Winter 2005/2006

Inside:

Dan McKanan
Certification for Lay Ministers
Dignitas Humana

SPRING 2008

conversatio

Saint John’s
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY·SEMINARY
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dean’s Message 3
Abbot’s Message 4
News 5
2007 Ezekiel: Prophet of Hope Award 7
Graduates and Graduation Candidates 8
Alum Updates 11
2007 National Symposium on Lay Ecclesial Ministry 12
SOT·Sem Student Receives Fund for Theological Education Ministry Fellowship 14
Faculty Updates 14
2007 Dignitas Humana Award 15
Staff Profile: Patty Weishaar 16
You Are One 17
Faculty and Staff Changes 18
Board of Overseers 20
Development Message 21
In Hope of Resurrection 23
THE LITURGY IS THE
SUMMIT TOWARD WHICH
THE ACTIVITY OF THE
CHURCH IS DIRECTED; IT
IS ALSO THE FOUNT FROM
WHICH ALL HER POWER
FLOWS.” SO READS ONE OF
THE MOST WELL-KNOWN
PASSAGES OF THE PIVOTAL
CONSTITUTION ON THE SACRED
LITURGY (SACROSANCTUM
CONCILIIUM, 10) OF THE
SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL. THE LITURGY, PARTICULARLY THE
EUCHARIST, IS THE HOLIEST WORK OF THE CHURCH AND THE
WELL-SPRING OF OUR TRANSFORMATION INTO THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

FOUNDATIONAL AS THIS IS, THE CENTRALITY OF THE EUCHARIST TO
THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH WAS HARDLY A NEW IDEA WITH VATICAN II.
CATHOLICS THE WORLD OVER HAD LONG BEEN BROUGHT UP ON THE
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MASS. RENEWAL CAME WHEN THIS AFFIRMA-
TION WAS LINKED TO THE CALL TO PARTICIPATION: “MOTHER CHURCH
EARNESTLY DESIRES THAT ALL THE FAITHFUL SHOULD BE LED TO THAT
FULL, CONSCIOUS AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN LITURGICAL CELE-
BRATIONS WHICH IS DEMANDED BY THE VERY NATURE OF THE LITURGY
AND TO WHICH THE CHRISTIAN PEOPLE . . . HAVE A RIGHT AND OBLI-
GATION BY REASON OF THEIR BAPTISM” [SC, 14]. “THE CHURCH,
THEREFORE, EARNESTLY DESIRES THAT CHRIST’S FAITHFUL, WHEN PRE-
SENT AT THIS MYSTERY OF FAITH, SHOULD NOT BE THERE AS . . . SILENT
SPECTATORS. ON THE CONTRARY . . . THEY SHOULD TAKE PART IN THE
SACRED ACTION, CONSCIOUS OF WHAT THEY ARE DOING, WITH DEVOTION
AND FULL COLLABORATION” [SC, 48]. LITURGY IS NOT TO BE A SPECTA-
TOR SPORT. THE BAPTIZED ARE CALLED TO MOVE FROM BEING PASSIVE
OBSERVERS OF SOMEONE ELSE DOING THIS HOLY WORK TO BEING FULL
PARTICIPANTS IN IT.

SO TOO WITH THE WORK OF THE CHURCH’S MINISTRY. THE
GROWTH OF LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY SINCE THE SECOND VATICAN
COUNCIL IS ONE OF THE FRUITS OF THE TRANSFORMATION WROUGHT
BY PARTICIPATION IN THE EUCHARIST. IF THE LITURGY IS AND DOES
WHAT WE SAY, THE MOVEMENT OF THE BAPTIZED FROM OBSERVER TO
PARTICIPANT DOES NOT END WITH THE LITURGY. IT IS A MOVE THAT
REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT OUR WHOLE LIVES (CF. VIRGIL MICHEL).
IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE, THEN, THAT SOME WOULD BE
CALLED TO MORE INTENSIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE MINISTRY OF THE
CHURCH.

THE VOCATION OF LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY, AS THE U.S. BISHOPS
HAVE MADE CLEAR IN CO-WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD OF THE LORD,
is NOT A TEMPORARY BAND-AID TO FILL IN WHILE WE HAVE FEWER PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS. IT IS PART OF THE SPIRIT’S CALL OF THE
BAPTIZED TO FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE CHURCH.

TO THE EXTENT THAT MONASTIC HUMILITY ALLOWS, WE ARE
PROUD OF SAINT JOHN’S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LITURGICAL RENEWAL
OF VATICAN II. THAT IS AN INSPIRING STORY, WELL KNOWN TO READ-
ERS OF THESE PAGES. WE ARE ALSO PROUD OF OUR INVOLVEMENT
IN WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED THE MINISTERIAL RENEWAL OF THE
CHURCH. FOR OVER FORTY YEARS, SAINT JOHN’S HAS BEEN EDUCATING
LAY STUDENTS FOR MINISTRY. FOR THE PAST DECADE WE HAVE BEEN
ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THE THEORETICAL AND INSTITU-
TIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR EFFECTIVE LAY MINISTRY. WE CONVENED
THE COLLEGEVILLE MINISTRY SEMINAR, RESULTING IN ORDERING
THE BAPTISMAL PRIESTHOOD: THEOLOGIES OF LAY AND ORDAINED
MINISTRY. WE WORKED WITH THE DIOCESES OF MINNESOTA TO
HELP THEM BECOME THE FIRST IN THE NATION TO HAVE COMMON
CERTIFICATION STANDARDS. SAINT JOHN’S THEOLOGIANS WERE CONSUL-
TANTS TO THE BISHOPS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CO-WORKERS IN THE
VINEYARD OF THE LORD, THEIR 2005 STATEMENT ON LAY ECCLESIAL
MINISTRY.

THIS PAST AUGUST WE HOSTED A NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY THAT IS FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE OF
CONVERSATIO. IT BROUGHT OVER 200 PEOPLE TO CAMPUS FROM
ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO CONSIDER CO-WORKERS, ITS IMPLEMENTA-
TION AND THE STATE OF LAY MINISTRY IN THE CHURCH. WE WORKED
NOT ONLY WITH INDIVIDUALS BUT ALSO WITH THE USCCB AND 23
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEVOTED TO QUALITY LAY
MINISTRY FOR THE CHURCH. TO KEEP THIS FROM BEING ANOTHER
GOOD GATHERING THAT SOON DISSIPATES; WE ARE CONTINUING TO
WORK WITH MANY OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS TO SUSTAIN THE
COOPERATION AND COMMITMENTS THAT EMERGED AT THE
SYMPOSIUM. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED BY THE BISHOPS TO
WORK ON THE THEOLOGY OF VOCATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR LAY
ECCLESIAL MINISTRY, AN ISSUE THEY RECOGNIZE AS CRITICAL TO THE
FULL INTEGRATION OF LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS INTO THE WORK OF THE
CHURCH.

