand. “For me, the beauty of the moment is the moment. My lenses are much more focused in the present.”

He does, however, allow his thoughts to wander into how he would like to be remembered.

“I keep saying my headstone should be ‘He meant well.’ I think the best thing to say is, ‘He helped build God’s kingdom and included me.’”

Perhaps an answer also lies in his Holy Thursday homily. That evening, Fr. Schlegel spoke about his recent practice of revisiting hundreds of photographs for a glimpse of his life.

“We want to remember,” he said. “We need to remember. And remembrance is at the very heart of what we celebrate tonight. But Jesus did not leave us photographs in a shoebox. He left us something much better. He left us himself. He left us an example.”

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Family, friends, and admirers throughout the country and world would surely say the same of Fr. Schlegel.

Brian Harper is the communications specialist for the Midwest Jesuits.
Serving and Building God’s Kingdom

While not exhaustive, this list illustrates faith and justice programs of the Midwest Jesuits. For a more comprehensive list, please visit www.jesuitsmidwest.org/whatwedo.

UNIVERSITY, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY

CENTER FOR URBAN RESEARCH AND LEARNING (CURL)

CURL at Loyola University Chicago creates innovative solutions that promote equity and opportunity in communities throughout the Chicago metropolitan region, providing links to various networks in pursuit of new ideas and approaches that address grassroots needs. 6430 N Kenmore Avenue, 4th Floor, Cuneo Hall, Chicago, IL 60660 www.luc.edu/curl

JOHN P. SCHLEGEL, SJ, CREIGHTON CENTER FOR SERVICE AND JUSTICE

The center brings together multiple community service and peace and justice initiatives to form leaders who build communities of faith, service, justice, solidarity, and sustainability while at Creighton and beyond. 2500 California Plaza, Suite 2067, Omaha, NE 68178 http://blogs.creighton.edu/ccsj

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR PEACEMAKING

The center empowers the university and wider community to explore together the necessary skills to become informed, spiritually centered, nonviolent peacemakers, awakening to the holistic relationship of scholarship, spirituality, nonviolent living, and the active struggle for peace and justice. P.O. Box 1881, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881 www.marquette.edu/peacemaking

ST. FRANCIS MISSION 12-HOUR FAMILY RECOVERY PROGRAM, SUICIDE HOTLINE, AND DENTAL CLINIC

Built upon work between the Jesuits and the Lakota people, the mission includes religious education, an elementary school, language enhancement, recreation, adult education, and educational programs via Radio Station KINI. In addition, there are five Jesuit parishes, a dental clinic, a family-based addiction recovery program, and suicide hotline for people struggling with mental health issues. P.O. Box 499, St. Francis, SD 57572 www.sfmission.org

INSTITUTE FOR LATIN AMERICAN CONCERN (ILAC) AT CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

The ILAC Center in the Dominican Republic promotes the integral well-being and spiritual growth of all participants, offering service learning and immersion experiences in the rural Dominican Republic to post-graduate, undergraduate, and high school students, as well as professional groups. Criss III Building. Room 262 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178 www.creighton.edu/ministry/ilac

ARRUPE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP

The Arrupe Neighborhood Partnership at Saint Ignatius High School is dedicated to the formation of students and the community in the areas of education, mentorship, recreation, and good will. 2071 West 30th Street, Cleveland, OH 44113 www.ignatius.edu/arrupe

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY (UDM) LAW CLINICS

UDM Law School’s clinics include Immigration, Mortgage Foreclosure, Urban Clinic, Veterans/Project SALUTE, Veterans Appellate, Criminal Trial, Criminal Appellate, Youth Justice, and Mediation Clinic. 651 East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226 www.law.udmercy.edu/index.php/academics1/clinics

NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

CLAVER JESUIT MINISTRY

Claver Jesuit Ministry participates in social justice issues throughout the city, serving the communities in which it is located by partnering with concerned people in a variety of religious and neighborhood organizations. 3838 Llewellyn Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223-2352 www.claverjesuit.org

SS. PETER AND PAUL WARMING CENTER

The Warming Center seeks to serve neighbors who live on the street and often face addiction, grief, shame, fear, impoverishment, and/or mental impairment. Services include hospitality, hygiene care, practical care, Bible study, and (HELP) Homeless Experience Legal Protection. 438 St. Antoine Street, Detroit, MI 48226 www.sspeterandpauljesuit.org/center.html

GESU HOUSING (AFFILIATED MINISTRY)

Gesu Housing works to provide economic, energy-efficient housing for North Omaha families, with the goal of continuing the efforts of other non-profit organizations that seek to stabilize and restore neighborhoods throughout the city. 5008 ½ B Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68132 www.gesuhousing.com

