



Spring 2009

“Forming men for the priesthood for over 100 years.”

The Herald

A Newsletter for the Alumni and Friends of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

Mission Statement

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary is a community of faith, formation, and learning, located in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, preparing men for the Roman Catholic priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to the praise of God the Father, we cultivate the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral gifts of candidates for the diocesan ministry.

To this end, we commit ourselves to a responsible and effective stewardship of resources, carrying on our recognized tradition of service to the Church.

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The Fourteenth Annual Peter Richard Kenrick Lecture “The Council of Chalcedon and Some Contemporary Christological Issues”



Brian Fallon, Theology I
Archdiocese of St. Louis

On March 19, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary hosted the fourteenth annual Peter Richard Kenrick Lecture, with Fr. Thomas Weinandy, OFM, Cap. as the presenter.

Fr. Weinandy has held a number of academic positions at major universities, most notably as Tutor and Lecturer in History and Doctrine for the Faculty of Theology at Oxford University from 1991 to 2004. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Secretariat for Doctrine and Pastoral Practices of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.



Fr. Weinandy

Fr. Weinandy’s lecture, “The Council of Chalcedon and Some Contemporary Christological Issues,” addressed contemporary questions in light of the Council. While the presentation provided many deep insights regarding the natures of Christ, Fr. Weinandy’s light and personable manner of speaking made the topic accessible to all present. The time for questions after the presentation also proved helpful in better understanding the Christology of Chalcedon; seminarians, faculty, and members from local Christian denominations asked Fr. Weinandy to expound upon topics mentioned in his talk.

Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Kenrick School of Theology, Dr. *(Lecture, cont. on pg. 4)*

March for Life Inspires First Year Theologian



Zachary Edgar, Theology I
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

On January 22, a record 300,000 people gathered in our nation’s capital to protest the 36th anniversary of legalized abortion in our country. Seminarians from Kenrick-Glennon were among the thousands who made the trip to Washington to march against the “Culture of Death.”

This was my fourth trip to the March for Life. If you have never been to the March, or prayed outside an abortion clinic, it is difficult to convey the magnitude of this witness. I think I speak for all the seminarians here in



Kenrick-Glennon seminarians prior to the January March for Life. *(Zachary Edgar)*

saying that walking and praying side-by-side with so many who are willing to fight for the right to life is a true blessing.

(March for Life, cont. on pg. 6)

Faculty Profile and Fond Farewell: Rev. Lawrence C. Brennan



For twenty-two years Kenrick-Glennon Seminary has been blessed by the service of Rev. Lawrence C. Brennan. Since 1987, Fr. Brennan has served the seminary as Professor of Systematic Theology and (beginning in 1989) as the seminary's Academic Dean. Last summer, with the agreement of then-Archbishop of St. Louis Raymond L. Burke, Fr. Brennan was released to the Diocese of Colorado Springs, pending completion of his duties this year at the seminary.

At the invitation of Bishop Michael Sheridan, Fr. Brennan will serve Colorado Springs in a threefold capacity, as Theological Consultant, as Director of Continuing Formation for Priests and Deacons, and as Director of Initial Formation for the Permanent Diaconate. Following a sabbatical in Rome this fall, where he will study at the Institute of Continuing Theological Education at the North American Col-

lege, Fr. Brennan will assume his new responsibilities in January 2010. He will be in residence at St. Peter Parish, in Monument, Colorado, about 20 minutes north of the city.

His new appointment has Fr. Brennan very excited for a number of reasons. "This assignment meshes well with my training and experience in the area of initial formation," said Fr. Brennan. "For many years at Kenrick-Glennon I have worked with the four pillars of formation as laid out by John Paul II in his 1992 apostolic exhortation, *Pastores dabo vobis*—human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation—and in my new assignment I will be working with the same four pillars, but now in the area of continuing formation."