THE SPIRIT’S WORK IN LITURGICAL RENEWAL IS BEARING FRUIT IN
AN EXCITING AND CHALLENGING MINISTERIAL RENEWAL. WE AT SAINT
JOHN’S ARE COMMITTED TO DOING ALL WE CAN TO ENABLE THOSE
SERVING AS LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS TO TAKE PART IN THE CHURCH’S
MINISTRY, “CONSCIOUS OF WHAT THEY ARE DOING, WITH DEVOTION
AND FULL COLLABORATION.”

Dr. William J. Cahoy, Dean
In November of 2005, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved a document entitled *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord: A Resource for Guiding the Development of Lay Ecclesial Ministry (Co-Workers)*. As a work in progress, it needs to receive further reflection by the whole Church in the United States. The School of Theology∙Seminary received funding from The Lilly Endowment, Inc., to gather people from across the country to study and make recommendations on *Co-Workers*. About 200 lay ecclesial ministers, some priests, and Bishops Gregory Aymond and Richard Pates were at Saint John’s in early August for the 2007 National Symposium on Lay Ecclesial Ministry.

In 2005 I shared the following with the monastic community on the Church of the future:

I believe that a new Church is coming.
It will be browner and poorer,
more sensuous and feminine,
less clerical and more collegial,
less concerned about works of charity,
and more conscious of works toward justice,
more multilingual and polycentric than the one we know now.
That Church will better reflect the diversity of God’s Trinitarian life.
It will be a new Church,
yet it can come only with the passing of this one.
I suggest that it is our task as a monastery and SOT∙Seminary to facilitate the present Church’s passing in order to assist in the birthing of the new.\(^1\)

Being present at the symposium was like watching this Church being born, which was the most diverse group of lay leaders I have ever worked with. They came from across the nation and represented 23 different organizations, some regional and many national. I realize that not everybody in our Church believes that this is the right path forward and this fact necessitates openness and continued conversation at all levels of the Church.

We can be justly proud of the leadership in our School of Theology∙Seminary who brought this symposium about: Dean Bill Cahoy, Mr. Jeff Kaster, Dr. Vic Klimoski, Dr. Kathleen Cahalan and Dr. Susan Wood (now at Marquette). There is no question in my mind that the full development and reception of the gifts of lay ecclesial ministers in the Church is one of many profound fruits of the Second Vatican Council.

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

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THREE FACULTY MEMBERS HOLD PRESIDENCIES OF NATIONAL ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS

In 2006-2007, Miguel Díaz, associate professor of theology; Dan Finn, Clemens Professor of Economics and the Liberal Arts; and Kathleen Cahalan, associate professor of theology, held the presidencies of three national academic organizations. Miguel Díaz served as president of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States from 2006-2007. Dan Finn served as president of the Catholic Theological Society of America from 2006-2007, and Kathleen Cahalan has served as president of the Association of Practical Theology since 2006.

CARMEN NANKO-FERNANDEZ AND M. SHAWN COPELAND SPEAK AT 2007 AND 2008 CHANGING FACES SERIES EVENTS

Carmen Nanko-Fernández, assistant professor of pastoral ministry at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and then vice president of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States, presented the 2007 Changing Faces Series lecture at Saint John’s University on March 22, 2007. Her presentation, "Retrieving the Option for the Young: Directions for Theology and Ministry Amongst Latinos/as," was accompanied by a retreat she facilitated for 20 selected participants to discuss youth in theology and ministry.

M. Shawn Copeland, associate professor of theology at Boston College, past convenor of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium, and former president of the Catholic Theological Society of America, presented the 2008 Changing Faces Series lecture at the College of Saint Benedict on April 10, 2008. Her presentation, "Black and Catholic: African Roots for Today’s Church," was well-attended by undergraduates, graduate students, and members of the public. Copeland’s workshop, scheduled for the following day, was canceled due to snow.

In 2007, the School of Theology-Seminary’s annual multicultural conference became known as the Changing Faces Series. The 2007 Changing Faces events maintained the previous focus on Hispanic cultural and theological issues, but shifted the emphasis to young people. The 2008 events expanded the notion of multicultural ministry and hospitality to include Black Catholic Theology. The Changing Faces planning committee intends to alternate the focus of the series between Hispanic intercultural ministry and other kinds of intercultural ministry.

MONASTIC INSTITUTE 2006, "ONE HEART, ONE SOUL, MANY COMMUNITIES," DRAWS RECORD NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Part of the celebration of the Saint John’s sesquicentennial, the 2006 Monastic Institute was longer and more well-attended than previous Institutes. Ordinarily five days in length, the 2006 Monastic Institute had the benefit of two additional days for presentations, panel discussions, and conversations. More than 270 people from both traditional and non-traditional monastic communities participated in the Institute, which addressed the similarities and differences among traditional monastic communities, those which are part of the new monasticism movement, and other intentional communities. During the Institute, Abbot Primate Notker Wolf, OSB, one of the week’s presenters, was given the Pax Christi Award by Saint John’s University. Later that same evening, the Abbot Primate favored the assembled crowd with a concert of flute music. Throughout the Institute, a variety of other opportunities for fellowship and recreation allowed participants to immerse themselves more fully in the questions under consideration.

Audio of the 2006 Monastic Institute is available on CD. Contact Rose Beauclair at rbeauclair@csbsju.edu for more information.

FINN RECEIVES THIRD ANNUAL MONIKA K. HELLWIG AWARD IN 2008

Daniel Finn, CSB/SJU professor of theology and William E. and Virginia Clemens Professor of Economics and the Liberal Arts,
received the third annual Monika K. Hellwig Award, presented to an individual in recognition of outstanding contributions to Catholic intellectual life by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU). The award was presented at the ACCU’s annual convention in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 2.

“All of us at Saint John’s and Saint Ben’s are very proud of Dan’s accomplishment,” said Br. Dietrich Reinhart, OSB, president of Saint John’s University. “He has a distinguished record in the areas of theology, social justice and economics, and his contributions to Catholic intellectual life certainly qualify him for this award.”

The award was created in memory of the late Monika K. Hellwig, Ph.D., an internationally renowned theologian and former president of the ACCU. Hellwig was a pathfinder in ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, in initiatives to open opportunities for women in higher education and theological scholarship, and in efforts to foster peace and justice through education. (Originally printed in Saint John’s Magazine, Winter 2008.)

S. MARY FRANCES REIS, VHM, '80, RECEIVES 2006 SISTER MARY ANTHONY WAGNER, OSB, AWARD

On April 6, 2006, S. Mary Frances Reis, VHM, ’80, received the Sister Mary Anthony Wagner, OSB, Award. S. Mary Frances was honored for her work as a founding member of the Visitation Monastery in North Minneapolis. She has bravely answered God’s call to live, pray and minister among those who are often disregarded.

In 1989, after 30 years as a Visitation Sister, S. Mary Frances became one of four founding members of a new expression of Visitation contemplative life. This new expression came in the form of an inner city monastery among the poor and disenfranchised people of North Minneapolis.

