Thanks to All

‘Campaign for Priesthood’ Exceeds Goal

In an historic capital campaign, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary exceeded its goal of $50,000,000 by $10,838,226. President-Rector, Msgr. Ted Wojcicki expressed his awe at the generosity of God’s people. “Thanks to all. There are so many around the Archdiocese who were so generous with their time and energy and prayers in working tirelessly for the campaign. I would salute my brother priests in a special way for their leadership in the midst of their other challenges; also our dedicated parish lay leadership and our other archdiocesan staff were heroic in their sacrificial assistance. I am mindful of the contributions of the immediate seminary community also: our Board of Trustees, our faculty and staff, not to mention the seminarians themselves who were so visible in the parish pulpits. Of course the list of our generous donors is even longer, over 35,000 people long. If these wonderful people were standing shoulder to shoulder a yard apart, the line would be almost sixty miles long! Praise the Lord!”

In addition to capable leadership, Msgr. Wojcicki acknowledged the role of prayer in Christian stewardship. “Archbishop Carlson has reminded us that the success of our campaign is due to the power of prayer. Yes. Amen. Also our Episcopal leadership provided the vision and the inspiration to make it happen. Thanks to Archbishop Burke for announcing the vision of the campaign and for obtaining the leadership gifts from special benefactors and from our sponsoring dioceses; thanks to Bishop Hermann for courageously leading the campaign with great hope in our challenging economic times; thanks to Archbishop Carlson for his energetic leadership to exceed the goal.”

The return on the generosity of so many will be seen as more priests provide a means to Gospel living for this and future generations of God’s family. “The seminarians are the living embodiment of the “future full of hope” promised by the Lord. I am confident that our lay faithful made their pledges in gratitude for the loving and faith-filled priests who served them in the past and with the hope that this present generation of priests will continue to nourish the faith into the future,” stated Msgr. Wojcicki.

Msgr. Wojcicki added: “In the name of the seminary community, I promise to all who have been involved in the campaign in any way good stewardship of your sacrifices and the seminary’s commitment to preparing saintly priests in the service of Jesus Christ and his Gospel.”

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<th>Total Pledges $60,838,226</th>
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<td>Goal Achieved 121.7%</td>
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<td>Number of Gifts 35,322</td>
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Weekend Events Draw Hundreds to Seminary

During this year’s Open House at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary on February 14, 2010, visitors had an opportunity to tour the seminary grounds, chat with seminarians, and discover the various courses, programs, and extra-curricula offered. Many guests took advantage of the Forty Hours Devotion of the Blessed Sacrament held in the seminary’s St. Joseph Chapel. We hope you’ll join us next year!

Photos courtesy of Jonathan Dizon

Open house guests enjoyed visiting and perusing the display tables.

Msgr. Timothy Cronin, (Rector, Cardinal Glennon College) visits with guests during this year’s Open House.

S p e c i a l guests, Joseph and Nancy Giljum, enjoy brunch with seminarian, Brian Alford (Theology III, Springfield in Illinois).

President-Rector, Msgr. Ted Wojcicki, welcomes Bishop Robert Hermann, among other special guests. Peter Fonseca (Pictured on the right; Cardinal Glennon College, Junior, St. Louis) stated, “It was a wonderful blessing to welcome seminary visitors to the weekend’s events.”

Kent Pollman (Pre-Theology I, St. Louis) warmly welcomes open house guests.
As the men who are in formation at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary learn, prayer is the foundation of Christian Stewardship. With prayer, the gifts we share, great and small, given in a spirit of sacrifice, harness a supernatural power to change the world. The perfect prayer, heard nearly every day across our Archdiocese, is the Mass.

“Do This in Memory of Me”

Almost 2,000 years ago, Christ spoke these words to His Apostles, one of the very last things He said to them before His passion, death, and resurrection. Now, these words are heard daily all over the world, uniting people across nations, and across the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. Nothing unifies us like the celebration of the Eucharist. And through this perfect prayer, we receive the grace to perform acts of true charity.

