

### THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

A Public Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Omaha

### Trepidation Leads to a Blessing

Michael Quillen, from the Diocese of Raleigh, had expected a parish or school for his IPF summer apostolic assignment, not a nursing home. However, his trepidation soon led to a blessing.

Residents at Franciscan Adult Day Care form a set of 'bumpers' as they enjoy some bowling in-house with IPF seminarian Michael Quillen.

"My apostolate experience was a great gift from God. I was assigned to the Franciscan Adult Care Center and did activities with the elderly and those who suffered from depression, seizures, memory loss, among other things. It helped me to encounter each person individually with tender love. My encounter and presence was a source of empathy, hope, and faith. I learned that I did not need to feel pressured or obligated to do 'much work', but to simply be present. Their own presence reminded me of how we are all searching for hope in this world full of suffering, and how we can be there for one another to help each other move on in life."

The apostolic experience is considered an intrinsic component of IPF's Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians. Fr. Rich Gabuzda, Executive Director, encourages the men to integrate their prayer life with their service. "The apostolic placement gives seminarians a chance to see how their deepening life of prayer comes alive in daily life. We ask them to ask

themselves each day, 'Where did I sense the Lord working through me for those I served today?' and 'How did I experience the Lord coming to me through those I served?"" Seminarians are assigned to one of 36 sites which include hospitals, rehabilitation

facilities, nursing homes and a children's specialty care facility. Assignments are made with respect to the seminarians' requests, but the assignments are actually made by the Holy Spirit, as Michael's story recounts.

There is little to no trepidation on the part of the apostolic site administrators. Jo Runde, from an area assisted living community, said she was so happy when she received the phone call asking if she would welcome seminarians. "The fruit of their time with us was measured by what they gave our residents and how well the residents received them. The seminarians are so

compassionate and engaging and have such a zest for life. They welcomed

each new experience here this summer, from organizing birthday parties, to accompanying our residents on outings, to performing musically for them. Were they a big help? YES! But observing what the residents received from them was my number one delight!"

Lisa Milbrath, from Children's Square which offers daycare and an emergency shelter for children, also spoke highly of the seminarians' involvement. "The extra attention they gave our kids means so much. We had them help with group activities but they also provided one on one time with some of the boys. The seminarians gave it everything they had! The kids were so excited when they came and we all loved the ideas they came up with from balloon animals to organizing ball games, but my favorite time with the seminarians was the day they shared the graces of their time with us." The seminarians' apostolic experiences,

while perhaps approached with trepidation, have the potential to become transformative blessings the



Seminarian Mac Hill helping resident Howard at Franciscan Adult Day Care get ready to go bowling.

seminarians take with them, God willing, well into their priestly ministry.

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Mr. P. Thomas Pogge, Executive Director



Dear Friends,

As we move toward the fall season, we cast a backward glance to the graces and blessings of these past months. This newsletter highlights some of those graces and blessings.

Our summer program for seminarians welcomed 177 seminarians from 60 different dioceses, including Vancouver, British Columbia (Canada). They were joined by seven priests who participated in our Seminar for Seminary Spiritual Directors, eight seminary faculty members who attended the faculty retreat and 18 seminarians and priests who made the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius (30 day retreat). I invite you to enjoy the photos of the many activities which took place on campus in the midst of these summer programs.

We remain deeply grateful to our many supporters who continue to respond to our call to make a particular financial sacrifice for several years. The purpose of this appeal is to help us be more confident in our annual appeal funding so that we can devote more time, energy and resources to drawing more people into the IPF mission.

In this regard, our "Building the Base" initiative was launched earlier this year and continues to take us to a variety of places where we call upon bishops and alumni to help us reach out to

new friends. Travels have taken us to the Dioceses of Houma-Thibodaux, St. Augustine and Denver, with a visit to Austin in September. This initiative has been designed to build up the number of the Institute's supporters so as to ensure our ability to continue to serve priests, seminarians and formation personnel into the future.