S. Mary Frances brings creativity, organization, prayerfulness, and boundless energy into the community’s presence in North Minneapolis. Her sisters say that “she touches many lives with her faith, hope, and love.” S. Mary Frances has special ministries to local women and children.

The Sister Mary Anthony Wagner, OSB, Award is given to alumnae of Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary who have prophetically and courageously used their gifts and encouraged other women to develop their gifts for the sake of serving others. We remember the vision and courage of S. Mary Anthony in her commitment to empowering women to use their gifts for the good of the church and the world. The award is meant to encourage new generations of women by honoring alumnae who have built upon S. Mary Anthony’s legacy.

MONASTIC PRIESTHOOD CONFERENCE, "MONASTIC WITNESS AND THE PRIESTLY VOCATION," TO BE HELD JULY 2008

From July 7-9, 2008, representatives of male monastic houses throughout the United States and Canada will gather at Saint John’s to discuss what it means to be a priest in a monastic context, what formation monastic seminarians require, and what Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary can do to meet the needs of monastic seminarians from around the world.

Organized by Fr. Michael Patella, OSB, rector of Saint John’s Seminary, these days of conversation are an opportunity for religious communities to explore more deeply the possibilities of monastic priestly formation that arise from knitting together the Program of Priestly Formation and the Rule of Benedict.

Priestly formation at Saint John’s Seminary is already centered on monastic priesthood. This conference will allow the formation program to be further refined through collegial and fraternal conversation; it will also enable representatives of other religious communities to understand more thoroughly the academic and ministerial formation Saint John’s Seminary offers for monastic seminarians.

For more information, contact Bernadette Dunn at bdunn@csbsju.edu or 320-363-2839.

PRAYING WITH IMAGINATION: A RETREAT WITH THE SAINT JOHN’S BIBLE, SUMMER 2008

From July 27-August 2, 2008, the “Praying with Imagination” retreat will engage church ministers, artists, and others seeking an intense experience integrating imagination and prayer through art. Through the practice of visio divina using images from The Saint John’s Bible, bookmaking, and other art, the retreat will deepen participants’ sense of creativity and wonder in their work and ministries.

Kathleen Cahalan will facilitate the prayer portions of the retreat, while Peggy Thompson and Judith Lang Main will serve as artistic leaders. For more information, see www.csbsju.edu/sot or contact Cindy Maile at cmaile@csbsju.edu, 320-363-2612 or toll-free at 877-556-9518.

This retreat is part of the Conversatio Lifelong Learning program of Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary and is held each year at the Collegeville Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research.

MONASTIC INSTITUTE 2008, "'DO AS I HAVE DONE' (JN. 13:15): AUTHORITY AND OBEDIENCE IN COMMUNITY"

The 2008 Monastic Institute, from June 29-July 3, 2008, will focus on issues of authority and obedience in various forms of communal life: in monasteries, "new monasticism" communities, and intentional faith communities. Speakers, panelists, and presenters will address such questions as: What works and/or does not work with authority? Who is in charge and why? What does it mean to be in charge? What is the relationship between power and authority?

For more information, contact Bernadette Dunn at bdunn@csbsju.edu or 320-363-2839.
Doris Murphy was honored on April 19, 2007, with the Ezekiel: Prophet of Hope Award, given by the Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary Alumni/ae Association. Her lifetime of dedicated service to the church, through both direct pastoral ministry and academic work, strengthens the power of her witness of faith.

Murphy was chosen from among an impressive pool of nominees because of the depth, breadth, and length of her service. Earning an undergraduate degree in education from Viterbo College in La Crosse, Wisconsin, a master’s degree in music history with a concentration in liturgical music from The Catholic University of America, and a master’s degree in theology from the School of Theology-Seminary, she has taken the time and made an effort to be well prepared and well formed for the ministries she has undertaken.

Murphy’s many degrees show the variety of her gifts and interests; she has served as a grade school and high school teacher, a parish religious education director, a consultant for a diocesan religious education office, co-director of a diocesan liturgy office, diocesan coordinator for catechesis for children and families, deanery consultant and parish associate working with the Hmong community, director of the Institute for Religious Studies at Benedictine College, pastoral associate, director for the Vitality Project for the Diocese of Boise, parish Christian formation director, parish coordinator of sacrament programs, parish director of faith formation, workshop leader, catechetical resource consultant, catechetical, pastoral, and liturgical writer, and even associate dean of graduate students and undergraduate faculty here at Saint John’s in the early 1980s. Many communities of faith have been blessed by Murphy’s ministry and participation in the normal life and work of parishes.

With her enthusiasm and passion for so many different ways of serving the people of God, Murphy’s work and witness have been prophetic. Embracing the spirit of the prophet Ezekiel, she envisions and works for a Church that is centered on the service of God and humankind. Her efforts with the Vitality Project in the Diocese of Boise produced important planning for the future of the diocese and its parishes. Her work there also allowed her to become an integral player in the opening of the first Catholic Worker House in Boise, which continues to stand as a powerful presence of simplicity, non-violent witness, and hospitality.

Murphy has been deeply formed by Benedictine spirituality and her experience at Saint John’s, where, she says, she "met the world," through those she encountered here. Saint John’s also served as a prayerful environment that has sustained Murphy along her path. Undoubtedly, the formation and example of spirituality she received as a student at the School of Theology-Seminary will continue to influence her life and work.

The Ezekiel: Prophet of Hope Award recognizes alums of the School of Theology-Seminary who, through their example, have challenged students, alums, and the entire Saint John’s community to promote the work of building collaborative environments in which lay, ordained, and religious can live out their prophetic ministries to the church and the world. Consistent with Saint John’s heritage of pioneering work in the liturgical and ecumenical movements and our current groundbreaking efforts in the ministerial formation of lay ecclesial ministers, this award seeks to lift up individuals who have dynamically lived out the principles of collaboration and ecumenism that are at the heart of our mission and Benedictine heritage.

If you would like to nominate an alum of Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary to receive the Ezekiel: Prophet of Hope Award, please contact Bernadette Dunn, Alumni/ae Association Coordinator, at bdunn@csbsju.edu or 320-363-2839. Nominations of alumnae for the Sister Mary Anthony Wagner, OSB, Award are also welcome.
Graduates and Graduation Candidates

SUMMER 2005
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Gregory Beath, MA Liturgical Studies; Denae Fielder, MA Systematics; Julie Ludwig, MA Liturgical Music; Diana Macalintal, MA Liturgy

WINTER 2005
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Agnes Avants, MA Monastic Studies; Vincent Cadiz, MA Monastic Studies; Michael Eder, Master of Divinity; Nancylee Jonza, Master of Divinity; Denise Lyon, MA Spirituality