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS (IVC)

IVC provides mature men and women the opportunity to serve the needs of people who are poor, to work for a more just society, and to reflect and pray in the Ignatian tradition. Locations include Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and Omaha. 801 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 www.ivcusa.org

JESUIT VOLUNTEER CORPS (JVC)

JVC aspires to create a more just and hopeful world by engaging passionate young people in vital service within poor communities, while fostering the growth of leaders committed to faith in action. Communities include Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and St. Francis. 801 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 www.jesuitvolunteers.org

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT (ISP)

Founded by Fr. Bill Creed, SJ, ISP has offered retreats to hundreds of homeless men and women. Retreat teams work in 27 cities across the country and use the intersection of the 12-Step Program with the guiding principles of Ignatian spirituality. 1641 South Allport Street, Chicago, IL 60608-2131 www.ignatianspiritualityproject.org
The Spirituality of Solidarity

By Christopher Kerr

“By visiting our community you have shown us that you are part of our struggle. We will be part of your struggle, too. Together, we can work for a more peaceful world.”

These words were spoken to me 15 years ago by a woman in a rural Nicaraguan community. We met while I was leading a group of high school students on a 10-day immersion experience to understand the realities of one of the economically poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere.

During the three days we lived with this community, we came to understand some of what it means to live without consistent electricity or running water. We saw young adults rise early in the morning to travel two hours to maquilas (apparel factories often referred to as sweatshops). We met a mother who had lost her six-month-old child to a curable case of dysentery due to a lack of access to basic medical care. We came to know the stories of this community, and they invited us to be in relationship with them — a relationship of solidarity. How we respond to such an invitation gets at the heart of what it means for people to be in solidarity with each other.

For me, the response seemed simple. I felt called to begin incorporating a concern for the reality of that community into who I was and the choices I made in my own life. To this day, it is impossible for me to shop for a piece of clothing without considering the people who helped to assemble it and how they are treated and compensated. I still get uncomfortable when I see people using excessive amounts of water, knowing that billions of people struggle to have access to clean drinking water just like that Nicaraguan community. And every time I take my children to the doctor, I think about that mother and father who lost their baby to something that could so simply be remedied. It is through these ongoing reflections we can explore how our own choices can enable our brothers and sisters, both near and far, to have lives filled with greater dignity and peace.

On a macro level, our work at the Ignatian Solidarity Network invites the Jesuit-Ignatian network into relationships of solidarity with people marginalized by our country’s immoral immigration system; violence and impunity in Central America; and the growing ramifications of human-caused climate change, which Pope Francis recently illuminated in his encyclical “Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home.” This growing network of students, alumni, parents, teachers, Jesuit Volunteers, parishioners, and many more, helps people learn about the ways their brothers and sisters are marginalized and invites them to become advocates for change that builds a more just and humane society.

This past November’s Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice is a prime example of what it means to be in solidarity. In conjunction with the Teach-In, the largest annual Catholic social justice conference in the country, more than 1,000 individuals (predominantly students and faculty from Jesuit universities and high schools) participated in a legislative advocacy day on Capitol Hill. Many of the students who participated were involved with campus service and immersion programs that introduced them to the kinds of stories that call us to solidarity. Ignatian advocates visited more than 125 Congressional offices (nearly one-fourth of Congress), shared these stories, and asked their representatives and senators to enact changes that protect the dignity of people and the Earth they inhabit.

The invitation to solidarity is open to each of us. Are we willing to be part of the struggle? ■

Christopher Kerr is the executive director of the Ignatian Solidarity Network. He has more than 15 years of experience in social justice advocacy and leadership in Catholic education and ministry and speaks regularly on these topics at campuses and parishes. He and his family reside in Shaker Heights, Ohio.
Embracing the Future with Hope

By Fr. Ray Guiao, SJ

Young Jesuits in formation hear several common observations from friends and family: “It’s been so long! Will you ever be ordained? Haven’t you studied and worked long enough?”

Indeed, the years of Jesuit formation before ordination to the priesthood are many and demanding: two years of novitiate, three years of philosophy studies, three years of apostolic work (usually teaching in a Jesuit high school or university), and three or four years of theology studies. For the Jesuit who discerns this call, the years of study and service do indeed prepare him well for priesthood. But in all those stages, a Jesuit also prayerfully discerns and comes to know the truth of his vocation, the truth of how God calls him to live, not ultimately for himself, but for the sake of others and — as Saint Ignatius of Loyola says — for the “help of souls.”