We are grateful to the Dan Murphy Foundation of Los Angeles for their support of this "Building the Base" initiative. This Foundation gift joins together with the three other Foundation gifts received this year, designated for assistance to the summer program for seminarians. These gifts came from Serra International, the Knights of Columbus and an anonymous foundation.

Please join us in thanking the Lord for all his gifts in these recent months. Thanks to all of you who so generously support the IPF mission.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Richard J. Gatuzda

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda Executive Director



Seminarian helpers Mark DeSio and José Guerrero Chávez assist with summer setup

### THEOLOGIAN IN RESIDENCE At the Institute for Priestly Formation

IPF sponsored its first Theologian in Residence event this past July as part of the new Heart of Christ Forum, an initiative that gathers theologians and seminary leaders together to deepen existing research on the identity, spirituality and mission of the diocesan priest. In addition to the Theologian in Residence program, the Forum will continue to sponsor symposia, host the Annual Seminar for Theologians, Annual Retreat for Theologians, and plans to expand services by hosting a biannual Dean's Consultation, gathering seminary academic deans together for a time of contemplative prayer and a deepening of imagination around the mission of their office.

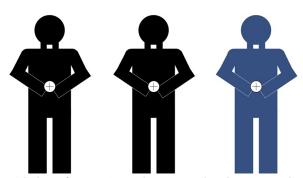
At this summer's program, the invited theologian was Fr. Jacques Servais, SJ. Fr. Servais spoke about "Hans Urs von Balthasar and Spiritual Direction." Fr. Servais is the Director of Casa Balthasar in Rome, a house of discernment for young people established by Cardinal



Joseph Ratzinger and Fr. Servais in 1990. Fr. Servais has taught at the Gregorian University and the John Paul II Institute on Marriage and Family. He will have a book from Ignatius Press appear soon on the topic he presented at IPF. The thirty Spiritual Directors

who gathered to hear the presentation were grateful for his lecture, as well as the contributions of Mgsr. Gerard McCarren, of Seton Hall and Sr. Gill Goulding of Regis College, Toronto, pictured above, who were respondents to Fr. Servais.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The lives of many priests and seminarians have been impacted by their time in IPF programs. Your generous support constitutes about 1/3 of IPF's budget, allowing us to continue growing and supporting the charism of the diocesan priest.

Dear Friends,

Thank you! Thank you, Omaha Community Foundation and thank you to the many benefactors who elected to direct their Omaha Gives charitable gift to The Institute for Priestly Formation. The online effort raised \$49,469 to help bring programs

of formation to seminarians and priests. This was the best year yet for IPF through this digital campaign.

The Institute is deeply grateful to the many people who have elected to care for priests by giving to IPF online. In addition to the increase through Omaha Gives, IPF has seen a ten-fold increase in the number of donations coming to the Institute through our web page:

www.priestlyformation.org/donate.
The importance of this generosity to the sustainability of IPF cannot be overstated. While two-thirds of the IPF budget comes directly from the tuition and fees paid by priests and dioceses that benefit from our mission.

an additional \$1.3 million must be raised to meet the total costs of the Institute. We could not continue the work without the help of our many friends with a heart for the priesthood. We are grateful that you choose to partner with us in mission.



With sincere appreciation, Kevin Armshaw Director of Mission Advancement

### "MY DELIGHT IS IN YOU"

### Reflections from 2017 Summer Seminarian, Mac Hill, given at the "A Reason For Your Hope" event



After a week of classes, which began the summer seminarian program, we went into an 8-day silent retreat. During the retreat, I was praying with Isaiah, Chapter 62. There are a couple of verses in there that really struck me, especially when the Lord is saying to Israel, "You shall receive a new name, my delight is in you," and then further into the scripture, "As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall the Lord rejoice over you."