SPRING 2006
L-R: Katinka Evers, MA Systematics; Charles Kampa, MA Pastoral Ministry (candidate, graduated Summer 2006); Regina Gabriel, Master of Divinity (candidate); Robert Gardner, MA Pastoral Ministry; Michael Peterson, OSB, MA Pastoral Ministry (candidate, graduated Summer 2007); Tami Schaible, Master of Divinity (candidate, graduated Spring 2007); David Odorisio, MA Spirituality; Sara Gavit, Master of Divinity (candidate); Annette Kestel, PBVM, MA Pastoral Ministry; Sheila Gawrych, Master of Divinity; Gerardo Rodriguez, MA Scripture; Kaarin Johnston, MA Scripture (candidate)

SUMMER 2006
PICTURED: Mary Birmingham, MA Liturgy
PICTURED ELSEWHERE: Charles Kampa, MA Pastoral Ministry (in Spring 2006); Douglas Mullin, OSB, Master of Divinity (in Spring 2007)
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Timothy Mueting, MA Systematics; Diane Pederson, MA Liturgy; Joseph Wood, MA Pastoral Ministry
WINTER 2006
L-R sitting: Joseph Anyanwu, Master of Divinity (candidate); Susan Dreyer, MA Monastic Studies (candidate, graduated Spring 2007); Fr. Peter Tipene, MA Liturgical Studies (candidate); Michele Rosha, Master of Divinity
L-R standing: Denis Lynch, OCSO, MA Pastoral Ministry (candidate, graduated Spring 2007); Sydelle McCabe, Master of Divinity (candidate); Timothy Traynor, MA Scripture (candidate); Stephen Pareja, MA Pastoral Ministry
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Stephen Rosebrock, MA Liturgical Music

SPRING 2007
L-R sitting: Nicole Streit, MA Spirituality; S. Mary Jo Sobieck, OP, MA Systematics; Shaun Crumb, MA Pastoral Ministry (candidate)
L-R standing: S. Uyen Do, AHC, MA Pastoral Ministry; Douglas Mullin, OSB, Master of Divinity (graduated in Summer 2006); Fr. August Gothman, MA Liturgical Studies; Kate Ritger, Master of Divinity; Alexander Bevan, OSB, MA Scripture; Christine Warloski, Master of Divinity; Ronald Skjong, MA Pastoral Ministry; Andrew Witchger, MA Church History; Joseph Cassady, MA Pastoral Ministry; Cody Unterseher, MA Liturgical Studies (candidate, graduated Summer 2007)
R small: Carl Schlueter, MA Spirituality
PICTURED ELSEWHERE: Tami Schaible, Master of Divinity (in Spring 2006), Susan Dreyer, MA Monastic Studies (in Winter 2006); Denis Lynch, OCSO, MA Pastoral Ministry (in Winter 2006)
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Keven Wanner, Master of Divinity; Lorne Thompson, MA Systematics
SUMMER 2007
L-R: Bonnie Cler, MA Scripture (candidate); Karl Henkel, MA Liturgical Music; Matthew Luft, OSB, MA Liturgical Studies
PICTURED ELSEWHERE: Michael Peterson, OSB, MA Pastoral Ministry (in Spring 2006), Cody Unterseher, MA Liturgical Studies (in Spring 2007)
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Fr. Daniel Garcia, MA Liturgical Studies; Heather Cherpelis, MA Systematics; Nathaniel Costa, MA Liturgy; Jay Stimac, MA Liturgy

WINTER 2007
L-R sitting: James Stolpa, Master of Divinity; Angela Przybilla, MA Pastoral Ministry
L-R standing: Fr. Michael Wurtz, CSC, MA Liturgical Studies; Alan Knack, MA Liturgical Music; Fr. Ren DaHai, MA Liturgical Studies
R small: Rose Burckhardt, MA Liturgical Music; William Griffiths, MA Liturgical Studies
NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Karin Barrett, MA Liturgy; Keith Kennific, MA Liturgical Studies; Craig St. Clair, MA Systematics

We are in the process of building and improving our photo collection. If you have any great SOT·Sem shots in your own photo library, printed or digital, from any era, that you would be willing to share, please contact Rose Beauclair at rbeauclair@csbsju.edu or 320-363-3924. We appreciate your help!
Alum Updates

ʼ79 S. Patricia Cormack, SCSC, a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross in Merrill, WI, has accepted the position of Associate Director for Business and Finance for the Leadership Conference of Women Religious headquartered in Silver Spring, MD. S. Pat has served in formation work and in leadership in her own community, most recently as provincial. She has also worked in a wide variety of diocesan positions including Chancellor of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings, MT; Director of the Institute for Ministry for Gaylord, MI; and Coordinator of Lay Development for the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

ʼ85 Fr. Richard Spicer, a priest of the Archdiocese of Seattle, sends greetings from the Pacific Northwest. He has completed his fifth year as pastor at St. Hubert Parish on south Whidbey Island in Langley, WA, where he helped the parish design and construct a new parish center. He has enrolled in the Pastoral Leadership Program at Seattle University, and hopes to pursue a doctorate in theology.

ʼ88 Jeanette Blonigen Clancy has published God Is Not Three Guys in the Sky: Cherishing Christianity without its Exclusive Claims, a synthesis of studies on the historical Jesus, mythology, feminist theology, Jungian thought, and comparative religions (Beaver’s Pond Press 2007).

ʼ88 Fr. David McGuire is serving as a chaplain for the United States Military Service. A priest for the Diocese of Richmond, VA, he requested and was granted permission from Bishop Francis Xavier DiLorenzo to become a US Air Force Chaplain. He completed his initial training and began serving at Hill Air Force Base in Utah on July 5, 2007.

ʼ96 Christopher McConnell and his wife Anna welcomed Nicholas Maxwell McConnell on December 5, 2006. He weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz.


ʼ99 Christina Ronzio was appointed by Bishop Richard Lennon as the Director of the Office for Worship for the Diocese of Cleveland, OH. She was formerly the director of the Office of Worship in the Diocese of London, Ontario, where she served for six years.

ʼ00 Stephen and Christy (ʼ02) Arnold, with their children Sam and Isabel, welcomed Nathanael Joseph Arnold on January 16, 2007. He was 8 lbs. 11 oz., 22 inches.

ʼ00 Anne Koester, Associate Director of the Georgetown Center for Liturgy, recently co-edited a book, Sunday Mass: Our Role and Why it Matters (Liturgical Press, 2007).

ʼ01 Don (Peter) Marlette is serving as Director of Liturgy and Music at Resurrection Parish in Dubuque, IA.

ʼ02 Lanette Sweeney is working full time at St. Mary’s Regional Health Center, Detroit Lakes, MN, as a Pastoral Care Chaplain.


ʼ03 Larry Donnelly is currently a Hospice Chaplain with VITAS Innovative Hospice Services. He visits 50 patients every week/bi-monthly in either nursing homes, assisted living centers, or their homes. Larry’s position allows him to utilize the education he received at the SOT-Sem, his hospital chaplain residency at UCLA Medical Center - Westwood, his experience as a hospital chaplain at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, and his recent experience as Pastoral Care Coordinator at St. Monica Parish Community in Santa Monica, CA. During the time since graduation he has been certified by the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. He is thankful to the faculty for the excellent education he received at the SOT-Sem.