The Eucharist unifies us in the Archdiocese of St. Louis in prayer. We respond together with one voice, in one act of charity, through the Annual Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is more than just a collection we take up every year…it is how we, the Catholic Community, provide the financial resources necessary to evangelize, to spread the Good News about Jesus Christ, in our local community. Through the Appeal, Catholics from many different backgrounds and from many walks of life unite to support the mission of the local Church.

Because it is a concrete, other-centered expression of the perfect unity we enjoy in the Eucharist, and because it helps us to share Christ’s love with others, the Appeal is an excellent expression of our Catholicity. Through it, we make the mystical body of Christ visible to the world.

The Appeal and our Seminarians

The success of the Appeal is critical to the formation of our Seminarians and the day-to-day operations of the Seminary. In fact, the 2010 Appeal will contribute almost 10%, over $1.1 million, of the total funds raised to the education and formation of those discerning a priestly vocation in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. In addition to this, another $500,000 will be available through matching gifts.

The support the Seminary receives from the Appeal is different from the support recently received through the Faith for the Future capital campaign. The funds raised by the capital campaign will address capital needs or be invested, through an endowment, to begin earning funds to support future operations. In the meantime, the important work of forming men to be priests continues. The Appeal directly supports these ongoing operations.

The people who work at the Seminary, who give so much of their lives to its mission, know of the ACA’s importance. In fact, the faculty and staff of the Seminary have already achieved 100% participation in the 2010 Appeal. The seminarians themselves know of the ACA’s importance as well. Last year, one seminarian decided to conduct a campaign among his fellow seminarians to benefit the Appeal. He raised more than $8,000 from his fellow seminarians through his efforts.

The Appeal, Prayer, and Your Participation

The Seminary’s reliance upon the Appeal is just one reason why our prayer for the Appeal is so important. Prayer is the only way our stewardship can fundamentally change the world. The good news is that, if we do pray faithfully, daily, we know the Appeal will succeed, regardless of the amount raised, through the gift of grace the Church will receive. By contrast, if we fail to pray, the Appeal will fail, regardless of how much money is raised. We need grace more than we need money.

This is why your sacrificial participation is so very important, regardless of the amount you are able to give. Your participation helps to perfect this gift. As more Catholics participate, our unity is strengthened, more people pray, more good works can be done, and the supernatural power of the gifts given grows.

The Appeal is being conducted in parishes across the Archdiocese right now. Please make your pledge at your parish or online at www.archstl.org/aca. Thank you for your prayerful participation in this important effort to support the life and mission of the local Church.
Seminarian Spotlight

What are you most grateful for when you consider the generosity of so many people in helping the Faith for the Future capital campaign to exceed its goal?

FADI AURO, ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS, THEOLOGY II
With gratitude to the faithful of the Archdiocese for their tremendous generosity to the Capital Campaign, I am particularly enthused to think that we shall soon have a proper theological library at our disposal. In order well to articulate and defend the Truth of the Catholic faith, priests and seminarians first must drink deeply from the fonts of holy wisdom. The envisaged library, I am confident, will serve as an invaluable resource to foster our love for the Truth, who is our Lord Jesus Christ.

WILLIAM DOTSON, ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS, THEOLOGY II
I am grateful that, thanks to the generosity of the faithful, the seminary will be able to provide more rooms for students. As it is, we are near capacity, and it would be a shame to ever have to tell a man that he cannot study here because we simply do not have room. The added rooms will ensure that, as enrollment increases, Kenrick-Glennon is able to continue forming priests for St. Louis and dioceses across the Midwest.

KEVIN DREW, DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY – ST. JOSEPH, THEOLOGY II
I am grateful for two things: The first being the vision and courage of Archbishops Burke and Carlson; secondly, by the generosity and sacrifice of the Archdiocese. The campaign was not just about fixing an old building, but a long-term investment in an institution which trains and forms future priests from all over the country. The fine people of St. Louis understand this, another reason why St. Louis is truly the "Rome of the West."