Points of pride for Fr. Brennan in his role as the seminary's Academic Dean include: restructuring the curriculum into a more coherent whole; instituting a joint degree program in which graduates receive both a Master of Di-

vinity and a Master of Arts degree; working closely with Msgr. Timothy Cronin, Rector of Cardinal Glennon College, in overseeing the program design, faculty search, and accreditation of the new on-campus undergraduate program in philosophy, which graduates its first students in May 2009; and supporting instructional technology advances that, according to many institutional peers, make Kenrick-Glennon Seminary the premier Catholic seminary in the realm of technology-supported education.

Reflecting on thirty years of combined service at Kenrick-Glennon and at three previous appointments, Fr. Brennan quoted lyrics to the song "If I Were a Rich Man" from the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*:

If I were rich, I'd have the time that I lack / To sit in the synagogue and pray. / And maybe have a seat by the Eastern wall. / And I'd discuss the holy
(*Faculty Profile, cont. on page 6*)

Save the Date: Alumni Day Set for October 7

On Wednesday, October 7, the golden and silver jubilarians of Kenrick Seminary—the ordination classes of 1959 and 1984, respectively—will be the focus of the 2009 Kenrick Alumni Reunion at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary.

The 2009 Kenrick Alumni Reunion begins at 5:00 P.M. with a Mass of Thanksgiving in the seminary's Chapel of St. Joseph. Cocktails, dinner, and an entertainment program will follow.

The Social and Dinner are scheduled for 6:00 P.M., and the Program and Entertainment for 7:00 P.M.

Invitations to the October 7 event will be mailed in mid-August.

Items Needed for November 7 *Convivium*

On Saturday, November 7, the seminary will host its seventeenth annual dinner auction, *Convivium*.

Convivium is the seminary's annual opportunity to feast together with our friends, new and familiar, who continue to support us with their generosity and prayers. Proceeds from this event are used to assist our seminarians in many different ways. *Convivium 2008* raised over \$160,000 and helped to provide funding for improved lighting in the seminary auditorium.

The *Convivium 2009* committee is currently seeking the following items for auction: new items,

almost new items, furniture in good condition, themed baskets, gift certificates (for restaurants, stores, events, services), handmade items, and items big and small are most welcome.

If you have questions or would like to donate an item to *Convivium 2009*, please call Tory Welling in the Development Office at 314-792-6119.

Thank you for your continued support! Please know that our seminarians are most grateful for everything you and all of our benefactors give of your time, talent, and treasure.

An Evening of Theatre with Cardinal Glennon College



Patrick Fletcher, Class of 2010
Cardinal Glennon College
Archdiocese of St. Louis

This past February, Cardinal Glennon College produced a series of four one-act plays to compose “An Evening of Theatre.” The one-act plays included *The Philadelphia*, *The Telltale Heart*, *The Rising of the Moon*, and an excerpt from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. These plays were chosen particularly for their variation in genre, as they ranged from drama, to mystery, to comedy. The shows all worked together to provide a diverse “Evening of Theatre” for the audience.

For two months the collegians worked hard under the direction of Mr. Robert Grumich who is Director of Education and Outreach at *Stages, St. Louis*. The seminarians practiced for four hours (or more) a week, until the pro-

duction was ready for the public. The show ran for three nights in a row during the final weekend in February, and more than 400 people came to see the seminarians on stage!

The show provided a unique opportunity for the college men to work together as a team and produce a creative event enjoyable for audiences of all ages. This was the main focus of this



(From Left:) Cardinal Glennon College juniors Ryan Weber and Patrick Fletcher in *The Philadelphia*.
(Zachary Edgar)

project, and every single collegian contributed their time and effort by acting, working on the technical crew, working backstage, and/or selling tickets and concessions. The show was a big success!

Pictures from the February 15 Seminary Open House

On the afternoon of Sunday, February 15, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary hosted its fifth annual Open House. Enjoy these pictures from an event that welcomes everyone into the seminary to meet their future priests and learn more about the daily lives of our seminarians.



