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THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

A Public Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Omaha

I WANT TO SEE FOR MYSELF

The real work of The Institute for Priestly Formation takes place outside the classroom. Fr. Richard Gabuzda is fond of saying, "IPF is much more like the laboratory, than the library. Our programs help men to encounter God and experience His abiding love."



At the heart of all IPF programs, is individually guided spiritual direction. IPF recognizes that every relationship is unique and incorporates individual spiritual direction to help participants to recognize the movements of their heart—to embrace what God is revealing and to turn away from those things that come from themselves, the distractions of the world around them, or the enemy.

Since IPF, and more specifically the summer programs, are fundamentally about deepening a participant's personal encounter with God, it is often difficult to explain to outsiders what makes the IPF experience so special. It is not great teaching, but teaching that includes seminars by renowned authorities such as Fr. Timothy Gallagher, O.V.M., who conducts the Ignatian Principles for Discernment of Spirits Seminar each summer. It is not just an environment conducive to prayer where Creighton University partners with IPF to assure that there are many areas across campus that promote a silent receptivity to God. It is not even the quality spiritual directors and protective presence of qualified



counselors that explain the program's effectiveness.

Indeed, it is all these things, but it is also something much more substantial. The great power of IPF is that it provides a time and a place that encourages receptivity within the heart of each participant. The moment and nature of that encounter is unique to each individual, but for each one it is exactly what they need. God alone knows us completely and He alone is the answer for all of our needs.

The Bishops and Vocation Directors who send men to Omaha each summer



are well aware of the IPF outcome. At the end of each summer, men return to their home dioceses with a firm conviction of God's vocational call, an experience of God's abiding presence, and a will to stay in communion with God.



It is not uncommon for Bishops and Vocation Directors to say, "I want to see for myself what makes IPF so special."

So, each summer, IPF joyfully welcomes Bishops and Vocation Directors from across the country to come and taste for themselves the IPF difference. This summer IPF was proud to host Bishop Zubick of Pittsburgh, Bishop Cozzens of St. Paul - Minneapolis and Archbishop Carlson and Bishop Rice of St. Louis, among others. IPF also welcomed Rector Fr. Joseph Gatto and Spiritual Director Fr. Richard Siepka, both of Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora N.Y., who came to see IPF in action. Vocation Directors Fr. Mark McCormick from Rapid City, Fr. Shaun Haggerty from Sioux Falls, Fr. Chris O'Connor from Brighton, and Fr. Nicholas Vaskov from Pittsburgh, among others, immersed themselves in the IPF activity to better understand the experience. That understanding will help them foster the ongoing formation of the seminarians entrusted to them and assures that more men will be IPF participants in the future.

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REV. RICHARD GABUZDA
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We are full of gratitude for the graces poured out on the participants and staff of this past summer's programs.

Here's a sample from a seminarian:

"It was at IPF that I truly encountered Jesus and fell in love with Him again. Because of this renewed love, I can pray better and serve as a more zealous herald of the Gospel and shepherd of souls."

Multiply that by about 225 and you have some indication of the generosity of God given to the seminarians, priests and seminary faculty who benefited from our programs in these recent months. In saying this I am deeply aware of the power of intercessory prayer which surrounded us all thanks to the "Spiritual Moms", "Spiritual Dads", and many other friends who were joined with us in these months. Thanks to all of you for this gift!

The pages of this newsletter will help you to appreciate the many events that surrounded these summer months, including a visit from Cardinal Edwin

O'Brien as part of our "A Reason for Your Hope" gathering. That event brought new friends to experience IPF as the summer programs were in full swing.

We invite you to join us in thankful remembrance of two great friends of the IPF mission who were called home to the Lord in recent months: Cardinal Francis George, a long-time supporter of our mission, and Msgr. Bill Fitzgerald, a long-time spiritual director.

The fall cycle of travel now begins. It will take us to St. Louis (the National Conference of Vocation Directors annual meeting), Chicago (for our Spiritual Direction Training Programs), St. Meinrad, Indiana (annual seminary spiritual directors meeting) and Baltimore (our Bishops Advisory Council meeting).

Finally, we can never say "thank you" enough to all those who continue to generously support the IPF mission. Our hope and prayer is that all of you have a sense that you are personally contributing to our mission of helping seminarians and priests to "fall in love and stay in love" with the Lord so that they may help those whom they serve to do the same.

Gratefully in the Lord,

Richard J. Gabuzda

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Executive Director



2015 Summer Program Seminarians singing at daily Mass at St. John's Church

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

"It's an honor. Of course, whatever the Lord calls us to participate in, with Him, is an honor."