NATHAN HAVERLAND, ARCHDIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY IN KANSAS, THEOLOGY I
Through the Faith for the Future campaign I have become more grateful for just how much work and generosity it takes to keep the seminary going and prepared for the future. I was particularly touched by all those who worked long hours and made numerous phone calls to make the campaign such a success. I am also grateful for all the priests who welcomed seminarians into their parishes and who gave so generously themselves to the campaign.

KREGG HOCHHALTER, DIOCESE OF BISMARCK, THEOLOGY II
I am grateful for the response of the people of God who have given of their own resources to the campaign. This response expresses the genuine faith of the people who desire so deeply to know and love Christ in the Eucharist. This generous response shows the deepest hunger inside all persons that can only be satisfied by our Eucharistic Lord, who is made present through the hands of the priest.

DANIEL SCHMITZ, ARCHDIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY IN KANSAS, THEOLOGY I
I am most grateful for the endowment we will now have, which will help compensate the best professors we can have here at the seminary. I am inspired by the charity of so many. At the time I saw the results, I had been having trouble finishing a paper, but after seeing how so many had given so much, I was inspired to give my all to serve them the best I can.
Ordained in a Year for Priests

BY REV. MR. EVAN HARKINS
THEOLOGY IV
DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY - ST. JOSEPH

If you have ever taken Manchester west of I-270, you know what I mean when I say that the trip was tedious. I was anxious, and I counted just too many cars and lights between me and the O’Byrne’s religious goods store. But ten minutes later, it was all worth the trouble, as I held in my hands the chalice (just back from being re-plated) that I would elevate at my first Mass. It was in that moment that the weight of my upcoming ordination hit me. My priesthood was being translated from an abstract idea into concrete, tangible realities, like the chalice now ready for Mass.

There are similar stories from each of my classmates as our ordination dates draw nearer and as we make the necessary preparations: vessels and vestments, invitations, holy cards, and planning liturgies. The sense of joy and excitement surround the members of the ordination class of 2010. These final days before ordination are quite edifying. Each of the deacons is preparing spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally for entrance into priestly life. As we observe each other, the synthesis of our work in formation and the manifestation of priestly zeal and pastoral love begin to grow more solid and visible. The work of the Holy Spirit is clearly evident. This adds hope to our excitement and joy.

And as if all of these events were not exciting or encouraging enough, we have the blessing to be ordained in the year declared by our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, as a Year for Priests. This is quite a special grace for which we thank Mary, Mother of Clergy, and St. John Vianney. The writings and words of the Holy Father and many bishops offer reflections rich in insight on the life and meaning of the priesthood. Prayers have brought each of us through seminary—the prayers of family, friends, and parishioners. It is quite humbling to receive ordination, in a sense the culmination of our formation, near the culmination of a year which the whole universal Church has devoted to prayer and sacrifices for priests. As we look toward our ordination days with excitement, we prepare to begin our priestly ministry in a spirit of blessedness, of hope, and of profound joy.

Please Pray for Those being Ordained this Spring

Ordination to the Priesthood
Yancey Burgess, Wichita
Matthew Benjamin, Kansas City - St. Joseph
Maximillian Blitz, Wichita
Francis Doyle, Jefferson City
Evan Harkins, Kansas City - St. Joseph
James Holbrook, St. Louis
Craig Holway, St. Louis
Joseph Jiang, St. Louis
Zackary Kautzky, Des Moines
Timothy Noelker, St. Louis
Anthony Ochoa, St. Louis
Dylan Schrader, Jefferson City
Jason Schumer, St. Louis
John Michael Voithofer, Omaha
Nicklaus Winker, St. Louis
Anthony Yates, St. Louis

Ordination to the Diaconate
Brian Alford, Springfield in Illinois
Marco De Loera, Wichita
Timothy Foy, St. Louis
Carlos Gallardo, Colorado Springs
Anthony Gerber, St. Louis
Michael Grosch, St. Louis
Joseph Jaskierny, Rockford
Jerome Lies, Omaha
Johnson Lopez, Rockford
Anthony Onyango, Belleville
Henry Purcell, St. Louis
Jason Signalness, Bismarck
Andrew Syring, Omaha
Kevin Vogel, Omaha
James Weeder, Omaha

Timothy Foy, Anthony Gerber, Michael Grosch, Joseph Jaskierny, Johnson Lopez, and Henry Purcell were ordained transitional deacons on March 27 at the Cathedral Basilica.