First year Theologian Jeffrey Gardner (Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph) welcomes a pair of visitors to the February 15 seminary Open House. (Zachary Edgar)

Third year Theologian Rev. Mr. Timothy Noelker (Archdiocese of St. Louis) answers questions about life in the seminary from an Open House guest in the seminary refectory. (Zachary Edgar)



Dennis Stoll (Pre-Theology I, Archdiocese of St. Louis) ushers a pair of visitors through the seminary courtyard at the fifth annual seminary Open House. (Zachary Edgar)

Second year Theologian Bo Purcell (Archdiocese of St. Louis) shows a tour group into the seminary’s St. Charles Borromeo Chapel. (Zachary Edgar)



Faculty News and Notes



Dr. Sebastian Mahfood, Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies, participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March scheduled on

March 29 in White Sands, New Mexico. In honor of the special group of WWII heroes captured by the Japanese on April 9, 1942, and forced to march through the jungles of the Philippines where thousands died, Dr. Mahfood raced across the desert terrain with a 35-lb backpack. This was his 19th marathon since December, 2005.



Fr. Thomas McDermott, O.P., Assistant Professor of Spiritual Theology, wrote the main article in the February issue of *Liguorian* magazine

entitled, "Catherine of Siena: Lenten Guide." The article is now available on the magazine's website.



Dr. John Gresham, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, spoke on *St. Paul's Trinitarian Spirituality* for the Pauline Lecture Series at

Pauline Books and Media on February 11. This semester, he has been giving a series of talks on the *Trinity in the Letters of St. Paul* to the Poor Clare nuns at the Monastery of St. Clare. Dr. Gresham also continues teaching a year long course on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* for the novices and postulants of the Carmelites of the Divine Heart of Jesus in Kirkwood. On March 4, he

was interviewed about his journey into the Catholic Church by Gus Lloyd on the *Seize the Day* morning radio show on *The Catholic Channel*, broadcast nationwide on Sirius Radio. Dr. Gresham wrote an article which will appear in *Liguorian* magazine this summer: "The Relevance of Religion in an Age of Science, Skepticism and Do-it-yourself Spirituality."



Fr. Jack Hunthausen, S.J., Spiritual Director, gave a presentation on the Passion of Christ to a group of the Bridges Program on March 25. Bridges is a program

whereby people make the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius over a nine-month period instead of in the traditional 30-day time frame.



Dr. Daniel G. Van Slyke, Associate Professor of Church History, Dr. Daniel G. Van Slyke's study titled "*Despicere mundum et terrena: A Spiritual and Liturgical Motif in the*

Missale Romanum" was presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Catholic Liturgy in late January 2009. Also in January, Dr. Van Slyke addressed the permanent deacon candidates of Tulsa, Oklahoma, on "Liturgical Theology." In May, he will deliver a paper on "Sts. Marcellinus and Peter: Was Peter an Exorcist?" at the annual meeting of the North American Patristics Society. Dr. Van Slyke is putting the finishing touches on an entry addressing "*De unico baptismo contra Petilianum*," to be published in *The Oxford Guide to the Historical Reception of Augustine*.



Dr. Andrew J. Sopko, Director of the Souvay Library, was recently elected as chair of the Academic/Archives Library Services section of the Greater St. Louis

Chapter of the Catholic Library Association. He also currently serves as a member of the local host committee which is preparing for the annual conference of the American Theological Library Association to be held in St. Louis in June. An interview with Dr. Sopko in that capacity appeared in the March issue of the *ATLA Newsletter*.



Dr. John P. Doyle, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary and Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, St. Louis University, recently had

an article published in the *Studia Neoaristotelica*. The article is entitled "A Treatise of Master Hervaeus Natalis, The Doctor Perspicacissimus, On Second Intentions."

