



THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

A Public Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Omaha

IMPACT ON THE PRIESTHOOD WORTH SUPPORTING

"I became enamored with the stories told to me of how IPF is impacting the priesthood, the Church, and Christian lives. I felt it was worth supporting so I worked with my financial consultant to set up a trust that will make a difference for years to come." (Recent IPF Benefactor)



The Institute for Priestly Formation is pleased to announce it has been named a recipient of an income interest in a charitable lead trust created by a 90 year old benefactor.

A charitable lead trust is an irrevocable trust in which a donor transfers money or property to a qualified charitable organization for a period of years. During that period, the charity receives an income interest annually. At the end of the stated period of years, the remainder will pass to non-charity beneficiaries designated by the donor.

A charitable lead trust can be created during life or at death. There are a number of benefits to this technique for the donor as well as for the charitable organization. The charity obtains an income stream for a set number of years to help

it carry out its mission. If the charitable lead trust is created during the donor's life, the value of the money or property transferred into the trust will not be included in the donor's estate. Future appreciation of the property, if any, will pass at the end of the stated period of time without additional transfer taxes.

The charitable lead trust was the right estate planning technique for this IPF benefactor and her particular situation.

To determine whether or not a charitable lead trust would work for you, please consult with professional legal and tax experts or contact Tom Pogge at IPF.

IPF wishes to thank this benevolent donor for her generosity and the impact it will have on 'the priesthood, the Church, and Christian lives'.

SAINT JOHN PAUL II FUND CONTINUES TO GROW

"He was there for us when my mother died." "He married us." "He was a huge part of our family." "He's celebrating his 50th year of priesthood." "He's being ordained this June." "He grew tremendously after his summer at IPF." "He has all the black socks he needs!"

These and other statements are among those IPF has received with the 550 donations in honor of 125 different priests. Fifty of those funds have reached the perpetual level of \$5000 or more. Donors can contribute to an existing account or open a new one.

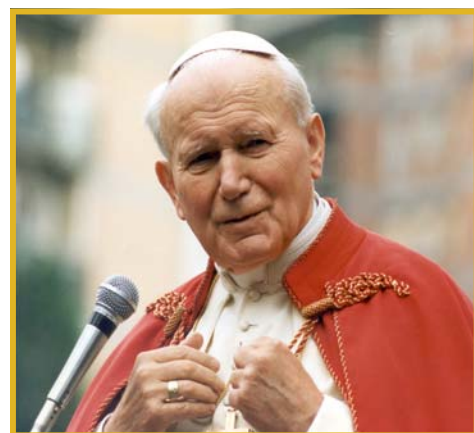
An account within the Saint John Paul II Fund can be opened for any priest

whether he is a diocesan priest or one from a religious order, living or deceased.

A brief biography of the honored priest and a list of all donors to his account are perpetually inscribed in a Book of Remembrance once the fund reaches the perpetual level. Every summer, a Mass is celebrated in remembrance of all honored priests and their donors.

By contributing to an account in honor of a priest of your choice, you become part of the mission of the Institute in the spiritual formation of current and future priests while at the same time recognizing the service and generosity of a priest whom you admire and respect, without shopping for black socks.

More information on the Saint John Paul II Fund for Priests and a link to online donation ability can be found on the IPF website, PriestlyFormation.org.



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REV. RICHARD GABUZDA
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As I write, we stand ready to welcome another group of 175 seminarians to our summer program. Alongside representatives from dioceses who have sent for many years, we will also welcome seminarians from Altoona-Johnstown, Paterson, San Diego, Steubenville and Vancouver (Canada) for the first time. We will certainly count on your prayers of intercession for these seminarians as well as the participants in our other summer programs.

Throughout 2015 the Lord provided many graces and blessings. The February 2015 symposium provided a forum for many seminary personnel to pray about, think and discuss the crucial intersection of human and spiritual formation for priesthood candidates. The proceedings from the symposium provided the content for our newest IPF Publication, *Christ as the Foundation of Seminary Formation*.