ALUM UPDATES continues on page 22.
How can excellence in lay ecclesial ministry in the United States be advanced and sustained? This question is fundamentally a question of change. Paulo Freire suggested in his classic text *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* that the sort of transformational change implicit in the question of excellence can only occur when dialogue unites reflection and action.

Two hundred Catholic leaders experienced this type of transformational change July 31 through August 3 at the 2007 National Symposium on Lay Ecclesial Ministry sponsored by Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary and 17 other Catholic colleges and ministerial organizations. The symposium was a direct response to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ statement *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord* (2005) that called for expanded study of critical issues facing lay ecclesial ministry and dialogue about effective ways to support and advance ministry in the church. Capstone speaker Bishop Gregory Aymond said of the symposium, “*Co-Workers* is being rewritten by this conversation. The Spirit is helping us put flesh on the bones.”

Dr. Edward P. Hahnenberg, assistant professor of theology at Xavier University in Cincinnati, used his keynote talk to orient symposium participants to the historical transformation that is now occurring. He stated that one of the "top three or four most important ministerial shifts" in the last 2,000 years has been the "emergence of lay ecclesial ministry over the past 40 years.” He said this shift was "on a historical par with – and in fact may even eclipse – the changes to the church brought about by the rise of communal forms of monasticism in the fifth century, the birth of mendicant orders in the 13th century, or the explosion of women’s religious communities in the 19th century.”

**THE DIALOGUE**

Pre-symposium papers by Susan Wood, SCL, PhD; Maureen O’Brien, PhD; Fr. Paul Golden, CM, JCD; Charlotte McCorquodale, PhD; and Sean Reynolds, MA, and keynote talks by Bishop David Zubik; Edward Hahnenberg, PhD; Michael Brough; Ana Maria Pineda, RSM, STD; and Bishop Gregory Aymond, focused the symposium dialogue on pathways to lay ecclesial ministry, formation of lay ecclesial ministers, authorization for lay ecclesial ministry, and workplace issues. The dialogue generated national recommendations for sustaining pastoral excellence in lay ecclesial ministry in each of these four areas. However, the transformative nature of the dialogue was revealed through table conversation that brought together the diverse points of view of Hispanic ministry leaders, Black Catholic administrators, bishops, diocesan leaders, academic leaders, national ministry organizational leaders, ordained ministers, and lay ecclesial ministers. Abbot John Klassen, OSB, who participated in the discussion, said he thought this was one of the most diverse groups ever assembled at Saint John’s. Conversations produced honest dialogue about the challenges of inclusion and the joy of establishing networks for inclusion. Dr. Pineda captured this sentiment in her capstone address:

*We have been challenged by the diversity within this assembly. This kind of gathering represents another significant moment in the writing of the sacred story of lay ecclesial ministry. It is important that such care has been taken to ensure that ethnic representation from the Latino and African-American communities are part of...*
the conversation. It is important because it has broadened the conversation and has made it possible for us to consider other realities that have enriched our understanding of what “lay ecclesial ministry” might mean within these cultural contexts.

**THE ACTION**

Not only did the symposium generate recommendations for lay ecclesial ministry, but more importantly, it generated commitments from the 23 ministry organizations to advance these recommendations. The overarching areas of organizational commitment included:

- Commitments to discuss, study, promote, or integrate Co-Workers within their organizations.
- Commitments to address inclusion issues and cross cultural ministry competence.
- Commitments to advance lay ecclesial ministry standards, competencies, or certification, including a significant commitment towards national certification.
- Commitments to publicize and engage the work of this symposium.
- Commitments to advance the theology of vocation and authorization.

At the symposium, Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary committed to serve as convener of the conversation at the national level, pursue funding to make it possible, and to contribute to the development of a theology of vocation and a theology of authorization.

**TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE**

We discovered that when diverse Catholic leaders are gathered from across the country, spend time dialoguing and reflecting on the current context of lay ecclesial ministry, develop recommendations for improving the situation, and then make collaborative commitments for improvement, change happens. Perhaps we witnessed this past summer the start of a national movement to advance lay ecclesial ministry. Bishop Zubik, chair of the USCCB Committee on the Laity, stated it this way in his keynote address: “Co-Workers invites the baptized and the ordained to stop competing with one another, to stop diminishing one another, to get on with the work of the Church.”

Change also happens because generous benefactors provide financial support. The Lilly Endowment, Inc., and a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous helped make the symposium possible. We are most grateful for their support.

Symposium papers, talks, recommendations, organizational commitments, and progress on those commitments can all be found online on the School of Theology-Seminary Web site: www.csbsju.edu/sot/symposium.

**NEXT STEPS**

How does the School of Theology-Seminary continue to foster conversation to advance and sustain excellence in lay ecclesial ministry? Two important developments have occurred since last summer. First, we were invited to give a report on the symposium and its results to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on the Laity on September 9, 2007, in Washington, D.C. A recommendation from that meeting for the new USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth stated: “Stay in touch with the leadership of Saint John's, including follow-up in six months or when appropriate.” A second important development was the great news that the School of Theology-Seminary received a sustaining pastoral excellence Conversatio renewal grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. Over $100,000 of this grant is allocated to foster continued collaboration towards advancing and sustaining lay ecclesial ministry in the United States.
Laura Kelly Fanucci, second-year Master of Divinity student at Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary, was chosen as one of 20 students nationwide to receive a Ministry Fellowship from the Fund for Theological Education. The 20 recipients were chosen from over 100 students; Fanucci was one of only three Roman Catholics and the only Catholic woman selected.

All applicants for the educational grants were nominated by their seminary dean or president. As part of the application process, students were asked to describe a project that could help meet a need they saw in the church. Fanucci’s goal is to design and implement a plan that ministers to young adults between graduation and marriage.

“What are ways you can help people in that stage of life where people are asking all kinds of big questions?” Fanucci asked.

She went on to describe a considerable gap in creative ministry aimed at drawing in this age group. Her project will definitely be a step in the right direction. The design she is developing will be put into action in summer 2008.

The Fund for Theological Education has set up events to help mentor and provide direction to the Fellows. Fanucci is honored to be representing Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary at the conferences. With participants coming from 13 different denominations, meeting new people and gaining insight from their experiences will aid each of the participants in completing their tasks.

“You come at things from a Catholic perspective,” Fanucci said. “It can be mind-opening to see where other people are in their faith and in their journey, wanting to do similar work but coming from different faith perspectives.”

Fanucci is excited about the opportunity she has been afforded, but also realizes that along with it come significant responsibilities.

The Fund for Theological Education is an ecumenical nonprofit that advocates for excellence and diversity in pastoral leadership and theological education. The Fund established the Ministry Fellowship as a way to not only provide an opportunity for seminary students to learn through experience, but also as a way to address ministerial issues in new and interesting ways.

The leaders of tomorrow are being tapped for new ideas and getting the chance to put them into action. Through this experience, students are meeting needs in the community while growing as leaders in the church.