(Lecture, cont. from page 1)

John Gresham, was impressed by Fr. Weinandy's presentation but was most appreciative of his authentic devotion to Jesus Christ. "Father Weinandy modeled theological reflection informed by a personal love for Christ," he said.

Fr. Weinandy's presentation on Chalcedon is set to appear in an upcoming issue of *Theology Digest*.

The members of the Kenrick-Glennon community are grateful to Fr. Weinandy for his time and detailed presentation; his efforts made this year's Peter Richard Kenrick Lecture a tremendous success.

Seminarian Spotlight

As part of their education and formation, the seminarians of Kenrick-Glennon are required to read a substantial number of books, articles, and essays throughout the academic year. In addition to their assigned reading many seminarians still make time for personal, non-required reading. *The Herald* asked the question: “What non-required book are you currently reading and why would you recommend it?” Here is what these seminarians had to say:

Henry K. Purcell, Theology II / Archdiocese of St. Louis / Home Parish: St. Gabriel the Archangel, St. Louis



“Currently I am reading Mark Twain’s *Joan of Arc*, which he wrote after twelve years of studying her life. He tells her story through the eyes of a companion of hers and thereby makes all the characters come to life as the narrator. The narrative definitely highlights the excitement and different tensions throughout her life. Twain is quoted, ‘I like *Joan of Arc* best of all my books; and it is the best....’ I recommend this book both for the fascinating story of Joan of Arc as well as the engaging presentation given by Mark Twain.”

Anthony Saiki, Junior, Cardinal Glennon College / Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas / Home Parish: St. Paul’s, Olathe

“I have been reading *Truth and Tolerance* by Pope Benedict XVI. In this book, Pope Benedict asks, ‘Can truth be recognized? What meaning does belief have? What positive meaning does religion have, if not connected with truth?’ He answers these from his perspective and the perspective of history, and shows how secular society so often opposes truth. This is a great book for anyone who is trying to articulate the truth, and understand those who do not believe in truth, oppose the truth, and ask ‘What is Truth?’”



David Voss, Theology I / Diocese of Wichita, Kansas / Home Parish: St. Patrick’s, Wichita



“The non-class related book I am currently reading is *The Sum of All Fears* by Tom Clancy. Some of the books that students have to read for classes are not very engaging. Tom Clancy is a fresh reminder that books need not be burdensome. To be able to sit down with an engaging book and be able to have your own life wrapped up in the life of another character is both an exercise in leisure and an exercise in humility.”

Nathan Haverland, Pre-Theology II / Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas / Home Parish: St. Patrick’s, Kansas City in Kansas

“A book that I’m reading right now and a book that’s been popular among the Pre-Theology class this year is Jacques Philippe’s book, *Interior Freedom*. It is a short but excellent book that explains that true interior freedom is achieved by practicing the virtues of faith, hope, and charity. Although this book can be read quickly, it is best read slowly so as to digest and apply Jacques Philippe’s many great insights. I would recommend this book for all those seeking true freedom in this valley of tears.”



(Faculty Profile, cont. from page 2)

books with the learned men, / Several hours every day. / That would be the sweetest thing of all.

“I have a great love of theology,” remarked Fr. Brennan. “I may not sit in a synagogue, but I have the opportunity to discuss the holy books with learned colleagues and with very open students several hours every day—and that is a tremendous wealth.”

Concerning his students, he said: “I have always been excited to be a part of the Church’s future through my students, and I have found a non-stop source of personal inspiration in them. In the traditional expression I experience them as the *spes gregis*—as ‘hope of the flock’—because they have been my hope too.” Not to be too serious, he added with a grin, “And I taught them how to play the card game *Mille Bornes*—the second most popular game in France.”