Our ongoing programs were times of grace for many seminarians, priests and seminary personnel. And October 2015 saw the establishment of the Association of IPF Priests of St. Joseph. This new avenue of God's grace, drawing together priests who assist with IPF programs, has recently received two candidates for formation.

In the midst of these many graces, we acknowledge that at year-end we were left with a sizable deficit. I want to assure our faithful friends that we have an absolute commitment to be good stewards of our resources. Our local and national advisors are assisting us in taking prudent steps to overcome the deficit this year. We trust in the Providence of God who desires to provide for the resources needed for our mission. At the same time we are asking for the generosity of our many friends, indeed the sacrificial generosity of those friends, so that we may be blessed in our fundraising efforts this year.

We offer heartfelt thanks to God for the graces that he continues to pour out on the IPF mission. Our thanks to God includes our gratitude for the many friends who continue to join with us in this mission through the sacrifices of their prayer and their financial support. May the Lord bless you and all those you love with his grace and peace!

Gratefully in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard J. Gabuzda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'R'.

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Executive Director



BLESSINGS

Received between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015

IPF regrets any errors or omissions. If you notice an error, please contact the Institute at 402-280-3901 or email ipf@creighton.edu

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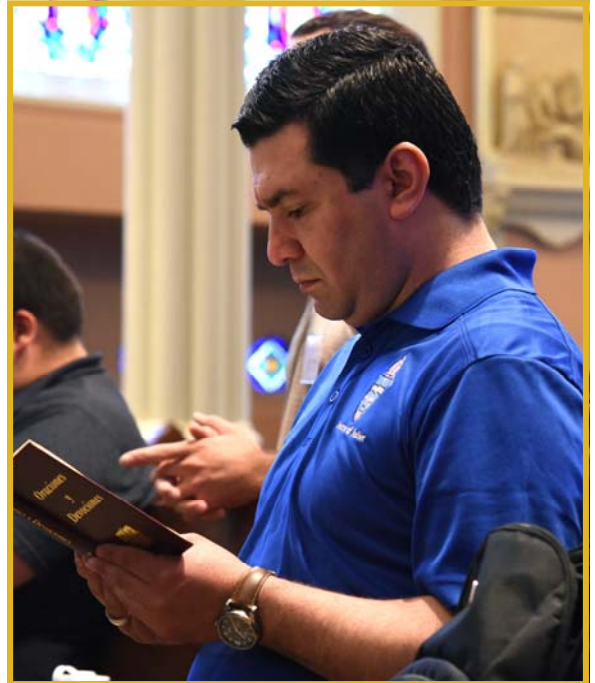
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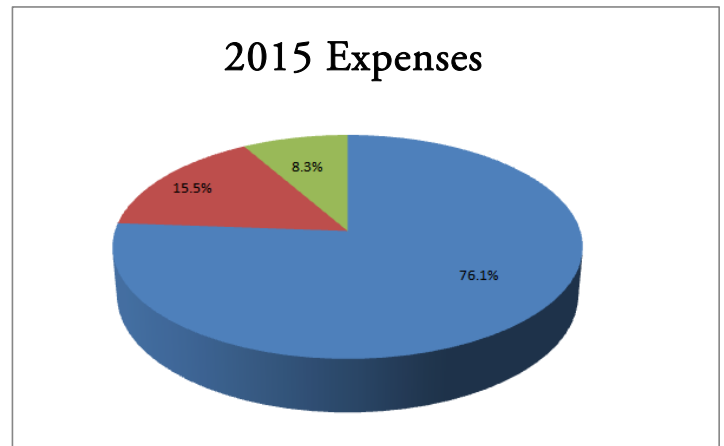
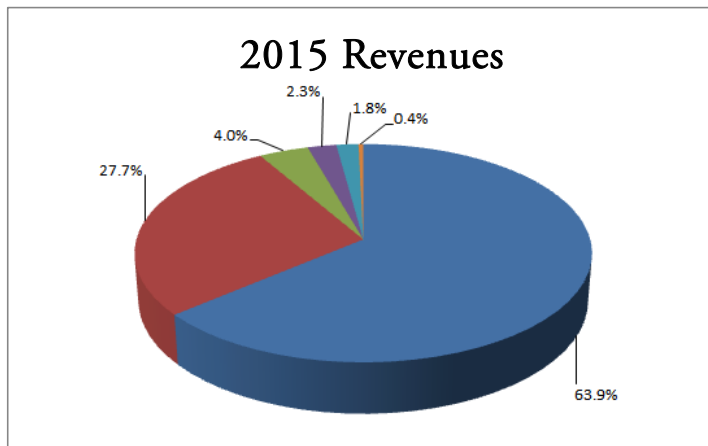
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THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION 2015 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES



Revenues:

Program Fees, Tuition, Room & Board	\$1,852,549
Contributions & Special Events	804,870
Grants	115,000
John Paul II Fund	66,500
Other Auxiliary Income	53,214
Investment Income	11,065
Total	\$2,901,198

Expenses:

Program Expenses	\$2,453,502
Mission Advancement	499,961
General and Administrative	268,477
Total	\$3,221,940

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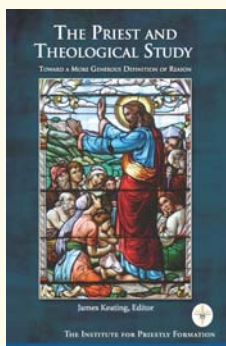


Christ as the Foundation of Seminary Formation

Edited by James Keating (\$13.95)

Contributing authors: Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila; Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens; Fr. Richard J. Gabuzda; Cardinal Francis E. George, O.M.I.; Edward M. Hogan

Christ as the Foundation of Seminary Formation is a compilation of essays that address the integration of human formation in seminarians with their spiritual development. These essays carry practical import for all who minister to seminarians. Within them is found methods for mentoring seminarians into true men of communion, men who have matured in affect and prayer by clinging to Christ.



The Priest and Theological Study

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The Priest and Theological Study: Toward a More Generous Definition of Reason is a compilation of essays that were written to address how the study of the theology can more deeply secure the diocesan priestly identity. The authors also address how the study of theology should not be limited to seminary education but should be part of a lifelong pursuit of truth and knowledge. Parishes are better served by priests who regularly study Scripture and base their preaching on it and theology.

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

IPF HAPPENINGS

MISSIONARIES OF MERCY



Pope Francis named 1100 priests to become Missionaries of Mercy, among them, IPF faculty members Fr. Vincent Fortunato and Msgr. Thomas Richter. Throughout the year, the Missionaries will be available for bishops to summon to their dioceses to preach about mercy and hear confessions. Priests have been selected as missionaries from every continent to be Pope Francis' special ambassadors of mercy throughout the world.

SEMINARY LECTURE CIRCUIT

Deacon James Keating presented lectures on *Liberal Arts and Personal Conversion* and the *Vulnerability to Christ* to the men attending St. John Paul II Seminary at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. last semester. By the looks on their faces, he had their rapt attention.



OMAHA GIVES! *a 24-hour charitable challenge*

Omaha's 4th annual 24-hour charitable challenge is set for May 25th. The giving begins at midnight with a minimum \$10 donation and hourly drawings and prizes which can make your donations go further. For the past three years, IPF has been the recipient of very generous gifts during this 24 hour period. You don't have to live in Omaha to participate! <https://www.omahagives24.org/>

PERPETUITY OF KNOWLEDGE



How do teachers learn how to teach? That question provided the backdrop for last December's visit to Omaha by Fr. Tim Gallagher, OMV. Fr. Gallagher, a master teacher of St. Ignatius' Rules for the Discernment of Spirits, spent a weekend leading a seminar for IPF staff on teaching the Rules.

LENTE MORNING OF REFLECTION



The Lenten "Morning of Reflection", where members of the IPF staff give talks on prayer to the laity in the Archdiocese of Omaha, was well received by those in attendance. These talks are designed to give the laity an opportunity to experience the IPF charism used in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests who participate in our programs.

ANNUAL BANQUET



March 31st marked the 13th annual Celebration of Priesthood Banquet. Msgr. John Esseff was the recipient of the St. John Paul II Award for Priestly Service. Pictured here, Deacon Steve and Angie Luna receive a blessing from the honoree. IPF wishes to thank those in attendance for their support and prayers.