For Fanucci, the prospect of doing the fellowship this year comes as a second chance. She was originally made aware of the Fund for Theological Education’s fellowship as an incoming first-year student by Brendon Duffy, Director of Admission for the School of Theology-Seminary. Due to a scheduling conflict between a mandatory meeting and her wedding to now-husband Franco, she was unable to apply at the time.

Now able to complete all of the necessary elements of the fellowship and devote much of her time to accomplishing the goals she has set for herself, Fanucci is hard at work developing and implementing her plan for young adult ministry.

Faculty Updates

Dan Finn served as president of the Catholic Theological Society of America from June 2006-June 2007. He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Society of Christian Ethics. His term ends in 2009. Finn’s CTSA presidential address, "Power and Public Presence in Catholic Social Thought, the Church, and the CTSA," was received with acclaim. He recently participated in a CTSA consultation with the USCCB Doctrine Committee and gave presentations at Villanova University and Georgetown University in 2006 and 2007. In 2006-2007, his work was published in Origins, Faith and Economics, and the Journal of Markets and Morality.


S. Mary Forman, OSB, went on sabbatical in the fall of 2006. She used her time away to write three chapters of a book on humility in the Rule of Benedict. She also submitted a proposal to Liturgical Press to print a book recording the results of the 2006 Monastic Institute. In the fall of 2007, she stepped down as the Associate Dean in order to devote more time to the ATS Self-Study project and to research and teaching.

Fr. Michael Patella, OSB, continues to write a regular column, "Seers’ Corner," for Bible Today. In the spring of 2006, his most recent book, Lord of the Cosmos: Mithras, Paul, and the Gospel of Mark, was published by T & T Clark. Patella has recently completed and presented significant research related to The Saint John’s Bible. Still serving as Director of Study Abroad Programs, in 2007, he took on additional responsibilities as the Rector of the Seminary and Associate Dean of the School of Theology. As rector, he has already spent considerable time traveling around the country to meet with monastic communities who may be interested in sending their seminarians to Saint John’s for formation.

Kathleen Cahalan has been serving as the president of the Association of Practical Theology since 2006. Her term ends in 2008. Cahalan presented on her recent research, "Beyond Pastoral Theology: Why Catholics Should Embrace Practical Theology" at the Theology for Church and Society Conference at the University of London in 2007. She continues to research and write on the intersection of pastoral ministry and theological study.

Fr. Anthony Ruff, OSB, published a book, Sacred Music and Liturgical Reform: Treasures and Transformations (Hillenbrand Books/LTP) in 2007. It is a comprehensive study of the historical and theoretical currents which led to the teachings on sacred music of the Second Vatican Council. In 2006-2007, he also had a book chapter published and articles printed in Today’s Liturgy, Assembly, and Pastoral Music. In 2006, Ruff served as the major speaker at the Federation of Diocesan Liturgy Commissions National Meeting in Omaha and participated in the Bishops’ Committee on the Liturgy Listening Session in Chicago as a member of the Music Subcommittee of the BCL.

Bernie Evans has recently published two books, Lazarus at the Table: Catholics and Social Justice (2007) and Vote Catholic?: Beyond the Political Din (2008) with Liturgical Press.

S. Helen Rolfson, OSF, presented at an international congress at the University of Antwerp and the Lessius Hoge school in Antwerp, Belgium, in 2006. Her presentation, "The Translation Project of the Opera Omnia of Ruusbroec: A Survey of the Last 30 Years," reflected her work translating most of the 11 volumes of the Opera Omnia of Ruusbroec.

On October 17, 2007, Rick Ufford-Chase received the ninth annual Dignitas Humana Award at the Saint John’s Abbey Church for his work advocating nonviolence around the world. The Dignitas Humana Award recognizes and encourages those who do exceptional work on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised.

Ufford-Chase, executive director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, is an advocate for peace and the alleviation of human suffering. He has worked on the United States-Mexico border for nearly 20 years.

Bill Cahoy introduced Ufford-Chase at the award ceremony, saying he was being honored for his “quest for alternatives to violence, exploitation, and war.” Cahoy highlighted Ufford-Chase’s societal contribution more specifically, saying, “[Ufford-Chase’s] work has included organizing in communities in southern Arizona and New Mexico, providing humanitarian aid to migrants and refugees, developing transformative educational experiences for North Americans regarding the complex dynamics of border trade and immigration policy.”

Ufford-Chase co-founded BorderLinks in 1987. The organization, which he directed from 2002-2006, is based around advocating education on both sides of the United States-Mexico border on issues such as global economics, militarization, immigration, and popular resistance to oppression and violence.

On his personal Web site, Ufford-Chase wrote, “I believe that we are called to live as Jesus lived, to risk as Jesus risked, and to care as deeply as Jesus cared.” This way of life embodies what the Dignitas Humana Award is about; exemplifying Judeo-Christian values of service, respect, kindness, and compassion in work to advance the dignity of human persons.

Past recipients of the Dignitas Humana Award include: the community of Sant’Egidio; Rev. Carl Wilkens; the Taizé community; S. Helen Prejean; Rev. Gregory Boyle; Jean Vanier; Marva Collins; and Jonathan Kozol.

The Dignitas Humana Award is made possible by the generosity of George and Gloria Allen.
Dedicated to excellence, a constant, ever-helpful presence, and a diligent worker are some of the many ways that staff and students here at the School of Theology-Seminary describe Patty Weishaar.

Patty has been employed at the SOT-Sem for 15 years, beginning in 1992. In 1983, Patty received her bachelor’s degree in English and Religious Studies from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. In 1989, she earned her master’s in Religious Education from Saint John’s SOT-Sem. In the summer of 1990, the SOT-Sem was looking for someone to assist with student services. Being a teacher, Patty was able to help for the six week period. Patty did this for three consecutive summers, and then in 1992 the school decided that they needed someone to work as a student services director full time. The school created a position of Director of Student Life, so Patty applied, soon received the position, and has been working here ever since.

As the Director of Student Life, Patty is responsible for connecting SOT-Sem graduate students to the university. This includes everything from class registration and residential life to meal plans, technological resources, and health insurance; Patty truly does it all. She also is an academic advising assistant with responsibilities ranging from helping with continuing registration to auditing student transcripts. Patty oversees practically everything for the graduate students, from orientation to graduation.

One of Patty’s particular specialties is organizing community meals and activities. Although others generally do the cooking for Thursday Convivium, Patty coordinates the signups and helps groups get the necessary ingredients. She also makes possible other occasional meals like the Thanksgiving dinner and the Abondanza pasta feasts. Annual events like the winter “Freezing Frolics” and summer “Wacky Canoe Races” would not be the same without her enthusiastic leadership of the F-U-N.

In 1997, Patty received the Saint John’s University Outstanding Administrator Award. This award is given annually to an administrator whose work is exceptional. Patty, who was nominated by more than one person, was chosen from a list of eight nominees. “It was very flattering and humbling to be honored for just doing my job,” Patty said in a recent conversation. At that time, Patty had only been at the SOT-Sem for five years, so receiving this award was a particularly moving experience for her.