That's how Mary Jane Tynan describes her volunteer service to IPF. You can find her in the small chapel on the third floor of the IPF offices almost every day setting up for daily Mass.

She checks to make sure there is a ready supply of fresh hosts and wine, sufficient clean purificators, corporals, and hand towels. She lights the candles. And, her favorite part, she brings the hosts on a small paten to the side table. "It's awe-inspiring to think that what I am carrying will soon become the body and blood of Christ," she says, with a twinkle in her eyes.

She adds, "I love attending Mass in the chapel and get so much out of the sermons by Fr. Gabuzda, Fr. Rafferty, Deacons Keating and Butterfield. It's an intimate setting where the nearness of Christ is very much felt."

Not only does Mary Jane help with Mass preparation, she has helped edit some of IPF's materials and is basically willing to do whatever is asked of her.

For her devotion, dedication, service and prayers, IPF wishes to thank Mary Jane Tynan, "Volunteer Extraordinaire".

If you would like to become more involved with IPF as a volunteer, please contact our offices at ipf@creighton.edu.



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help with the spiritual formation of future priests.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 22-25
**Federation of Seminary
Spiritual Directors Meeting**
St Meinrad Seminary, IN

NOVEMBER 2-9
IPF Alumni Retreat
Cenacle of Our Lady of Divine Providence
Clearwater, FL

NOVEMBER 14
Bishops Advisory Meeting
Baltimore, MD

DECEMBER 12
Advent Morning of Reflection
Christ the King Church, Omaha, NE
For the Laity and the Clergy
Baltimore, MD

JANUARY 10-15 (Section A) JANUARY 17-27 (Section B)
Training Program in Spiritual Direction
Mundelein Seminary, Chicago, IL

JANUARY 24-FEBRUARY 1
NCDVD Vocation Directors Retreat
Bethany Center, Lutz, FL

FEBRUARY 15-22
IPF Alumni Retreat
Pax Christi Retreat Center
Corpus Christi, TX

MARCH 5
Lenten Morning of Reflection
Christ the King Church, Omaha, NE
For the Laity and the Clergy

MARCH 25
Anniversary Celebration Mass and Reception
St. Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha, NE

MARCH 31
Celebration of Priesthood Banquet
St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Omaha, NE
For the Laity and the Clergy

THEOLOGY SEMINAR – INSPIRED MEETING

Each year IPF conducts a research seminar on some aspect of priestly formation. On September 11-13, seven theologians from around the country participated in a seminar on the theme of “*Priestly Formation and Liturgy*”. This theme was inspired by the mission of IPF to better secure the diocesan priestly identity within the liturgical tradition of the Church.

Participating in this year’s seminar was Dr. David Fagerberg of the University of Notre Dame and author of the seminar’s inspiration, *On Liturgical Asceticism*. This book highlighted the fact that sanctity is the fruit of liturgical participation and not moral accomplishment.

These days were also ones of deep conversation between the theologians and humility, as participants helped one another bring clarity to their ideas.

“Training in theology is training in love”, says Fagerberg. IPF believes that such truths need to more deeply affect seminary formation. Other participants were Fr. Dennis McManus of Georgetown University, David Meconi, S.J., of St. Louis University, Dr. Carrie Chapp, formerly of St. Charles Seminary, Philadelphia, and now dedicated to the work of the Catholic Worker Farm in rural



Participants in the September seminar were (l to r) Rev. David Meconi, SJ, Rev. Dennis McManus, Dr. Carmina Chapman, Dr. David Fagerberg, Rev. Paul Keller, OP, Rev. Michael Wurtz, CSC, Rev. Robert Fastiggi, Deacon James Keating

Pennsylvania, Dr. Bob Fastiggi of Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, Fr. Paul Keller, OP of Mt. St. Mary Seminary of the West in Ohio, and Michael Wurtz, CSC, of the University of Notre Dame.

The papers presented in this seminar will culminate in a book to be published by IPF Publications. It will be intended for use by seminary formators nationally and internationally.

The days of study were enveloped in prayer, silence and fraternity. These days were also ones of deep conversation between the theologians and humility, as participants helped one another bring clarity to their ideas.

The Institute’s mission is to promote the interior life of diocesan priests as an essential part of their lives of ministry. IPF invited the guest theologians, who honored our Institute by agreeing to come and be with us, to help diocesan seminary theologians to understand the role that theology and spirituality (“intimate and unceasing communion with The Trinity”, *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, n.45) play in their own teaching and study. Secondly the seminar theologians were encouraged to assist seminary faculty in deepening their understanding of how spirituality can remain a more permanent reality within the study of theology for diocesan seminarians.