We in the Chicago-Detroit and Wisconsin Provinces have been blessed this year with a “bumper crop” of eight Jesuits who

I have such great hope for the Church as my brother Jesuits go forth as priests who pattern their lives on that of the Good Shepherd.

— Fr. Ray Guiao, SJ

were ordained to the priesthood on June 13, 2015, at Queen of All Saints Basilica by the Most Reverend Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R., archbishop of Indianapolis. In my role as formation director these past seven years, I have been privileged to walk with these Jesuits as they prepared for the priesthood. I have such great hope for the Church as my brother Jesuits — Joseph Koczera, Christopher Krall, Lukas Laniauskas, L. Adam DeLeon, Ryan Duns, Jacob Martin, Timothy McCabe, and James Shea — go forth as priests who pattern their lives on that of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

It is my pleasure to present our 2015 ordinands and share their reflections of gratitude to family, friends, and benefactors who have made their vocations possible.

Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam.

Fr. Ray Guiao, SJ, finished his term as the provincial assistant for formation for the Midwest Jesuits this summer. He became the president of Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland on July 1, 2015.
Father L. Adam DeLeon, SJ, 33, was born in Hollywood and raised by his mother, Nancy Loren, in Cleveland, Ohio. He met the Jesuits at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, before earning a bachelor’s degree in religious studies from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. Father DeLeon felt called to join the Jesuits after the transformative post-college experience of volunteering as a teacher and rugby coach at St. George’s College in Kingston, Jamaica.

His formation involved teaching at Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory School in Chicago, and serving as a deacon at St. Patrick Parish in Oakland, Calif. and St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco. Father DeLeon earned a master’s degree in social philosophy at Loyola University Chicago and a Master of Divinity degree at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, Calif. He spent a semester studying theology at Hekima College in Nairobi, Kenya, while also working at St. Aloysius Gonzaga, a high school for AIDS orphans. In July, Fr. DeLeon earned a Master of Theology degree from the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana. He then will work in pastoral ministry at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Chicago.

To my family, especially my mother: Thank you for sharing with me your faith and love for the Church. I watched closely as we set up and cleaned up at parish functions what true community means. To my friends: Thank you for the many times you have been there for me. You have shown me what it means to be a true friend. To the many benefactors of the Society of Jesus: I am eternally grateful for your generosity and commitment to the Church and the formation of Jesuits. I have been stretched and formed; challenged by different perspectives; seen the face of Jesus in so many diverse communities and people; had my heart touched by sorrow and joy; and have been able to deepen my love for God and God’s people. I am excited about being ordained a priest. I am most excited about sharing with others all that you, my family and friends and benefactors of the Society of Jesus, have given me.

Father Ryan G. Duns, SJ, 35, was born to Mary Michele (Hagan) and Robert Duns III and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He has four siblings. Father Duns first encountered the Jesuits when he was 14 and was playing Irish music in a band with a Jesuit, but he came to know the Society more deeply at Saint Ignatius High School. He earned a bachelor’s degree in religious studies from Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y. and a master’s degree in religious studies at John Carroll University in Ohio. During this time, he taught private music lessons and played across the country for Irish dancing competitions.

Following the novitiate, Fr. Duns earned a master’s degree in philosophy at Fordham University, where he also ran student programming for the Curran Center for American Catholic Studies, taught a course on the Irish tin whistle, and began to post instructional tin whistle videos on YouTube. Father Duns spent his regency teaching theology and Latin and leading the Student Senate at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy. He later earned a Master of Theological Studies degree at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, while also serving as a deacon at Saint Cecilia Parish. He is excited to serve Saint Cecilia as a priest when he returns to Boston in the fall, where he will earn a PhD in theology at Boston College.

As I look toward my ministry as a Jesuit priest, I am humbled that my life will be spent paying off an infinite debt of gratitude. My family must be credited for giving me the love and courage to risk saying “Yes” to being a companion of Jesus. To my Jesuit brothers who have walked with me on this journey, I can only say that I am humbled to stand among your company. Without the prayers and support of the Society’s benefactors, none of this would be possible. To all who have loved and supported me in my vocation, I say thank you. At my final judgment, I can only hope that Jesus will look kindly upon me and say, “Well, Ry, I recognized some of myself in what you said and did.” Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help souls as a companion of Jesus.

Father Joseph A. Koczera, SJ, 35, is a native of Rochester, Mass., and is one of three children of Helen (Davis) and Joseph Koczera. An early interest in politics led him to study government at Georgetown University, where he first began to consider a vocation with the Society of Jesus. He went on to obtain a law degree at the University of Notre Dame, while meeting with a Jesuit spiritual director and continuing to discern his vocation. Father Koczera entered the novitiate in 2004 and, in the two years that followed, worked in refugee resettlement in California and as a social studies teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago.