Patty’s job is all about the people, which is why she finds her work very rewarding. She loves the variety and energy that new students bring and the different kinds of people that come here to study. Patty has been at Saint John’s longer than she has been anywhere else in her life; she loves the fact that the people keep changing and she gets to meet so many new faces. Patty also loves the people that she works with, from the administrators to the staff in the university offices, who all help provide graduate students with the services they need. She enjoys working with so many different departments, including close collaboration with the monastery. “I love the people part of my job,” Patty said.

Patty loves the work that she does and knows that the SOT-Sem is continuously changing. She enjoys the ways in which the school has adapted to meet the needs of the church and the needs of educating people. She feels that the SOT-Sem is taking the necessary steps to continue to be of service to the church. Patty sees herself continuing to provide the services to make this possible.

“The SOT is a great place to be,” Patty said. “I am very grateful for the way that people have created a good space for me to be here. This is more of a niche job, it is not something you go to school for and get trained to do. It is a job that was created from within this place, for this place. I am blessed to be able to bring my personality and gifts to the SOT and have them fit so well. This has truly been an amazing opportunity.”

It is easy to see that Patty plays a large role in the success of the School of Theology-Seminary and that she will continue to help make it a wonderful school and a vibrant community. Thank you, Patty, for all you do.
YOU ARE ONE
by Roisin Duffy-Gideon

Pink sunrise in America's heartland
A burly man steps out of the tall, cream, farmhouse and looks out at the world:
Children running down the gravel driveway to meet the school bus
  giggling, joking,
fields of golden corn, swaying in the cool morning breeze
before the day's heat sets in
He worries about the sun, the rain
He prays:
  "God…"

“All who believed were together and had all things in common.”

An eleven-year-old girl labors in the bright morning sun
She and other children trudge through the huge, flat, green leaves,
as weary adults trapped in innocent bodies
Bunches of smooth yellow bananas pass through her dark, rough hands
She thinks about home,
about her siblings, younger and more vulnerable than she,
and then wipes her young face with the back of her muddy hands
She prays:
  "Dios…"

“I am the vine, you are the branches.”

Church bells ring from Berlin's tall, straight spires
The carillon is familiar to an old woman
Fragile and hunched over, her wrinkled face set in determination,
she makes her way through the city streets
Cars whiz and bikes rattle by, but the woman walks slowly
toward the painted windows, into the old church
She kneels in the front pew, gazing at a statue of the Christ child
She prays:
  "Gott…"

“For you are all one in Jesus Christ.”

Bombs crash through the hot night
A young man in Baghdad wakes up to destruction and looks out his window
War paints an ugly picture of a once-beautiful city
Sand flies through the streets and around the buildings
as ordinary citizens struggle through the rubble
for yet another despairing day
When will it end?
He prays:
  “Allah…”

“Be at peace among yourselves.”

Roisin Duffy-Gideon is "an amazing high school student," says Jeffrey Kaster, director of the Youth in Theology and Ministry program. She wrote this poem as part of a Catholic Social Teaching project at the 2007 YTM Summer Institute II.
Faculty and Staff Changes

Peregrine Rinderknecht, OSB, MA ’05, School of Theology-Seminary Writing and Study Skills Tutor and instructor in the undergraduate Department of Theology, joined our staff in August, 2006. Jakob Rinderknecht came to Saint John’s five years ago in order to work on an MA in Systematics. He had previously lived at Holden Village in Chelan, Washington, where he had been the village potter and one of the community’s cooks. Prior to that, he’d studied at Valparaiso University in Indiana, earning a BA in Liturgical Studies. After completing his MA in 2005, Jakob joined the monastic community at Saint John’s, where he was given the monastic name Peregrine. After completing the novitiate, he began working at the School of Theology-Seminary as the Writing and Study Skills Tutor. Now in his second year, he’s also teaching the undergraduate introduction course in theology.

Kathryn Lilla Cox, Assistant Professor of Moral Theology, joined our faculty in the summer and began teaching in the fall of 2007. Kathy holds a BS from the University of Detroit and an MA and PhD from Fordham University. Prior to entering graduate studies, she taught high school science in New York City. Most recently, Kathy finished a post-doctoral teaching fellowship at Fordham University’s Bronx Campus in New York. She came to Saint John’s for a variety of reasons, including the Benedictine charisms; the opportunity to teach what she is passionate about, moral theology, to both graduate and undergraduate students; a return to the Midwest; the people she met when she interviewed; the pace of life; and the sense of an attempt by all she met to live deliberately, with conviction, compassion and generosity. In addition, she experienced an overall sense that people believe in transformation, growth and development and was attracted by the place and environment of both Saint Ben’s and Saint John’s. Kathy enjoys reading novels, playing golf, and visiting family in California and Michigan. She and her spouse, Patrick, are both glad to be here.

Barbara Sutton, Director of Ministerial Formation and Field Education, joined us in August, 2007. Barbara has served the church over the past 22 years as a lay ecclesial minister in parish, hospital and diocesan ministry. Most recently, she served as the Executive Director of Diocesan Pastoral Services in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in West Virginia and as an adjunct instructor at Wheeling Jesuit University. She is on the Executive Committee of the national Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development and serves as a National Advisor on Rural Catechesis to Harcourt Religion Publishers. Barbara holds an MA in Pastoral Ministry from St. Thomas University, Miami, and an MA in Pastoral Theology from Barry University, Miami. In 2005, Barbara received her DMin from St. Paul School of Divinity at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. Barbara’s new position provides an opportunity for her to integrate her ministry experiences, academic formation, and hopes for a vibrant church. Her initial work has been to listen to the needs of the students regarding their formation as well as the insights of faculty and staff. The learning environment with seminarians, deacons, religious and lay students provides a window to the possibilities for collaboration as they enter into ministry together as competent, evangelizing ecclesial leaders.
Bernadette S. Dunn, MDiv ’95, Director of Special Events and Programming and Alumni/ae Association Coordinator, joined us in August, 2007. After graduating in 1995, Bernadette served in the Diocese of Crookston, Minnesota, initially as part-time Director of the Pastoral Office of Christian Service and part-time Pastoral Administrator at St. Francis of Assisi parish, then as full-time Director of the Pastoral Office of Christian Service. Her ministry has been wide-ranging, reaching from directing all life and justice programs for the diocese and serving as diocesan parish auditor for compliance with the USCCB’s safe environment directives to creating and managing flood recovery programs from 1997-2006. With experience on the National Advisory Council for the USCCB and as the Diocese of Crookston’s victim assistance coordinator, Bernadette has been able to draw on the theology and ministerial skills she gained as a student and apply them to some of the most difficult challenges of the church today. In 2000, she was asked to serve on the SOT·Sem Board of Overseers; in August 2007, she resigned from the Board to accept the newly-configured position of Director of Special Events and Programming and Alumni/ae Association Coordinator. Bernadette and her husband, Ed, say that "after 12 years of ministry on the prairie, God called us back to Saint John's, a place we’ve come to know as home.”