Photo courtesy of Jeff Geerling
Faculty News and Notes

Dr. John Gresham, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, published a book review of Christology: A Biblical, Historical, and Systematic Study of Jesus (Revised edition) by Gerald O'Collins in the March Issue of CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries. In September of 2009, he participated in the first annual Faculty Workshop for Seminary Theologians sponsored by the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) in Omaha, where he presented a paper entitled Contemplating Christ in the Seminary Classroom. This paper will be published by IPF in the workshop proceedings this summer. He presented this paper again to the St. Louis Society of Catholic Theologians meeting at Fontbonne University in November, 2009. He just completed teaching a short course on Christology to novices and postulants of the Carmelites of the Divine Heart of Jesus in Kirkwood. He continues to teach online courses for Paul VI Institute. While on sabbatical this past fall semester he worked on his book, Jesus 101: God and Man, to be published soon by Liguori.

Fr. Jay Harrington, O.P., Associate Professor of Sacred Scripture, presented a workshop on January 12, 2010 at St. Richard Catholic Church in St. Louis. The topic was St. Paul's Theology of the Church. What Impact Has Letters Have had on Church Practice and Theology. He has been invited to deliver lectures for priests on the Gospel of Matthew in preparation for the next lectionary cycle. Fr. Harrington presided at the Easter Triduum celebrations of the Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters at Mt. Grace Convent in St. Louis and continues regular weekend assistance at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Florissant.

Fr. Jack Hunthausen, S.J., Spiritual Director, preached a Lenten Mission at Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Aurora, CO during the first week of March. The theme of the Mission was Prayer and Fasting. On March 24, he also gave some reflections on the Passion of Jesus to the Bridges Program here in St. Louis. The participants in the Bridges Program make the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola over an eight-month period instead of the compact 30-day period.

Dr. Sebastian Mahfood, Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies and Coordinator of Instructional Technology, is collaborating with Msgr. Richard Henning of the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, NY, and the NCEA Seminary Department on the development of an information sharing network called the Parresia Project, which is designed to assist in the enculturation efforts of missionary priests and seminarians. He ran his 21st marathon in Salt Lake City, UT, on April 16.

Dr. Daniel Van Slyke, Associate Professor of Church history, contributed an article titled Despiciere mundum et terrena: A Spiritual and Liturgical Motif in the Missale Romanum, to the inaugural issue of the journal Usus Antiquor. His articles on Demonology, Diabolical Possession (Theology of), and Exorcism are now available in the New Catholic Encyclopedia: Supplement 2009. In late January, Dr. Van Slyke delivered a paper on The Acolyte’s Ministry in Historical Perspective: Rites of Ordination or Institution, at the Annual Conference of the Society for Catholic Liturgy. Dr Van Slyke's reviews of the following two books will appear in 2010 in, respectively, the Journal of Early Christian Studies and Fides et Historia: Alexander Y. Hwang's Intrepid Lover of Perfect Grace: The Life and Thought of Prosper of Aquitaine, and Francis X. Gumerlock’s Fulgentius of Ruspe on the Saving Will of God: The Development of a Sixth-Century African Bishop’s Interpretation of 1 Timothy 2:4 during the Semi-Pelagian Controversy. Dr Van Slyke delivered a Lenten talk on Angels and Demons at Saints Joachim and Ann Catholic Church in February.