When I read those verses, the Lord was speaking to me, personally, saying, "Yes, I delight and I rejoice in you, Mac." So I asked the Lord, "Father,

how DO you delight in me?" From there he started to show me practical, concrete ways that he delights in me. He started going through my life and showing me times I'd given up sinful ways and turned to Him. He said, "I really delight in you there." "All right," I said, "that's good. Those are the good times. But, Father, what about the neutral times?"

An image of a dad with his young toddler came to me, and the dad was rejoicing and delighting in his son; when he was playing or asleep or in the arms of his mother, during neutral times like those. This image just really struck me. The Father was communicating to me that He delights in me and who I am, just in my very existence, and in the fact that I am His son. This brought so much peace to my heart. I just kept coming back to that image and the Lord brought me deeper and deeper into consolation. One of the big themes here at IPF is that we are beloved sons of the Father. Starting with the retreat, but

throughout the summer, He showed me more and more how much I am His beloved son and how much He delights in me. It has brought a great freedom into my life knowing that I don't have to earn the Father's delight. I don't have to do anything to get his attention. He is always delighting in me simply because I am His son. I kind of struggled with that for a little bit saying, "I get how you can delight in Jesus. He's perfect, he lives in complete obedience. But, how do you delight in me even in my sinfulness?" And the Father told me, "Even when you're a rebellious son, you're still MY rebellious son. You're not somebody else's, you're mine, and I delight in you even in that."

There have been a lot of graces received this summer, through the classes, the fraternity, and in the apostolic work we do at IPF. But the biggest grace, is the freedom, just to be myself; to not have to worry about trying to earn the Father's love or His delight in me, but just to rest in the awareness that I am loved and there is nothing I can do to change that.

Please remember IPF in your estate planning and help with the spiritual formation of future priests.

### Planned Giving to IPF

As we approach the end of the year, please consider a gift to the Institute. Under the Federal tax code, benefactors who are 70 ½ years or older are allowed to make a distribution up to \$100,000 annually directly from their IRA to a qualified charity. Both the Institute and the Foundation qualify. Such a distribution will satisfy some or all of the "required minimum distribution" requirement under the tax code. Also, please consider partnering with the Institute in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests for

the long term by including either the Institute or the Foundation in your estate.

Benefactors who make such a provision are then enrolled in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Legacy Society.

There are a variety of gifts you can make during your life or that will take effect at the time of your death. These include cash, securities, real estate, tangible personal property, IRAs and other retirement accounts, paid-up life insurance and non-qualified annuities. This can also help save taxes.



For further information or assistance, please contact Tom Pogge, Executive Director of the IPF Foundation, at 402-280-3528 or ptpogge@creighton.edu.

## "A REASON FOR YOUR HOPE" WITH CARDINAL WUERL

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, D. C. was the special guest at the "A Reason for Your Hope" event held July 19-20. The two-day event invited Catholic leaders from across the country to come to Omaha and experience a "taste" of IPF's programs of formation and to learn

and the leadership of IPF. During dinner Fr. Mark Toups from the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, LA shared how important the Institute has been to his priesthood. He spoke about "falling in love" fourteen years ago when he made a 30-day retreat at IPF. He said (prior to that retreat),



about what the Institute is doing to assist the bishops of the United States to bolster the spiritual formation of diocesan priests and seminarians. The program began with a reception on Wednesday evening welcoming the Cardinal and other guests from out of town. The group then joined 175 seminarians and the many priests participating in the summer

formation programs for Eucharistic Adoration and Evening Prayer. The presence of God was palpable. One July event participant from Minnesota remarked, "I am so encouraged by the charism of IPF—especially in how deeply they care for those discerning the

priesthood—in the great desire to help those men grow deeper in their bond with Christ."