Rose Beauclair, Director of Marketing and Communications, joined us in October, 2007. A native of Fargo, North Dakota, Rose received a BA in the Program of Liberal Studies from the University of Notre Dame in 2005. She then served for two years as a student in Notre Dame’s Echo: Faith Formation Leadership Program, working as an apprentice catechetical leader in a parish outside Indianapolis while doing graduate work in theology. Rose graduated from Notre Dame in August, 2007, with an MA in Theology. Her new position at Saint John’s allows her to integrate her knowledge of theology and pastoral ministry with her enthusiasm for clear, helpful communication.

Grace Ellens, Director of Development, joined us in January, 2008. Grace comes to us after seven years of service as a development officer for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Saint Cloud. See page 21 for Grace’s Development Message and more about her.
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Barbara Beckwith
Managing Editor/Book Review Editor
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Bernard F. Evans

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Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary  Spring 2008
Dear Friends in Christ,

One morning, shortly after I was hired to be the development director for Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary, I was reading a devotional. I read the following:

When Abraham was called out of Ur to follow God to the Promised Land, he had to leave everything that was familiar to him (Genesis 12:1). Despite the idolatry of that pagan city, Abraham had probably grown attached to the comfort of his home, the variety of the food, and the fellowship of his friends. But Abraham left the familiar to follow God’s leading: By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go (Heb. 11:8).

This passage made me stop and reflect on my current life change and the many other times in my life when I have had to practice that same faith and follow God’s leading in my life. My family and I have moved around a bit, each time believing we were being led by the Spirit for some greater purpose. Sometimes it is only when we look back and reflect on where we were and where we are that we see God’s hand and purpose in our lives. So it is with my current move to Saint John’s School of Theology-Seminary. After working seven years with Catholic Charities, I am again leaving a place of familiarity, comfort, and friends to do what I believe God is calling me to do. When we experience God’s call to another place, it may mean leaving behind the people and the things we love. But when we are obedient to God, he will provide something even more fulfilling at our new destination.

So here I am in the development office of the School of Theology-Seminary, praying and leaning on the Spirit to guide me on this new journey. As I reflected on this new position, I thought about the challenges that face the church today and there are many. But we can be assured that God is still in control and he calls his faithful to unite and stand together. It is often said “a strand of three is stronger than two” and in Matthew 18:20 it states, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” So with the Lord on our side let us take this journey together to ensure that funding continues to be available to support the school’s work of training vibrant church leaders. We know that Christian leadership is vital to the spiritual growth of the church and our communities.

I am honored to be here and look forward to meeting and interacting with many of you as we work together to further the kingdom of God throughout the world.

May God’s blessing rest upon each of you and your loved ones.

Grace Ellens

Director of Development

A native of Cold Spring, Minnesota, Grace grew up near Saint John’s. As a child, she enjoyed the company of twelve siblings and many cousins. Grace has been married to her high school sweetheart for 23 years. They have three children. Their oldest son, a recent graduate of Saint John’s University, now lives in Milwaukee; their younger son, serving our country in the Air Force, is stationed in Dover, Delaware; and their youngest, a thirteen year-old daughter, is active in many school and athletic activities. Grace joined the School of Theology-Seminary in January, 2008. Her enthusiasm and ability to connect on a personal level with alums, donors, and friends of the school have already made her a critical part of the staff. Welcome, Grace!
Alum Updates, continued

'03 Gael Fonken taught English at Sr. Cyril Mooney's girls' school in Calcutta, India, for three months in 2007 and is hoping to earn a University of Minnesota Human Rights Fellowship grant to fund the trip in the same manner that Brian Heilman (SJU) did last year. The Loreto Day School at Sealdah is a distinguished 150 year-old English-medium school that has opened its doors in various ways to Calcutta's poorest children in response to Vatican II's call for reform. Gael is near the end of a master's degree in teaching English as a Second Language and has prior experience working with various refugee groups—Somali, Burmese, and Latin Americans, including a Maryknoll assignment in Bangkok. She also spent two years serving American homeless with the Catholic Worker.

'03 Mary O'Neil McManus and Michael McManus ('04), with their children Teresa and Katie, welcomed Vincent Thomas McManus on April 7, 2008.

'04 Ann Degenhard and her husband William welcomed Cecilia Marie on July 19, 2007. She was 8 lbs. 7 oz., 21 inches, with dark hair and dark blue eyes.

'04 Catherine Gillooly, Latisse Heerwig and Ann Degenhard are contributing authors to Daily Prayer 2009, a 13-month annual book of scripture, reflections, and prayers published by Liturgy Training Publications. Latisse and Danielle Knott are both employed by LTP, an agency of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Latisse is promotions coordinator for this publication; Danielle is the editor of this resource and Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays: The Almanac for Pastoral Liturgy 2010.

'05 Diana Macalintal recently completed her fifth year as the Director of Worship for the Diocese of San José, CA. She serves as a team member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate and writes a liturgy blog called "Work of the People" at dsjliturgy.blogspot.com and has co-founded a blog on the RCIA for catechumenate ministers, at www.TeamRCIA.com. Her article "Mary in Contemporary Protestant Theological Discourse" was recently published in Worship and was invited for inclusion in a book.

'05 Tamara Moore and Christian Brezinski welcomed Andrew Latimer Brezinski on January 30, 2008. He was 8 lbs. 6 oz., 20 inches.

'07 Karl Henkel and his wife Danae, with their son Charlie, welcomed Andrew Edward Henkel on January 30, 2007. He was 8 lbs. 15 oz.

ORDINATIONS

'06 Douglas Mullin, OSB, of Saint John’s Abbey, was ordained to the priesthood on August 4, 2007. In March, 2008, Fr. Doug was named Saint John’s University Vice President for Student Development, effective July 1.

'07 Alexander Bevan, OSB, of Ealing Abbey, London, United Kingdom, was ordained to the priesthood on July 8, 2007. He is teaching at their abbey school, Saint Benedict School.

'07 Michael Peterson, OSB, of Blue Cloud Abbey, Marvin, SD, was ordained to the priesthood on September 30, 2006. He works in many areas of his abbey.

'07 Cody Unterseher, of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota, was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood September 29, 2007. He is currently pursuing an S.T.M. at The General Theological Seminary in New York City.

Benedict Fischer, OSB, (current student) of Assumption Abbey, Richardton, ND, was ordained to the priesthood on August 22, 2007. He recently completed further studies at the École biblique et archéologique française de Jérusalem.

To submit an update about yourself or a fellow alum, please e-mail sotalum@csbsju.edu or call Bernadette Dunn, Alumni/ae Association Coordinator, at 320-363-2839.
## In Hope of Resurrection

### ALUMS

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### FRIENDS

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<tr>
<td>Isabelle Atkinson</td>
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<td>Marcella “Sally” Bemis Bauer</td>
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Learning theology is good. Knowing God changes everything.
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