During his Jesuit formation, Fr. Koczera received a master’s degree in philosophy at Fordham University in the Bronx and a Master of Divinity degree at Regis College in Toronto. He also studied German in Austria and Spanish in Peru and Chile. Father Koczera taught philosophy at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia and worked as a deacon at St. Elias the Prophet Ukrainian Catholic Church outside Toronto. He has a special interest in Eastern Christianity and has served Byzantine Catholic parishes during his time in New York and Philadelphia. He will earn a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at Regis College in Toronto.

I’m grateful for the gift of encountering Jesus Christ in the Spiritual Exercises and receiving the invitation to follow him as a Jesuit, for the gift of having known many great Jesuits whose good example will make me a better priest, and for the gift of serving and journeying with people from many walks of life, including the refugee families I’ve helped to welcome to North America, the students I taught as a regent at Saint Joseph’s University, and parishioners at the church where I serve in Toronto.

I am also grateful to the benefactors of the Society of Jesus, whose generous support has allowed me to live, study, and work as a Jesuit. They inspire me by their own example: knowing of the contributions that they have made from their own resources to support the formation of Jesuits gives me the desire to be more generous in offering the gift of my own time and abilities. I look forward to sharing those gifts with the people I have been called to serve as a priest.
Father Christopher J. Krall, SJ, 32, was born in Marshfield, Wis. He and his brother were raised by their parents, Eileen Mary (Stingl) and Edward Krall. He initially felt called to the priesthood in first grade at Our Lady of Peace School, where his mother still teaches. Father Krall attended Columbus Catholic High School and then Boston College, obtaining degrees in physics and philosophy. He spent a summer working with Jesuits on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, led service immersion trips to Jamaica and Nicaragua, and worked on a research project for the Vatican Observatory. After a pilgrimage along El Camino de Santiago in Spain, he joined the Jesuits in 2005.

As a Jesuit, Fr. Krall earned a master’s degree in the history and philosophy of science and technology from Victoria College and a Diploma in Lonergan Studies from the Jesuits’ Regis College, both in Toronto, Canada. He also earned a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. He taught physics and religion while coaching cross country, tennis, and ski teams at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee, Wis., served as a deacon at Boston University’s Catholic Center, and worked with the Archdiocese of the Military Services. Father Krall hopes to further pursue his interest in Navy chaplaincy, as well as a doctorate in philosophy and neuroscience. He will serve as associate pastor at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee.

I am flooded with overwhelming gratitude for all the blessings that have been lavished upon me. I have been guided and nourished by people who have sacrificed so much of themselves for my growth, fulfillment, and joy. I have come to know Jesus Christ through these very real instantiations of divine love penetrating into my human life. I know that I have been blessed and given the special privilege of a glimpse into the heavenly light by acts of love done to me. Motivated by gratitude, all I can do is to love others by carrying forth these divine works of charity that I have personally experienced to those people who I am blessed to serve. I am moved by the desire to serve God, who I see and love in my family, friends, teachers, and people I will serve. While I will never be able to repay all the good that has been given to me, I give my life, now as a priest, in trying.

Father Lukas M. Laniauskas, SJ, 31, was born to a Lithuanian-American family in Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended Catholic schools that helped develop his vocation. He and his three siblings were raised by Egle (Giedraitis) and Marius Laniauskas. He graduated from Lake Catholic High School in Mentor, Ohio, and studied at Loyola University Chicago and Loyola Chicago’s Rome Center.

While I will never be able to repay all the good that has been given to me, I give my life, now as a priest, in trying.

— Fr. Christopher Krall, SJ

ter. During college, Fr. Laniauskas visited several religious orders and discerned the priesthood, but while in Italy, he met the provincial of the Jesuits’ Lithuanian Province, whose question — “Where do you think God’s calling you?” — ultimately led Fr. Laniauskas to join the Society of Jesus in Lithuania. He returned to the United States after completing the novitiate and earned his bachelor’s degree in philosophy at Loyola University Chicago, before serving as chair of the theology department and teaching junior high and high school students at St. John’s Jesuit High School and Academy in Toledo, Ohio.

As a Jesuit, Fr. Laniauskas obtained a Master of Divinity degree through the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, Calif., while also serving as chaplain to the Berkeley Fire Department. He was a deacon at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Oakland, Calif., and has served on the board of trustees for a Lithuanian youth camp and remained an active member of other Lithuanian communities throughout the United States. He will serve as chaplain at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago and pursue a doctorate in ministry.