CARDINAL’S VISIT (Cont. from page 5)

Growing up in an apartment house in the Bronx, Cardinal O’Brien said life revolved around the parish and its priest and nuns, from faith to sports and social activities.

The faith instilled in him as a child has nourished him throughout his life, the

Cardinal said, from his time as a chaplain in Vietnam to his current position as grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, an international fraternal organization that coordinates donations and other support for the church in the Holy Land.

“God has been very good to me,” Cardinal O’Brien said.

“I don’t think there is room for despair for anyone who believes in Christ and believes in his words.”

Please remember IPF in your estate planning and

REST IN PEACE, MSGR. FITZ



No one who encountered Msgr. Bill Fitzgerald could ever forget the liveliness of his eyes and the breadth of his smile. Sometimes augmented by a booming voice, those windows into the soul of this great man and priest were shared with countless parishioners and brother priests in his home diocese of Kalamazoo, Michigan but also, and fortunately, with so many in the IPF family.

“Msgr. Fitz” came into our lives as a participant in the very first Spiritual Direction Training Program from 2002 –2005. Beginning in 2005, he spent most of his summer in Omaha as a Spiritual Director for our Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians. He assisted with this program for ten summers. When the distance became too great for him to travel to Omaha alone, longtime friends drove him both directions so he could continue to act as Spiritual Director for the summer program. After his completion of the Spiritual Direction Training Program in 2005 he served as full-time adjunct faculty for the training programs running 2008-2011 and 2011-2014. He continued to help fill-in with spiritual direction when needed for the current round of the training program.

He had a way with words, which were expressed almost poetically whether in the form of counsel given in spiritual direction or confession or a handwritten message written to a lucky recipient for a birthday or other event. He had a marvelous recall of scripture and prayers. In praying healing prayer in the summer

he would regularly pray from memory the long Sequence from Pentecost Sunday Mass (Come, Holy Spirit, shed a ray of light divine), pronouncing every rhymed word with grace and faith. The sound of his voice was healing itself.

Msgr. Fitz’s loving heart and wise soul have deeply impacted the participants and staff of the Institute for Priestly Formation. We will miss those eyes, that smile and the beautiful soul they revealed. May he rest in the Lord’s peace! And may he intercede with all the saints for us!



Msgr. Fitz giving encouragement to a former IPF summer seminarian.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AWARD



The Institute for Priestly Formation grants its highest award, the medallion of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, to women and men who have given witness with their lives

to the value of listening for and responding to Mary’s call to live Jesus’ own life in our day. This is made possible through exercising in practical ways the great gift of a humble faith. Exercising the gift of faith incarnates the Living Word every day in a wide variety of ways for the Church and the world.

This summer the award was bestowed upon Fr. Gerard Dewan, priest of the Diocese of Saskatoon, Canada and Dr. Stephen and Sharon Doran of Omaha, in profound gratitude for their generous response to Mary’s call to live



Fifteen past recipients of the Our Lady of Guadalupe award were present for this year’s ceremony.

Jesus’ own life through acts of charity and lives that give witness to Christian hope.

UNEXPECTED OUTCOME BRINGS GRACE

By Sue Barrett

Editorial Note: Each year hundreds of women become Spiritual Moms to the seminarians attending the IPF's Summer Program of Spiritual Formation for Diocesan Seminarians at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. They are asked to pray one Hail Mary each day of the program for either a specific son or from the general list of seminarians; no other commitment is required. The seminarians receive the name of their "mom" immediately following the eight day retreat towards the beginning of the program. They do not meet each other until the program draws close to its conclusion. Occasionally we hear of particular graces received from the shared experience, like the one Sue tells us about below. While such experiences are not rare, they are not an expectation of the Spiritual Moms initiative.

In 2010 I was asked to be a Spiritual Mom for one of the seminarians attending the Summer Program of Spiritual Formation here in Omaha. The name I was given was Phillip Tran. I prayed for him, every day, sometimes in front of the Blessed Sacrament. I began to think of him as my spiritual son and somehow felt closer to him as the weeks of that summer flew by. I was excited to meet Phillip towards the end of the summer at IPF's "Friends Night". My husband, Doug, and I prayed the first hour of Friends Night in Eucharistic Adoration in the church with other Spiritual Moms, their families, and all of the program participants. The social time of the evening followed when we finally met Phillip.