Following evening prayer the group went to dinner with Cardinal Wuerl

"I knew about Jesus. I certainly had a relationship with Him. But, I don't think it had captured my heart. I don't think it was the significant relationship that was front and center in my life. I don't think it was the source of fuel for my daily life. The 30-day retreat helped me encounter the living God and spoke to my heart in some beautiful ways... I think I 'fell in love'

"I think there are two enduring testimonies to the presence, the power and the gift of the Holy Spirit guiding God's Holy Church today flowing from Pastores Dabo Vobis.

One is the Program for Priestly Formation guiding priestly formation across the Church in the United States today, the second is this Institute for Priestly Formation."

--His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, D. C.

with God in 2003 on that retreat." Cardinal Wuerl, during closing remarks at the dinner, invited everyone to step back in history to realize what an extraordinary blessing we have here at

IPF. He spoke of Pope John Paul II's extraordinary document, Pastores Dabo Vobis (I Will Give You Shepherds) and its impact on priestly formation in the Church. He went further and said, "I think there are two enduring testimonies to the presence, the power and the gift of the Holy Spirit guiding God's Holy Church today flowing from Pastores Dabo Vobis. One is the Program for Priestly Formation guiding priestly formation across the Church in the United States today, the second is this institute. If we're looking for enduring qualities that continue to effect priestly formation today this institute is one of those two things." The program continued with breakfast, Mass and a brief program outlining the mission and vision of the institute. In addition to out-of-town guests, about 60 people from the local Catholic community were present for the breakfast and a Q&A with Cardinal Wuerl.

Speaking of the impact of IPF, Cardinal Wuerl remarked, "...with Christ at the heart of all relationships, IPF's emphasis on bringing priests and seminarians to a stronger love of Jesus helps them lead the faithful with joy and bring the Gospel to greater fruition."

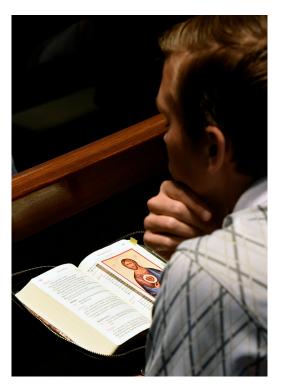
"This is vital because, lay people, assisted by priests and bishops, will help lead others to the truth of Christ's love," he said. "That will happen through courage and boldness, with strong connections to the Church, a sense of urgency and compassion," the Cardinal said.

The morning concluded with the Cardinal responding to a question from Fr. Gabuzda: What is the reason for your hope?

"The reason for hope is we are baptized," Cardinal Wuerl said. "We have received the Holy Spirit. There is simply nothing to fear. Nothing, no one, can take that from us."



# SUMMER AT IPF



They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so we rounded up some of our favorite photos from the past few months to show what summer at IPF is like:

At the top of the page, a group photo of all the seminarians who attended the 2017 Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians.

To the left, Omaha seminarian, Kyle Loecker, reflects during evening prayer. Below, Fr. Joe Kelly and Fr. Vincent Fortunato chat with Fr. Timothy Gallagher, O.M.V. after the luncheon which followed the bestowal of the Our Lady of Guadalupe award to Fr. Gallagher, Jeffrey Darrey, and Tim and Sally O'Neil (for more details, see page 8-9).

At the top of the next page, from left to right: A few of our Canadian participants, Jerome Robles, Fr. Justin Huang, and Joshua Van Vliet visit St. Peter's Church in Omaha;

A group of seminarians enjoy some 'good old-fashioned fun' as they attempt to leap frog each other on Creighton's campus;

Fr. Art Proulx leads Eucharistic Prayer during one of the daily Masses at St. John's.

"The Discernment of Spirits and courses at IPF were especially useful to me in learning how I can be more receptive to God in my life."