As I look back at my life as a Jesuit, it has been about Eucharist, meaning thanksgiving, and liturgy, meaning the work of the people.

I am very thankful for the formation I have received from the Society of Jesus, by way of my superiors, brother Jesuits around the world, and all those with whom I have worked in our apostolates. I am also eternally grateful for my family; they have supported me, loved me, and nurtured my vocation since I was a little boy. I am likewise indebted to my friends, colleagues, and all those with whom I’ve had the privilege of working in ministry.

As I stand here today, I look back and recognize the immense generosity and goodness of so many people. Through their generosity, I have come to realize that my priesthood is not my own; it belongs to the People of God. And so it is that I hope to live my life as a priest in the spirit of thanksgiving, always recognizing in the work of the people the presence of Jesus Christ. Eucharist! Liturgy!

Father Jacob D. Martin, SJ, 40, was born to Kathleen (Hickey) Janulis and Robert Martin and raised with his sister in the Chicago area. After graduating from St. Laurence High School, he obtained a bachelor’s degree in theater from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Father Martin then spent five years doing improv and sketch comedy in Chicago. Though he had left the Church after college, the death of his grandmother, who had suggested he become a priest, led him back to Mass and discernment of a vocation to the priesthood. After learning about the Jesuits through the film The Exorcist and finding the order embraced his background in comedy, Fr. Martin entered the Society.

Father Martin’s formation included teaching at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis, Ind., and teaching theology and theater at Loyola Academy...
in Wilmette, Ill. He received a master’s degree in philosophy at Fordham University in the Bronx and a Master of Divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, Calif., while also serving as a deacon at the Church of Saint Leo the Great in Oakland, Calif. Other highlights of Fr. Martin’s Jesuit formation include authoring a memoir, “What’s So Funny about Faith?,” and performing in a solo show at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. He will pursue a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at Heythrop College in London.

My heart bursts with gratitude for the many people who have loved, supported, and prayed for me on my path to ordination. First and foremost, thanks to Jesus Christ, who for reasons known only to Him, has called me to be both His companion and servant to His people. I would like to thank my mom and dad, John and Kathleen Janulis, for their consistent and unending love and support, and my father Robert Martin, who I know is proudly looking down on me.

Words cannot express the gratitude I have for benefactors to the Society of Jesus. Their generosity is at once incredibly humbling and inspiring, as all that they have given speaks to their belief in God’s working through our least Society, which in turn motivates me to give my all for the greater glory of God.

I am truly awed and blessed to be in the company of all of my Jesuit brothers who have journeyed with me on this path and will continue to do so.

Father Timothy M. McCabe, SJ, 52, is a native of Ferndale, Mich., where he and his three sisters were raised by their parents, Mary Patricia (Cas-sin) and William McCabe. From a young age, Fr. McCabe was drawn to the poor and marginalized and immersed himself in social justice issues. He was actively involved in the Catholic Worker Movement and Detroit peace community, worked as director of a refugee resettlement project, repaired houses for Detroit’s inner-city poor, served meals in a soup kitchen, and made a humanitarian aid mission to El Salvador, where he met the Jesuits. After earning a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Detroit Mercy, he served as the Jesuit Volunteer Corps’ Midwest director. After years of discernment, he joined the Jesuits in 2005.

Father McCabe studied philosophy at Loyola University Chicago and obtained a Master of Divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, Calif., while also serving as a deacon at St. Agnes Catholic Church in San Francisco. As a Jesuit, Fr. McCabe also worked in a hospice for the homeless in San Francisco, served as development director at Loyola High School in Detroit, and worked in Chicago with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, which offers retreats to homeless women and men. One aspect of his life that informs and inspires his ministry is being a father to his daughter, Mary. Father McCabe and Mary, who received a law degree from Fordham University with a focus on international law and human rights, enjoy a close relationship and share a love for Ignatian spirituality and passion for social justice. He will serve as associate pastor and director of the Warming Center at Saints Peter and Paul Jesuit Church in Detroit.

I am profoundly grateful to God and the Society of Jesus for the gift of this life. None of this would be possible without loving and supportive family and countless friends who have inspired and encouraged me along the way. My Jesuit priesthood is about being of service to others, and I humbly offer it with great joy and wholehearted gratitude.