When we met it was like we had always known him. There was a beautiful spiritual bond between us that only the Holy Spirit could create. After Friends Night we were able to take Phillip to dinner at a friend's house who was hosting other seminarians that evening and it gave us the opportunity to visit with him more. He told us that his father

had been in the seminary in Vietnam and was put in prison by the communists during the Vietnam War. He was able to escape and immigrate to the United States. He shared how his father had met his mother and how happy his father was that his own son was now in the seminary.

The summer ended, but our friendship with Phillip continued. We kept in touch through phone calls, letters and emails. We continued to pray for him. We prayed for his vocation. He prayed for our family.

Two years later, Doug and I visited him in Boynton Beach, Florida where he was studying at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. We met some of his professors, who obviously loved him. We enjoyed our time in Florida with Phillip very much.

On May 9, 2015, Doug and I returned to Florida to attend Phillip's ordination. We felt so honored to be there sitting beside his family. One of the most wonderful parts of the Ordination was seeing Phillip, now standing at the altar, and seeing with our own eyes the beauty of his journey to the Priesthood, and feeling like, in a small way, we had been

part of it all. On the altar was a Bishop from Vietnam and a priest who had been in prison with Phillip's father. Both had travelled from their homeland to witness Phillip's entry into the priesthood. Their participation meant so much to everyone present. We attended Fr. Phillip's first Mass that afternoon which was spoken in Vietnamese. The Liturgy was so beautiful. We were moved by the faith and joy in that church. That evening we were invited to Fr. Phillip's reception which included an eight-course meal. The following day we went to Fr. Phillip's first Mass in English. There we encountered another packed house. All who were there seemed to know him intimately and he knew all about them and was so loving to them. For us, the best part was when we received Fr. Phillip's first blessing.

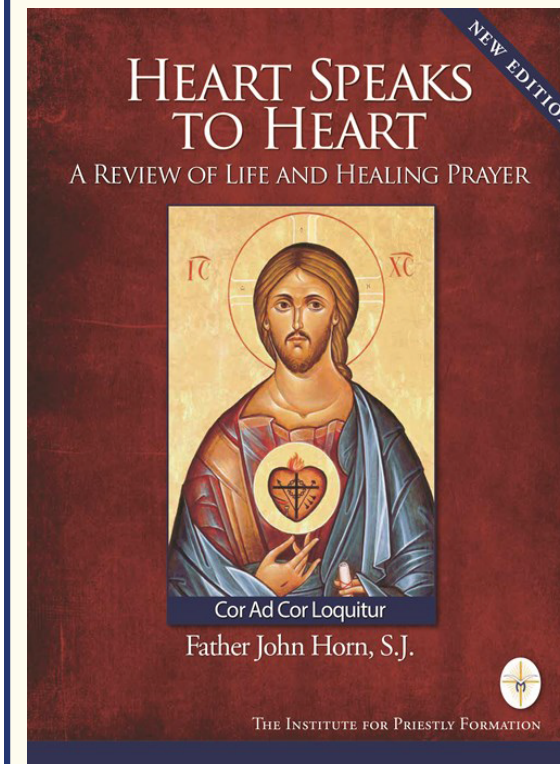
We will always have a spiritual bond with Fr. Phillip. He is a great gift to us from the Holy Spirit. We have no doubt he will be an exceptional priest. He gives us great hope for the Church.

Thank you, IPF, for your invitation to be Fr. Phillip's Spiritual Mom and to be a part of the wonderful work of the Church accomplished through you.



Deacon Phillip Tran stands next to his parents, Dinh Tran and My-Van Tran, at the start of the ordination Mass.

NEW FROM IPF PUBLICATIONS



New Edition of Heart Speaks to Heart

By Fr. John Horn, S.J.
ISBN: 9780988761353 \$12.95

This workbook invites readers into the depths of their history, thoughts, and feelings, so that they can be led into prayerful communion with Christ. Through the tools found in this workbook, all believers will find the truth about themselves and their calling to give all and surrender to Christ who desires only the happiness of His followers. In this new edition of the book, readers have the opportunity to read about repentance, forgiveness, and new blessing.

To order an IPF Publication, contact Catholic Word at CatholicWord.com, 800-932-3051 or Team@CatholicWord.com

BEACONS OF GOD'S LOVE (cont.)

This was not a replay or dramatization of a memory, but it was a re-experience. I experienced the healing power of God on that day. God revealed to me the love that he has for me, and for my mother. All those nagging fears and regrets about how I should have done this or that, they simply didn't seem important. In prayer the Lord entered a wound and healed it, I am now able to look upon the death-bed of my mother and see the loving presence of God there.