- Noah Thelen, Diocese of Grand Rapids



"The IPF instr to greater depr maturity as a r Christ and to - Ezra Lipper







# A SNAPSHOT OF SUMMER











- (1) Seminarian Sam Conforti outside the Century Link Center in downtown Omaha (2) Spiritual Mom Jackie Cherep and her son Jonathan Evangelista at Friends Night (3) Cardinal Donald Wuerl offering final remarks at Mass. (4) Fr. Rob Cadrecha in conversation with seminarian Rusty Bruce
- (5) Seminarians and priests talking on the way to morning class
- (6) Msgr. David Toups celebrating his ordination anniversary with cake.



ructors and priests really challenged meths in relationship with God and in man and disciple seeking to follow Jesus receive the gift of his priesthood."

t, Diocese of Winona

"I spend the summer developing a relationship with Christ and at the same time strengthening my spiritual life for my future studies and ordination."

- David Diesem, Diocese of Joliet

# OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: AWARDING THE GENEROUS OF SPIRIT

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



All Our Lady of Guadalupe honorees, from left to right: Jeffrey Darrey, Fr. Timothy Gallagher, O.M.V., Sally and Tim O'Neill

world.

This year's awards were conferred on four distinctly worthy individuals: Fr.

Tim Gallagher, O.M.V., Jeff Darrey, and Tim and Sally O'Neill. Their commendations are included below.

# HONOREES

### TIM & SALLY O'NEILL

Tim and Sally O'Neill have been married for 31 years, have two sons and one new grandchild.

For 34 years, Tim has owned and operated J.F. Bloom and Company, a local Omaha business celebrating its 138th year. He has been actively involved in Serra International for 29 years. He has held several offices within his club at the regional and international level serving as President of Serra International in 2015. Tim currently serves on the Serra International Long-Range Planning Committee, Combined Administrative Office Task Force, and the Serra International Foundation Board. Sally received her doctorate in Adult and Continuing Education from Creighton University. For the past thirty years, she applied the knowledge of her doctorate to her work at Creighton where she led the University to become the first jointly accredited University in the United States. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Alliance for Continuing

Education for Health Professions, is a member of the Council on Accreditation for the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and a surveyor for the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education. Tim and Sally are very involved in the Omaha Catholic community and have served on various governing boards and committees. They are active members of their parish, Christ the King, where Sally served as President of the School Board for ten years, and Tim has served on the parish council. They are also Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Tim was President of the Saint Vincent DePaul Store Board 29 years. Tim and Sally are very active in the Archdiocese of Omaha serving on several committees. Tim is a member of the Archbishop's Committee for Development.

Tim and Sally are also active in the Institute for Priestly Formation where Tim serves as the Chair of our Mission Advancement Council. Tim and Sally have chaired the IPF annual



Celebration of Priesthood Banquet and have also served as a Spiritual Mom and a Spiritual Dad. They have recently agreed to serve as co-chairs of events being planned to celebrate IPF's twenty-fifth anniversary which will take place in 2019.

In recognition of their generous service to the Church in so many ways and, especially for their tireless efforts on behalf of the IPF mission, we gratefully confer on Tim and Sally O'Neill the Our Lady of Guadalupe Award.

### FR. TIMOTHY GALLAGHER, O.M.V.

Father Timothy M. Gallagher, O.M.V., was ordained in 1979 as a member of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, a religious community dedicated to retreats and spiritual formation according to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

He obtained his doctorate in 1983 from the Gregorian University. He has taught at St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA and Our Lady of Grace Seminary Residence, Boston, MA. He also assisted in formation work for twelve years, and served two terms as provincial in his own community. He has dedicated many years to an extensive international ministry of retreats, spiritual direction, and teaching about the spiritual life. Fr. Gallagher is the author of seven books on the spiritual teaching of St. Ignatius of Loyola, a biography of Venerable Bruno Lanteri, founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, and a

book on the Liturgy of the Hours. He is a frequent speaker on EWTN, and his digitally recorded talks are utilized internationally. He currently holds the St. Ignatius Chair for Spiritual Formation at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver. Fr. Gallagher has been associated with the IPF mission since 2006 when he joined the team of directors for IPF's summer offering of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. In these intervening years he has expanded his summer teaching and spiritual direction in the seminarian program and has also helped with other IPF programs throughout the year. At the heart of all his labors on behalf of the IPF mission are the teachings on the Rules for Discernment of Spirits of St. Ignatius Loyola. He is a master teacher, integrating scholarly research with practical examples to the daily lives of seminarians and priests.