Father James R. Shea, SJ, 42, was born near Chicago and raised with his brother by their parents, Ruth (Wooster) and Richard Shea, in Skokie, Ill. His faith was strongly influenced by his mother, a cradle Catholic, and father, a Catholic convert. After graduating from Skokie’s Niles North High School, he obtained a bachelor’s degree in English from Loyola University Chicago. There, he sought out courses taught by Jesuits, despite warnings about their tough grading and the heavy workload they assigned. These Jesuits he met in college sowed the seed of his vocation. After graduating, Fr. Shea spent a year living in community and volunteering with the Passionists at a social service agency for people with HIV/AIDS in Detroit. Later he worked in Chicago with Misericordia, a home for people with developmental and physical disabilities. Discernment of the priesthood led him back to the Jesuits, and he entered the Society in 2004.

Father Shea received a master’s degree in philosophy from Loyola University Chicago and a Master of Divinity degree from the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. His time as a Jesuit has also involved teaching English and helping with Kairos retreats at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago and serving as a deacon and confirmation class teacher at Blessed Mother Teresa Parish in Dorchester, Mass. He will continue theology studies at Boston College.

I have experienced God’s love and care through so many people who have touched my life. That love began with my family, who have loved me and sustained me from the first day of my life. It has continued with my friends, who accepted me as I was and loved me anyway. God’s guidance was also given to me through so many good teachers, especially Jesuit teachers at Loyola University Chicago, who nurtured my vocation.

I am especially grateful for the love and care that has accompanied me throughout my formation as a Jesuit. There are not words to express my gratitude to everyone who took me as I was and with patience and care showed me the way forward. I have been thanking God for all of you in my prayers, and I hope those prayers for you will only continue as I enter into the priesthood!

My Jesuit priesthood is about being of service to others, and I humbly offer it with great joy and wholehearted gratitude.

— Fr. Timothy McCabe, SJ

For more information and coverage of this year’s ordinations, please visit www.jesuitsmidwest.org.
Words of Wisdom and Gratitude

Each year we honor Jesuit jubilarians marking significant milestones in their lives as priests and brothers. We ask our Golden Jubilarians celebrating 50 years in the Society to reflect on a word that captures their lives as Jesuits. We invite you to enjoy their words of wisdom and gratitude. For more information, please visit our website at www.jesuitsmidwest.org.

SURPRISE
Father Albert DiUlio, SJ
The Word of Life that, once accepted, creates wonder, joy, and blessings. Called by God... to a life of love, service, and, most of all, surprises. In 50 years as a Jesuit, the one truth that is always present is that our God is the God of surprises. He surprises us with his love, his care, and his call, or perhaps I should say calls, for that in many ways defines the life of a Jesuit. To go where the Spirit and the Society call, to do what is asked, and to always be open to the Spirit. Discovering God’s will is a fascinating event in life, but it is never as clear or understandable as we would like. Being open to Christ’s call and to God’s will in everyday life, community, friends, and prayer make all the difference. The overwhelming power of love and care for others assures us that what we are doing at the moment is truly the will of God and that seeking or expecting more certainty is folly. This, for me, has been the great hallmark of this life: to know I am sharing in God’s will and work no matter where, how, or when... that is the essence of being called by God to this grand and priestly work. Isaiah 42:3 calls out to us even today: “A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench.” These are thoughts that have molded my life, never perfectly followed, but always shared.

GRATITUDE
Father Daniel Hartnett, SJ
The Society of Jesus instilled the vision of the Spiritual Exercises within me. These gave meaning, purpose, and direction to my life. For this, I am deeply grateful.

The Society of Jesus drew me into a vast, multi-national circle of “friends in the Lord” — one that is both prayerful and thoughtful. For this, I am deeply grateful.

The Society of Jesus provided a transformative educational experience, one that has always kept me learning. For this, I am deeply grateful.

The Society of Jesus created the context for unforgettable apostolic experiences, both in Peru and in the United States. For these, I am deeply grateful.

The Society of Jesus taught me to recognize the face of a brother or a sister in every man or woman. For this, I am deeply grateful.

The Society of Jesus trained me to find God in all things and to anchor my prayer in the Eucharist and the Examen. For this, I am deeply grateful.

Over the years, different titles become attached to our names. For me, the only initials that really matter and remain are “SJ.”
JESUIT JUBILARIANS

LORD, TO WHOM SHALL I GO?
Father David Haschka, SJ

Growing up, I was the eldest of five boys, but my brother Jonathan, 18 months younger, was the leader. His prodigious imagination and zest for adventure enriched our boyhood with many wonderful projects and activities.

When I was frantically trying to figure out what to do with my life after college, Jonathan, who had entered the Society of Jesus two years earlier, suggested, “Well, you could always be a Jesuit.” I clung to that idea like a drowning man to a life raft. When the primary examiner of candidates asked why I wanted to be a Jesuit, I admitted that it was because I didn’t know what else to do. Needless to say, he was not impressed, and my initial application was rejected.