In God's providence this experience of prayer almost immediately bore fruit in my ministry. As a part of the IPF summer seminarian program, we are assigned apostolic work sites. I found myself before a dying man in hospice care. He was unconscious, on a morphine drip, and his wife was in the room. Without even thinking about it, I was able to walk over to this dying man, and take his hand. I reached out

and held the hand of his wife, and led a prayer. I wasn't scared, I wasn't embarrassed, I just wanted to offer God's love to these people. I believe we all experienced God's presence in that room just as I realized that God was with my mom and my family as she laid dying.

Why is this important to you? We all have our share of tragedy, and as faithful Catholics I know how much you depend on your priests to give you faith and hope during times of trial. In these moments what kind of priest do you want? Good priests, unfortunately, don't grow on trees, and the men in the seminary with me have stories much like my own. Just like all of us they have pasts that need healing, and if they don't get healed before ordination, instead of getting a spiritual physician at your door, you may get a wounded man who has not allowed God's healing love into his life and therefore can't bring it into your life.

What kind of priest do you want? This is important because there is a choice here. IPF has given me great confidence that one day I will be the type of priest that the Church deserves, the type of priest that each of you deserves. I believe through the work of IPF, the men that come here leave forever changed. They become beacons of God's love and a source of great comfort to all they encounter. That's what God asks us to do as priests, and that is what we learn to do here.

Good priests don't grow on trees, but they do grow at IPF.



Nick has returned to his studies at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. Please pray for him and all IPF alumni.

BECOMING BEACONS OF GOD'S LOVE

By NICK ADAM

Editorial Note: IPF asked Nick to witness his experience of the summer to the guests present at the "A Reason for Your Hope" event. His talk follows, with his permission.

I am about to start my fourth year of seminary and I am studying to be a priest in the Diocese of Jackson, Mississippi. I'm not from Mississippi, but worked in the state for five years as a TV news anchor and I very much feel called to serve the Church in the deep south.

Last January, my mother died after battling cancer for nearly 10 years. I spent about a week sitting by my mother's bed with the rest of my family as she lost the ability to speak, eat, drink, and before dawn on January 22, she was gone. I was able to help organize the funeral,

I went to the funeral, I cried at the funeral, and I have prayed for my mom, but that was pretty much the extent of my grieving, until IPF.

Good priests don't grow on trees, but they do grow at IPF.

While I was praying here at IPF during our scheduled silent retreat, I found myself revisiting that week with my mom. I remembered how I would sit with her late into the night praying beside her, sometimes she would even respond to the prayers. I remembered how we were able to talk one last time, and toward the end I would just talk and tell her what was happening in my life. I also experienced feelings of rest

lessness, this worry that I did not say everything I should have said during that week, and a sadness that I was not the best son, especially after mom got sick and needed to be taken care of.

On one day during the retreat, I was praying with scripture and in my mind's eye I found myself back in my mom's room. I remembered the pain that I felt as I watched her fade, but in my prayer she was able to hold me close to her heart and comfort me as she had done so many times in my life. In my prayer Mary was in the room, and she offered me support and assured me that my mom knew her well. Jesus was in the room too, standing next to me in sorrow and support, and I had the sense of the love of God the Father, present in the room and in my heart.

(cont. on next page)

IPF'S PROGRAMS PROVIDE HOPE FOR CHURCH

By David Gougar

Reprinted from the Omaha Catholic Voice

Hope for the church.

Cardinal Edwin O'Brien said he sees it in the men coming out of seminaries.

And as a seminary rector for 12 years, he also sees hope in the spiritual formation the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) provides diocesan seminarians.

"I don't think there's a diocese or seminary in the country or in the world that can match what goes on here," said Cardinal O'Brien, during an IPF luncheon July 16 for nearly 60 Catholic leaders, supporters and guests who came from around the country to the Creighton University campus, where the institute is located.

Cardinal O'Brien said he was "deeply impressed" in meeting some of the 175 seminarians attending IPF's annual nine-week spiritual formation program, one of several programs the institute is offering this summer for diocesan seminarians, priests, seminary faculty and spiritual directors.

Through activities such as prayer, spiritual direction, classes, service work and a retreat, IPF officials hope to foster in seminarians a deeper relationship with God that the men can share in their parishes.

That effort is gaining momentum, Cardinal O'Brien said. While six students were in the original class back in 1995, for the past several years there has been a waiting list after reaching the class limit of 175 men.