With gratitude for his generous service to the IPF mission and in recognition of his important contribution to the Church throughout the world, we are happy to confer on Father Timothy Gallagher the Our Lady of Guadalupe Award.



Msgr. David Toups and Jeff Darrey

Raised in Wisconsin and educated by religious sisters, Jeff has always had a great love for the Church. Jeff settled in Florida in the 1970's and founded an advertising firm, Marketing Associates, in 1978. He and his wife Sharon are the proud parents of four children and blessed with 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The Darreys have been long time and active parishioners of Christ the King Parish in Tampa. Jeff is an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion there and visits the

### Jeff Darrey

homebound weekly. He is a Founding Director of Trinity Cafe, a not-for-profit restaurant that unconditionally serves homeless guests. Trinity Cafe has served more than 1.2 million meals to the hungry of Tampa Bay and is open

365 days a year. He has also served on the International Board of Governors of Legatus. In addition, another side-project arose when a summersupply priest to Jeff's parish in Tampa expressed the needs of his people in West Africa. As a result, Jeff embarked on founding Catholics for Cameroon, and this past year saw the completion of a beautiful new church in the town of Nkambe.

Jeff's passion has long been to serve Christ and his Church, and in doing so God has used him as an instrument to

bring assistance and comfort to many. Jeff came to know the IPF mission through Msgr. David Toups, rector of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in Boynton Beach who serves as an instructor in the IPF class on the prayer life of the diocesan priest. Since 2007, Jeff's staff at Marketing Associates has gifted IPF with designs for our main publications. As of this year, Jeff and company have provided 15 beautifully designed covers which have given IPF a particular "look" in the publishing field. Jeff's counsel and support have also helped us as we have begun reaching out nationally seeking support for our annual fund.

For his dedication to the service of the Church in his parish, in the greater Tampa area, the Church in Africa, and for his generous support of the IPF mission, we gratefully confer on Mr. Jeff Darrey the Our Lady of Guadalupe Award.

# FRIENDS NIGHT BRINGS SPIRITUAL MOMS AND SONS TOGETHER





Friends Night has a long tradition at IPF. In its early years, friends of the Institute were invited to attend a Eucharistic Hour of Prayer with the seminarians then gather in the lower level of the church for ice cream. Back then, the basement was not airconditioned, and in Nebraska, summer evenings can be warmer than warm. The ice cream melted quickly, and so the evening was "short and sweet"!



When the Spiritual Mom initiative began in 2008, Friends Night became a different event. No longer did guests gather in a hot basement, but rather, women who pray, by name, for a

specific seminarian each summer come together, often with their families, to meet their spiritual sons. The evening still begins with a Holy Hour. It then moves to the largest room on the Creighton campus where over 500 gather together to hear testimonials from seminarians and a faculty member along with a musical performance by program participants.



Now on Friends Night, guests are more comfortable and are treated to cookies and lemonade, but the air is still warm with lively conversation and shared companionship as the photos here illustrate.

### RETREAT BOOKLETS ENRICH EXPERIENCES

Last spring, IPF received the following email from Sr. Maria Fatima. "At this mid-point of Lent the middle school students at Holy Family Catholic School in Austin, Texas continue to 'Journey to Jerusalem' with Jesus with the help of Fr. Mark's daily meditations. The students are encountering the love and mercy of Jesus as we seek great transformation in his grace together! Thank you so much for so generously providing this resource to the students! I don't think any of us have had a Lent quite like this

one!