Somehow, out of a desperation I neither anticipated nor understood, I persisted and was finally admitted.

During the long formation, most of our fellows left to pursue other callings. On numerous occasions over the years, I thought about joining them. Nevertheless, I stayed…usually because I simply didn’t know where else to go.

I strongly identify with the Apostle Peter, who, in the sixth chapter of John’s Gospel, is faced with Jesus’ question: “Do you also want to leave?” Peter’s pained reply: “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

Meanwhile, I have discovered why I remain a Jesuit: I am a sinner, yet called to be a companion of Jesus as Ignatius was...

JUSTICE
Father T. Michael McNulty, SJ

The late Fr. Joe Sheehan, SJ, my novice master, told us early on that we would not remain in the Society for the same reasons we entered. This was certainly true for me. My Jesuit life has been characterized by a gradual shedding of fear and a turning toward the world as the place where Jesus wants me to be.

An important moment of conversion for me was the March 1977 murder of Fr. Rutilio Grande, SJ, in El Salvador. At that point, the 32nd General Congregation’s call to a faith that does justice became real for me, and I began an intellectual and affective journey toward a realization that everyone in the world, especially those who suffer injustice, are fundamentally just like me and loved by God just as I am. This led me to change the focus of my academic life and, eventually, to experience solidarity with the marginalized in Peru and El Salvador. Those experiences remain the touchstones of my life, for it is in these places and in all the marginalized that I most vividly find Jesus.

The Mystical Body is real. All of us are Jesus to each other. As the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote:

I say more: the just man justices;
Keeps grace: that keeps all his goings graces;
Acts in God’s eye what in God’s eye he is—
Christ—for Christ plays in ten thousand places,
Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his
To the Father through the features of men’s faces.

Whether in teaching or in advocacy, the compassion of Jesus remains the beacon, the “lamp unto my feet,” guiding me onward.

SERVICE
Brother Michael Nusbaum, SJ

This word is a great part of what my Jesuit life is about.

I have always been someone who likes to help others. I think what drew me to the Jesuits and the brothers — especially the brothers — was the chance to be of service to people. Most of my assignments have allowed me to be of service — from working in school offices to teaching to being a minister in a number of houses — all of these jobs have allowed me to serve in different ways.

Being of service to other people also allows them to use their talents to help bring people closer to God. If I can take the burden of the daily life from others’ shoulders, then they can do what they do best. I think my helping might make it easier for others to fulfill their special missions.

Serving others brings me the peace we are promised in John 14:27: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let yours hearts be afraid.” I try every day to remind myself that serving is the best way for me to end up with God.

For more information on this year’s jubilarians, please visit www.jesuitsmidwest.org.
The Pope’s Ecological Call to Action

By John Sealey

“Human-induced climate change is a scientific reality, and its decisive mitigation is a moral and religious imperative for humanity,” reported the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on April 28. This declaration previewed “Laudato Si” or “Praised Be To You,” Pope Francis’s much-awaited encyclical that is the first papal encyclical so fundamentally dedicated to environmental issues. The document covers considerable ground. Here are takeaways and some of the key themes Pope Francis addresses:

**CLIMATE CHANGE HARM THE POOREST**

Catholic social teaching places the climate crisis squarely in line with our preferential concern for the poor. The world’s richest nations have been the biggest CO₂ emitters, while the world’s 3 billion poorest people suffer the worst consequences of climate change. Global inequality and environmental destruction are two sides of the same coin. As Pope Francis says in the encyclical:

“The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet.” [48]

Climate change exacerbates existing inequalities faced by vulnerable groups. The Global Humanitarian Forum finds developing countries account for 99 percent of all deaths and 90 percent of the total economic losses due to climate change, while the world’s 50 least developed countries contribute less than one percent of global carbon emissions. At our current rate, there will be 150–200 million climate refugees by 2050.

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL**

Jesuits strive for intellectual rigor. The gift of understanding takes into account the best in applied and social sciences. For this reason, we agree with the assessment by the 800 scientists who comprise the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): human activities adversely affect the planet, which has an immediate, negative impact on the poor. The release of CO₂ through burning fossil fuels is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas increases that accelerate climate change. Unfortunately, vested interests have funded disinformation campaigns intended to confuse public opinion and maintain business as usual. Such practices that obscure the truth for financial gain should be opposed rather than tolerated.

**THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW**

Several years ago, a synthesis statement from recent winners of the Blue Planet Prize for outstanding scientific efforts to solve environmental problems warned, “In the face of an absolutely unprecedented emergency (e.g., climate change) society has no choice but to take dramatic action to avert a collapse of civilization. Either we will change our ways and build an entirely new kind of global society, or they will be changed for us.”

In the encyclical, Pope Francis adds, “If present trends continue, this century may well witness extraordinary climate change and an unprecedented destruction of ecosystems, with serious consequences for all of us.”

**We cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation.**

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES ARE NEEDED**

The timing of this encyclical’s release is notable ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris later this year. The Paris meeting could be the last opportunity to negotiate agreements to keep warming below the 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) benchmark agreed to at the Copenhagen Climate Summit in 2009. According to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, sustainable development should be incentivized by all nations to rapidly transition toward greener technologies and low carbon energy. Predictably, opponents respond with a false dichotomy linking carbon consumption with economic productivity. The International Energy Agency, however, reported that worldwide economic growth occurred in 2014 despite carbon consumption leveling out.

**WE NEED ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION**

In the end, this issue is more about faith than politics, economics, or even science. Fifteen years ago, Pope Saint John Paul II introduced the term “ecological conversion,” envisioning a fundamental change in orientation toward creation. This clarion call for ecological conversion was later echoed by Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, in his 2011 letter “On Ecology.” Critics who already fault Pope Francis for wading into the realm of climate science miss the point. Cardinal Peter Turkson, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, agrees that while the Church does not speak as an expert on science, technology, or economics, she is an expert in humanity.

“For the person of faith, to care for God’s ongoing work of creation is a duty, irrespective of climate change,” says Cardinal Turkson. “A Christian who doesn’t safeguard creation, who doesn’t make it flourish, is a Christian who isn’t concerned with God’s work.”

John Sealey is the provincial assistant for social and international ministries for the Midwest Jesuits.
A Transformational Gift  
By Howard Craig

I recently had the privilege of attending two significant Masses. One marked the ordination of eight Midwest Jesuits as priests; the other honored Golden Jubilarians who have served 50 years in the Society.

As I took in the beauty of both Masses, I could not help but reflect on the countless elements that made these moments possible. The presence of loved ones and well-wishers so filled with joy as their sons and brothers were ordained was a reminder of the profound role family and friends play in Jesuit formation. The jubilarians’ collective years of service offered a stunning visual of the variety of ways the Jesuits serve and just how far that service reaches.

From helping form Jesuits into men for others to sending them to make the greatest impact where there is the greatest need, these Masses embody the Society’s mission and could not happen without you. Without your support, there would be no new priests to ordain or jubilarians to celebrate.

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Through your gifts you helped form each of these young men beginning their new lives as priests. You stood beside each of these jubilarians as they ministered and taught throughout a lifetime of service. These Masses celebrated the true transforming power of your gifts. Your offerings, given in gratitude and faith to the Lord, no longer represent mere dollars and cents; they are a catalyst for change and an investment in God’s future. These gifts were transformed into these Jesuits, men who have dedicated their lives to serving the poorest of the poor, educating the children of the world, evangelizing among the planet’s neediest citizens, and going forth to set the world on fire. Thank you for all you do for the Society of Jesus.

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

PLANNED GIVING

Lois and Alvin Pfeil Estate Supports Jesuit Formation

By Dennis Pfeil

“The Jesuits were named as a beneficiary in my mother’s will, reflecting my parents’ wishes to express their gratitude for the important role the Society of Jesus played in the life of my family. My uncle, Fr. Ralph Jung, SJ, was a longtime faculty member at Creighton University. My brother and I are both graduates of Marquette University High School, and I now have a grandson who is a freshman there. My father, Alvin Pfeil, was a frequent retreatant at the Jesuit Retreat Houses in both Oshkosh and St. Louis; he counted many Jesuits among his friends and spiritual guides. We hope this contribution in memory of my parents will benefit the work of the Society here in Wisconsin.”

Dennis Pfeil is the son of Lois and Alvin Pfeil and executor of Lois’s estate and living revocable trust. For more on planned giving, visit www.jesuitmagisgift.org.

What a special gift it is to touch so many lives. This is a great example of how one Jesuit was so influential within his own family and how many different generations were affected.
Since the earthquakes in Nepal, the Midwest Jesuits have raised $575,000 to help the Nepal Jesuit Social Institute provide relief, school supplies, and other materials to people in need. The people of Nepal have remained resilient, but there is still much work to be done. Watch your mailbox for more details on how you can join the Challenge to help Nepal, or make a gift at https://connect.jesuitsmidwest.org/nepalearthquake.