"The growth has been phenomenal," Cardinal O'Brien said.

The luncheon was part of the Institute's annual two-day conference to build awareness and support for its work. Held July 15-16, the conference also included about 250 people attending Mass at St. John Church on the



Larry and Karen Dwyer talk with Cardinal Edwin O'Brien and Father James Rafferty July 16 before a luncheon sponsored by the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha. Members of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, also in Omaha, the Dwyers serve on the Institute's national Mission Advisory Council.

Creighton campus, with Cardinal O'Brien as the main celebrant.

Concelebrants included Archbishop George J. Lucas, Bishop Andrew Cozzens, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and priests who are faculty or staff members of IPF.

Reflecting on the theme of the conference, "A Reason for Your Hope," Cardinal O'Brien thanked those at the luncheon for their support of vocations. The continued faithful and generous service of laity also is a reason for great hope, he said.

In acknowledging some of the challenges facing the church, such as the closing of inner-city parishes and threats to religious liberty, Cardinal O'Brien said faith provides hope always.

"I don't think there is room for despair for anyone who believes in Christ and believes in his words," he said.

Cardinal O'Brien also reflected on his 50 years in the priesthood, which includes serving as Archbishop of Balti-

more from 2007 to 2011, and in 2012 being named to the College of Cardinals by Pope Benedict XVI.

Serving in the military for the first eight years after his ordination and 18 years overall had a "great influence on his priesthood," Cardinal O'Brien said.

The phrase "officers eat last," offered by a general during a luncheon, was one he took to heart because it reflected Jesus' Gospel message of coming to serve and not be served, he said.

Also key to his ongoing formation was serving as a seminary rector, Cardinal O'Brien said. Although it is challenging work, he said watching men enter the seminary and progress to ordination is special.

"There is no experience like that in life as far as I'm concerned," he said.

In encouraging support for parishes and Catholic schools, Cardinal O'Brien recalled the influence both had on his own childhood and vocation.

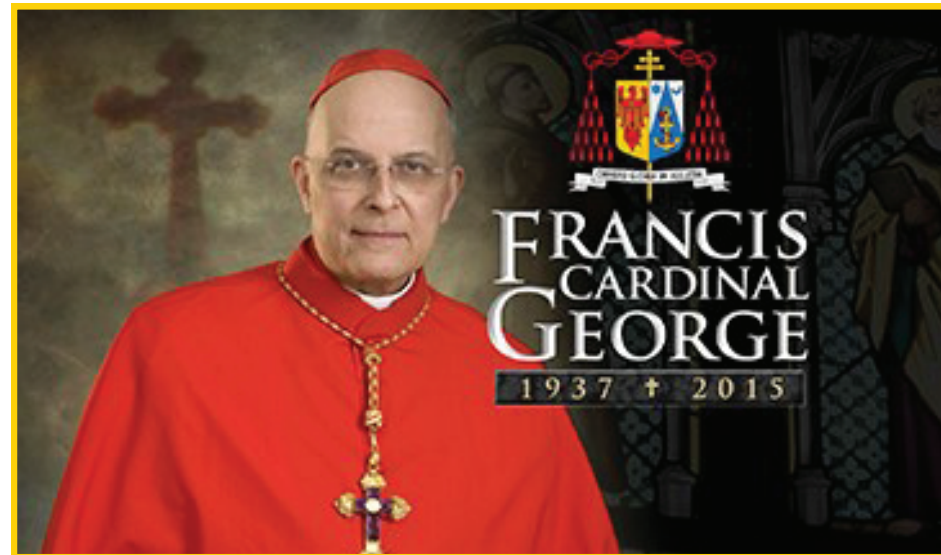
(cont. on page 10)



IPF Summer Seminarians are assigned to a range of apostolic sites during the program in Omaha. Above, a seminarian witnesses the baptism of a Boys Town resident, while left, seminarians are asked to perform a variety of services, anywhere from nail polishing to escorting field trips to the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo.