Fr. Brennan spoke appreciatively of his faculty peers. “One of the pleasures of working at Kenrick-Glennon is that the faculty is such a harmonious group, a group unified in its vision of the Church, the priesthood, and the challenge of evangelization. Through our faculty days of recollection, our faculty

in-service days, and our occasional faculty retreats, I’ve experienced a dedicated and mutually supportive group of men and women. They have provided me an enriched environment in which to work, and I am proud of what we have achieved together.



Fr. Brennan with then-seminarian Fr. William Hennecke (ordination class of 2007 / Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau) at the 2003 seminary Christmas dinner.

“I am already beginning to feel a sadness about leaving. The seminary apostolate is very dynamic, very future-oriented. John Paul II called the seminary the ‘heart of the Church,’ and it has been a privilege for me to be a part of it for so many years. I will miss the people and the place, above all the intensity of this work. But I leave here with a strong sense of satisfaction.

“Even before I heard from Bishop Sheridan, I was beginning to sense that it might be time for me to move into a new apostolate. The Bishop’s call came to me then as a sign of Providence and I feel a sense of reassurance about taking the next steps. My previous appointment was in Colorado, and I have visited there every summer since. I know the parish where I will be staying, I have a lot of friends there, and they are excited about welcoming me. I have much to look forward to.”

Speaking on behalf of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary community, President-Rector Msgr. Ted Wojcicki remarked: “The term ‘Renaissance Man’ is truly coined for Fr. Larry Brennan; for he is: theologian, linguist, chef, harpist, writer, teacher, dean, administrator, singer, not to mention an engaging wit and clever satirist.

Above all he is a priest of Jesus Christ who generously places all his bountiful gifts at the service of the Roman Catholic Church he loves. For those of us who are blessed to know and love him personally, he is also son and brother and uncle and cousin and colleague—and loyal friend; he will be missed greatly by our seminary community.”

(March for Life, cont. from page 1)

It has always been inspiring to reach the top of Capitol Hill and look back down Constitution Avenue to see thousands more people marching behind you for blocks and blocks.

As Bishop Robert Hermann told us in his homily at Mass prior to the March, “[Jesus] brought you here. He wants to use you as a witness. And there’s plenty to witness to. We have only one life to live and Jesus is it. So this is our privilege to witness today and every day.” Bishop Hermann led the group of Kenrick-Glennon seminarians during the March, and several other St. Louis priests were alongside as well.

One of the most powerful moments of the trip was participating in the Mass held at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on the eve of the March. Seeing hundreds of

seminarians, deacons, priests and bishops gathered with an overflow crowd of the faithful to pray at Mass for an end to abortion is something I wish all Catholics could experience first-hand. There is a great feeling of hope in that place, and a knowledge that Christ can conquer this “Culture of Death” despite Satan’s presence in today’s culture. This is a clear call to live out our Catholic identity, and to convince many who don’t have a clue that they’re being deceived by Satan to choose Christ and to “Choose Life.”

As Bishop Hermann encouraged us, “We need to pray for those who are pro-abortion; we want them to be on Christ’s side; we want their salvation.”

All of us here at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary are thankful for the opportunity to be the witnesses for life that Christ is calling us to be, and to do it all for Him and for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Thank You to the Annual Catholic Appeal

Each spring, the seminary receives its yearly support from the Annual Catholic Appeal. In addition to this grant, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary receives significant support via the Matching Gifts Program, which is sponsored and administrated through the Annual Catholic Appeal. In whole, over one million dollars of seminary revenue each year comes as a result of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

For that support, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, its seminarians, faculty, and staff are grateful.