Ms. Mary Beth Wittry, Director of Music, was invited to give an organ concert at Missouri State University in Springfield, on Sunday, April 11. The university is celebrating 50 years of their Casavant organ and the recent renovation of that instrument. Ms. Wittry was a part-time instructor of organ at the Missouri State University for eight years prior to coming to Saint Louis. On the anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach’s birth, Ms. Wittry played in the Bach Marathon, sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis on Sunday, March 21.
Seminarians March For Life

BY JOHN FOGLIASSO
THEOLOGY III
DIOCESE OF WICHITA

In January of 2010 I attended my first March for Life in Washington DC. It is an opportunity I have had before, but there was always a reason I could not attend. This year, as I considered whether to sign up for a spot on the bus, Rev. Mr. Tim Foy (Theology III, St. Louis) gave a very moving speech at a student-body meeting, exhorting us to make the sacrifice and attend the march, to stand up for our belief that every life deserves respect. I am very grateful to Rev. Mr. Foy for his appeal and for reminding me that the least I can do to support the pro-life movement is to attend the march. It was truly an overwhelming experience to see hundreds of thousands standing up for the sanctity of life. As expected, the secular media did a poor job of covering the event. I even read one report from a particular news outlet that the March was evenly divided between abortion supporters and pro-life advocates! Having attended the event I have been the voice of truth to those who might otherwise accept this distortion.

It is important that we all do what we can to support the pro-life cause, whether that is with prayers and financial support, or participating in pro-life issues/events. While this was my first time attending the March, now that I have experienced the event in person, it will most certainly not be my last! I would like to send a heartfelt 'thank you' to those students who organized and lead the trip.

Seminarians Become Fourth Degree Knights

BY REV. MR. YANCEY BURGESS
THEOLOGY IV
DIOCESE OF WICHITA

What an honor it was for 21 seminarians from Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, including myself, to become Fourth Degree members of the Knights of Columbus, an organization that works tirelessly to support seminarians and the priesthood in this country and around the world. On Saturday, March 6 we were among the 236 candidates who arrived at the St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel for the ceremony.

Exactly how do the Knights of Columbus support seminarians? The most important element is prayer. Each Knights of Columbus chapter begins its meetings with a prayer for vocations. In most dioceses individual chapters sponsor specific seminarians with financial assistance and moral support. The financial aid given by the Knights is used by seminarians for tuition and books, car insurance and maintenance, travel during vacations, emergency expenditures, and other living expenses. In addition to financial support, the Knights of Columbus in St. Louis help out with the annual seminary Convivium dinner auction fundraiser. The Knights are always there to lend prayers and support for the future priests of America. When they discover a need, they go out of their way to find a way to offer support.

Finally, the Knights of Columbus work hard to build up good Catholic families from within their parish communities. Just as good Catholic families come from good Catholic priests, so also, good Catholic priests come from good Catholic families. It seems only natural for seminarians to want to be a part of an organization that works so hard to support seminarians, family life, and the priesthood. I would like to thank personally my brother Knights for all they have done for me throughout my vocational journey to the priesthood, and I pray that God will continue to bless the Knights of Columbus and all the great work that they do.
At 10:00 a.m., on Saturday, May 29, 2010 at the Cathedral Basilica, God-willing, eight men will be ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Please join these men and the entire seminary community for this joyous event.

Scheduled this year to begin with Mass at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 6, 2010, 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. The planning committee is currently seeking donations of themed baskets and gift certificates (for restaurants, stores, events, or services). If you would like to donate an item or volunteer to assist the planning committee please call Seth Jansen in the Development Office at 314-792-6113.

On Wednesday, October 6, 2010, the golden and silver jubilarians of Kenrick Seminary—the ordination classes of 1960 and 1985, respectively—will be the focus of the 2010 Priest Alumni Reunion at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. with a Mass of Thanksgiving in the seminary’s Chapel of St. Joseph. Following Mass, there will be a social and dinner, beginning at 6:00 p.m., and a program and entertainment, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Invitations will be mailed in mid-August.