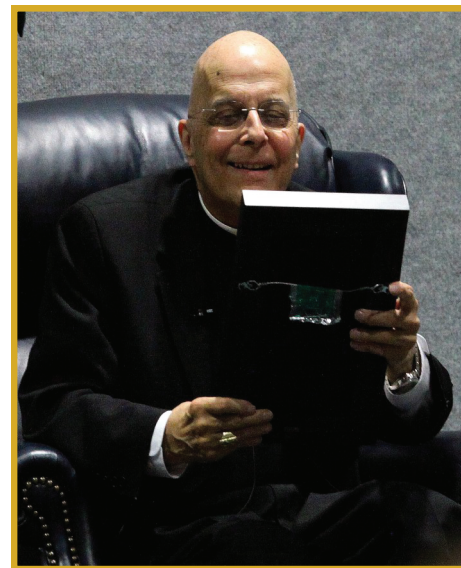


CARDINAL FRANCIS GEORGE IN MEMORIAM



National columnist George Weigel, writing in the days following the death of Cardinal George, described him as: “a dedicated missionary priest; a first-rate intellectual; a shrewd observer of the public square; the first native of the Windy City to be named archbishop of Chicago; a great reformer of the Archdiocese of Chicago.”

The activities and qualities outlined in the above paragraph touch on the vast



Cardinal George receives a framed Our Lady of Guadalupe icon image during the “A Reason for your Hope” event in Omaha, July 2014

He had the ability to walk into the meeting, perhaps a few minutes late, listen attentively to the discussion and then to offer the most helpful comment of the evening or ask the most thought-provoking question of anyone in attendance.

breath of focus and limitless energy of this extraordinary priest and bishop. And yet, with all those far-reaching concerns that filled the life of this beloved servant of Christ and his Church, this same man gave all of us at IPF the privilege of knowing him as one of the original members of our Bishops Advisory Council and an untiring supporter of our mission.

We fondly recall that, even when president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal George never missed the annual meeting of our Council. He had the ability to walk into the meeting, perhaps a few minutes late, listen attentively to the discussion and then to offer the most helpful comment of the evening or ask the most thought-provoking question of anyone in attendance.

Cardinal George was the keynote speak-

er at our 2003 symposium on the subject of “Spiritual Fatherhood.” He wrote letters of support for grants as well as a preface for one of our books. He also joined a group of brother bishops at a program for bishops (our one and only) which was held in 2004.

Despite his grueling schedule (and later infirmity), the Cardinal came to Omaha to celebrate Mass in the midst of our summer programs to receive the Our Lady of Guadalupe Award in 2011 and to lend his support to the “A Reason for Your Hope” gathering in summer, 2014.

We cherish deeply the memory of Cardinal George’s presentation at this past February’s symposium in Denver. He came into the chapel of the Denver seminary, wheeled in a wheel chair, rose to the podium and poured out what was perhaps one of the most personally revealing talks he had ever given. It was the last appearance he would make outside of the Chicago area.

We offer to God a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessings given to IPF through this exemplary priest and bishop who generously made time for us, graced us with his words and encouraged us along the way. May he rest in peace!



Cardinal George speaks at the IPF Denver symposium only weeks before his death. (photo courtesy of Zak Bowman)

MASS AND LUNCHEON HONOR SAINT JP II FUND ACCOUNT PRIESTS

A nephew, a friend, a mentee, a brother and a recipient all accepted St. John Paul II Fund Medallions after the annual Mass and luncheon for the Fund’s honored priests and donors this summer in Omaha. The sculptured medallions and wooden holders were created specifically for the priests whose accounts since the previous event have reached the perpetual level of \$5000. If priests are deceased, the medallion is presented to a family member, close friend, or parish where he served. If the priest is not living in the Omaha area, it is presented to him outside of the scheduled event.

The St. John Paul II Fund for Priests is a great opportunity to honor a special priest while at the same time supporting the mission of the Institute. Donations are used by IPF to support the spiritual formation programs offered to diocesan seminarians and priests who have a deep desire for a closer relationship with Jesus, similar to the priests being honored.

An account can be opened for any priest whether he is a diocesan or from a



Pictured above, accepting JP II Medallions, are Jim and Karol Carroll for their uncle, Fr. Patrick Carroll, Mike and Kathleen Lighthart for their longtime friend, Fr. James Kenny, Fr. Don Shane for his mentor, Fr. Eugene Kerwin, Diana and Rich Cupich for Archbishop Blase Cupich, Fr. Daniel Kampschneider for himself, all with Fr. Richard Gabuzda.

religious order, living or deceased. A biography of the priest and a list of all donors to his account are inscribed in a Book of Remembrance once the fund reaches the perpetual level of \$5000. Every summer, a Mass is celebrated in remembrance of all honored priests and their donors.

To date, 107 priests have been honored with 526 donations. There is no limit to the account balance. Donors can contribute to an existing account or open a new one.

More information can be found on the website: www.PriestlyFormation.org.