The "Journey to Jerusalem – A Lenten Retreat booklet", by Fr. Mark Toups, received tremendously positive feedback, not only from middle school teachers but from priests and laity throughout the country. Over 4400 copies were distributed out of the IPF offices in Omaha before the beginning of Lent 2017. Greg Mishek used the retreat booklet with his St. Jude of the Lake, Mahtomedi, Minnesota Tuesday morning book group. One of his retreatants, a leader of his community

exclaimed, "It was the best Lent I've ever had!"

Fr. Toups' Advent retreat booklet, "Theotokos", has also proven to be beneficial in enriching retreatants experiences as they, along with Mary, journey together daily toward Bethlehem. Although "Theotokos" is not available in print format this Advent, each day's reading will be sent out in a daily email and will also be available on our website.

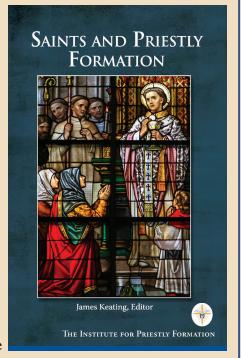
### NEW FROM IPF PUBLICATIONS

# Saints and Priestly Formation

Edited By: Deacon James Keating (\$13.95)

This book is a collection of essays presented at a seminar held at Creighton University by The Institute for Priestly Formation. Each essay focuses on a saint and examines how that saint's life and works have relevance to the formation of priests and their ministry. Some of the saints whose lives are examined in this book include St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, St. John of the Cross, St. Robert Southwell, S.J., Pope St. Pius X, and St. Ignatius of Antioch.

Purchase at www.saintjoe.com/store





### SEMINAR FOR SEMINARY THEOLOGIANS

In September, eight seminary theologians met at the Institute for Priestly Formation on the campus of Creighton University. The invited theologians came from various institutions in Indiana, Detroit, Chicago, New York City, Dublin, Ireland, and the U.S. Papal Nunciature in Washington, D.C. The goal of the seminar was to engage theologians in conversation and prayer regarding priestly formation and the waning faith of Western Culture. To this end, each theologian presented his or her ideas on how best to form seminarians in the present day cultural climate while simultaneously inviting seminarians into a deeper contemplative life in Christ. At the conclusion of the seminar, the theologians produced eight essays which will constitute the contents of a new IPF Publications book to appear in 2018 to serve the ongoing formation needs of seminary faculty worldwide.

The seminar was a great success. It stirred the imagination of the theologians to think of new ways of study, teaching and prayer. As participant Dr. Mary McCaughey, from The Priory Institute in Dublin, Ireland noted, "I can't begin to tell you how much I enjoyed our days at Creighton University and with IPF. I received so much grace; my faith and hope have been 'fanned into a flame'. It really is a service to the Church for you to provide such an event for theologians as well as all you do for priests and seminarians. I would dearly love to return for the Theologian Retreat you offer as well."

# UPCOMING EVENTS

October 19-22, 2017

Federation of Seminary Spiritual
Directors Conference

Toronto, Canada

NOVEMBER 6-13, 2017

IPF Alumni Retreat

Clearwater, Florida

NOVEMBER 10-12, 2017 **Bishops Advisory Council Meeting**Baltimore, Maryland

DECEMBER 9, 2017

Advent Morning of Reflection

Christ the King Church, Omaha, NE

JAN. 14-19 FEB. 4-9 Section A Section B

Training Program in Spiritual Direction

Mundelein, Illinois

JANUARY 20-28, 2018 **NCDVD Vocation Directors Retreat** Bethany Center, Tampa, FL

FEBRUARY 19-26, 2018

IPF Alumni Retreat

Clearwater, Florida

MARCH 3, 2018

Lenten Morning of Reflection

Christ the King Church, Omaha, NE

MARCH 24, 2018

Anniversary Celebration Mass and
Reception

St. Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha, NE

APRIL 5, 2018

**Celebration of Priesthood Banquet** St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha, NE



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Your prayers help seminarians, priests, and bishops deepen their relationship with the Lord.