Rev. Mr. Eric Olsen, Theology IV / Archdiocese of St. Louis / Home Parish: St. Clement of Rome, Des Peres / Diaconate Parish: Ascension, Chesterfield

“As a beneficiary of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary’s formation for the last four years, I am deeply grateful for all of the sacrifice and generosity that has made this formation possible. My years of formation have been grace-filled; Jesus Christ is truly present and at work in this wonderful place! Our professors instruct us in the saving Truth which God and His Church teach us, the formators help us to grow in those human virtues which will aid us in our work of relating to and sharing God’s love with the members of the Church, and the pastoral formation program offers us the tools that will help us to minister effectively to God’s holy people. Most importantly, though, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary is a place where one encounter’s Jesus Christ. It is a place where one experiences his love in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; in the Sacrament of Reconciliation; in the Holy Eucharist contained in the tabernacle and exposed in the monstrance; in the communal recitation of the prayer of the Church, the Liturgy of the Hours; in study; in the formators and staff; and in one’s pastoral experiences.

“Recognizing the tremendous responsibility and dignity of the Priesthood, and the unworthiness of any of us to aspire to this office in which one is configured to Christ as ‘head and shepherd...servant and spouse of the Church’ (*Pastores dabo vobis*, 3), the seminarians of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary are deeply grateful for the support and trust which is shown to us every year by the Annual Catholic Appeal. We are deeply grateful to all those who contribute to the ACA because you give us the opportunity to be formed into priests after *the Heart of Christ*. Thank you!”

Please Pray for Those to Be Ordained this Spring

Ordination to the Priesthood

Mark Chrismer, St. Louis
 John Evans, Rockford
 Robert Favazza, Memphis
 Jordan Gongora, Belize
 Russ Kovash, Bismarck
 Christian Malewski, Kansas City-St. Joseph
 John Mayo, St. Louis
 Eric Olsen, St. Louis
 David Skillman, St. Louis
 Kevin Stockbridge, Memphis

Ordination to the Diaconate

Matthew Benjamin, Kansas City-St. Joseph
 Maximilian Biltz, Wichita
 Yancey Burgess, Wichita
 Francis Doyle, Jefferson City
 Evan Harkins, Kansas City-St. Joseph
 James Holbrook, St. Louis
 Craig Holway, St. Louis
 Zachary Kautzky, Des Moines
 Timothy Noelker, St. Louis
 Anthony Ochoa, St. Louis
 Dylan Schrader, Jefferson City
 Br. John Michael Voithofer, Intercessors of the Lamb
 Nicklaus Winker, St. Louis
 Anthony Yates, St. Louis

Coming Events

Priesthood Ordination for the Archdiocese of St. Louis

On Saturday, May 23 (10:00 A.M. at the Cathedral Basilica), four men will be ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Please join these soon-to-be-ordained priests and the seminary community for this joyous event.

Alumni Day—October 7th

The Kenrick Alumni Mass and Dinner are scheduled for Wednesday, October 7. The evening will begin with Holy Mass at 5:00 P.M. in the Chapel of St. Joseph at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. (*See related article, page 2.*)

17th Annual Convivium Dinner Auction—November 7th

Mark your calendar and plan to attend. The seminary is now accepting donated items. (*See story, page 2*)

Anonymous Donor Gifts Truck for Seminary Maintenance

To whom it may concern,

Under normal circumstances a simple “thank you” would be adequate but this is not a normal circumstance.

When I received word that Kenrick-Glennon Seminary would be the recipient of a new truck, I was at a total loss for words. During these hard economic times it is hard to fathom that any institution or individual could find ways to assist another with such a financial expenditure. With your help, time, and assistance, the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary Plant Department can now operate with more efficiency with this new truck. This truck serves a vital purpose to this facility, using it to transport supplies, clean up the grounds, move equipment on the facility grounds, etc. Our old truck had simply worn out causing us to rent equipment to serve the same purpose. For many years efforts were made to acquire a vehicle but our budget simply could not afford the expenditure. Your dedication to this effort has made a dream become reality. On behalf of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary Plant Department it is my pleasure to express the deepest gratitude to you and all involved.

Tracy A. Lato
Plant Supervisor, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary



President-Rector Msgr. Ted Wojcicki and Plant Supervisor Tracy Lato with the newly-donated truck. (*Zachary Edgar*)



The Herald

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