ESTABLISHED SAINT JOHN PAUL II ACCOUNTS

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fr. Thomas J. Adams | Msgr. John A. Flynn | Msgr. Francis E. Kubart | Fr. An Duy Phan | Fr. Scott Traynor |
| Archbishop Leo C. Arkfeld* | Fr. Thomas D. Furlong | Fr. Timothy R. Lannon, S.J. | Fr. John L. Pietramale | Fr. John Unger |
| Fr. Greg P. Baxter* | Fr. Richard J. Gabuzda* | Fr. Dan Lenz, O.S.B. | Fr. Robert F. Preisinger | Fr. Michael B. Voithofer |
| Fr. John A. Brancich, F.S.S.P. | Fr. Daniel E. Galas* | Fr. Ryan P. Lewis | Fr. James A. Rafferty | Fr. Leo A. Walsh, S.T.D. |
| Fr. Mark M. Bridgeman | Msgr. Robert J. Gass* | Archbishop George J. Lucas* | Fr. Mario Rapose* | Fr. Patrick Walsh |
| Msgr. Charles F. Brodersen* | Fr. Terence Gordon, F.S.S.P. | Msgr. William J. Lyons* | Fr. David G. Reeson | Abbot Raphael Walsh |
| Msgr. Jeremiah C. Buckley* | Fr. Gregor Gorsic | Fr. John McCarthy, S.J.* | Fr. Chad A. Ripperger, F.S.S.P. | Fr. Thomas R. Ward |
| Fr. Harold J. Buse* | Fr. Michael F. Gutzell | Fr. James D. McCormick* | Fr. Andrew J. Roza | Fr. Tom W. Weisbecker |
| Msgr. James R. Cain | Msgr. Ernest Graham* | Fr. Richard D. McGloin, S.J.* | Fr. John M. Rozembajgier | Msgr. William S. Whelan* |
| Fr. Matthew F. Capadano | Fr. Donatus Grunloh, O.F.M. | Fr. Aloysius McMahon | Fr. Jim Ryan, S.J. | Fr. Carl J. Zoucha |
| Archbishop Robert J. Carlson | Fr. Melvin Grunloh, O.F.M. | Msgr. Andrew H. Meister | Fr. James Sampson | * These accounts have reached the |
| Fr. Patrick Carroll* | Fr. Thomas J. Halley, S.J.* | Fr. Jerry P. Melchior | Msgr. Edward J. Schad* | “Perpetual” level of \$5000 and |
| Fr. Martin P. Conley* | Bishop Joseph G. Hanefeldt* | Fr. Mel J. Merwald* | Fr. Doug P. Scheinost | above. There is no limit to an |
| Fr. Francis P. Conway* | Fr. Oliver Lee Hightower | Bishop Anthony M. Milone* | Fr. Robert E. Schmidz | account’s balance. |
| Fr. Damien J. Cook | Fr. Paul C. Hoelsing* | Fr. Michael F. Murphy | Fr. James F. Schwertley* | New accounts are |
| Archbishop Blase J. Cupich* | Fr. John Horn, S.J.* | Fr. John J. Nacca | Msgr. Kenneth A. Seifried | welcome! Is there a |
| Archbishop Elden Francis Curtiss* | Fr. Norman F. Hunke* | Fr. Herman J. Niebrugge | Fr. Donald W. Shane* | priest who has touched |
| Fr. Gerard M. Deuan* | Fr. Mark R. Ivany | Fr. Richard W. Niebrugge | Archbishop Daniel E. Sheehan | your life whom you |
| Fr. Lawrence J. Dorsey* | Fr. Frank E. Jindra | Edwin Cardinal O’Brien* | Fr. James Sinnerud, S.J. | would like to honor? |
| Msgr. Peter F. Dunne* | Fr. Daniel J. Kampschneider* | Fr. Kizito R. Okhuoya | Fr. Carl F. Sodoro* | |
| Msgr. John A. Esseff* | Msgr. Francis P. Kenny* | Fr. William F. O’Leary, S.J.* | Fr. Steven J. Stillmunks* | |
| Fr. Thomas M. Fangman | Fr. James E. Kenny* | Bishop Dennis O’Neil* | Fr. Joseph C. Taphorn* | |
| Msgr. William J. Fitzgerald* | Msgr. Eugene H. Kerwin* | Fr. Thomas M. O’Neill* | Fr. James R. Tiegs* | |
| Fr. R. Michael Fitzpatrick | Fr. Thomas Krupski, O.F.M. | Msgr. Paul F. Peter* | Fr. Mark A. Toups* | |