"IPF gives you the time and tools to be still and let God reveal His love for you."

*Andrew Larsen
Archdiocese of Washington D.C.*

MISSION IMPACT

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

We recently received an invitation from an IPF alumnus to his ordination this June. In 2013 when John was sent by his bishop to the IPF Summer Program of Spiritual Formation for Diocesan Seminarians, he had no plan of returning to the seminary in the Fall. He came to IPF with plans of using his time away to polish his resume and prepare to enter the workforce as a lay person.

By summer's end, everything had changed. John encountered God's love for him in the midst of his weaknesses. John began to believe he was called to be Jesus to the needy.

"I came to IPF overwhelmed by my own inadequacies. Who was I to consider being a priest? Very quickly, I began to experience God's love in the midst of my weaknesses. My call to the priesthood was a call to allow Jesus to live through me in a special way. I left my time at IPF with absolute confidence in God's love for me and his desire to use me as his priest. I would be a priest not because I was able, but because God was able to use me."

Your gifts to IPF help to buy materials, provide for the expenses of instructors and spiritual directors and grow our programming so that priests and future priests like John have the place, time and environment to encounter God more deeply and establish an interior life of prayer that will sustain them. For all of this, we thank you most sincerely!

As we look back on 2015, we can see that, for all of the graces given, our fundraising efforts fell short by \$320,742. Thanks be to God, the Institute is in a strong financial position and was able to absorb the loss. Though we were aware of this previously, the past year brought home to us clearly that our program growth is outstripping our capacity to raise funds to support these programs. What is our response to this situation?

As 2016 has gotten underway, the Institute has made financial sustainability an even greater priority. We are doubling our efforts to invite our alumni and friends to partner with us in mission. Through many personal visits, calls and letters, we have undertaken an energetic campaign to draw new friends into supporting our mission, while calling

upon our old friends to make sacrificial gifts.

In addition, we are greatly expanding our presence on Facebook and our web page (www.priestlyformation.org) in an effort to provide lay people with a taste of what makes the IPF experience so important. Your personal efforts to reach out to others will make all the difference. Please consider introducing your friends and family with a heart for the priesthood to IPF. Most importantly, please pray for the mission of IPF.

The summer programs begin Memorial Day Weekend. If you would like to schedule a visit to see, firsthand, the difference your gift is making, please contact us at 402-546-6384. If you cannot get to Omaha, please look to our Facebook page for regular updates about the programs and impact of IPF. Know that we thank God for you daily, grateful for your support throughout the years.

In the merciful Heart of Jesus,

Kevin Armshaw

Director of Mission Advancement

Tom Pogge

Executive Director, The IPF Foundation

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

For almost fifteen years IPF has shared a fruitful and collaborative working relationship with the University of Saint Mary of the Lake (home to Mundelein Seminary). The staff at the seminary has graciously welcomed and hosted participants of IPF's Spiritual Direction Training Program.

Participants gather at the seminary located about an hour north of Chicago. The course of study requires a commitment of attendance to one week sessions occurring three times a year (spring, fall, winter) for three contiguous years. Registrants arrive Sunday evening and depart Friday early afternoon. The

Spring and Winter sessions include daily conferences, holy Mass, an optional daily Holy Hour, concerted evening prayer, and community-building socials. The format of the week in the Fall is a silent directed 8-day retreat patterned after Ignatian Spirituality.

Participants learn, develop and fortify useful skills from experienced instructors that will assist in sharpening a sure and grounded practice of Spiritual Direction.

One of the course texts defines spiritual direction as *"help given by one Christian to another which enables that person to pay attention to God's*

personal communication to him or her, to respond to this personally communicating God, to grow in intimacy with this God, and to live out the consequences of the relationship." (William A. Barry and William J. Connolly, *The Practice of Spiritual Direction*)

This spring, over 130 priests from more than fifty dioceses across the United States will begin the final year of the three-year program. The next round of coursework will commence in Spring 2017.

IPF is currently accepting applications. For information: 402-546-6384 or ipf@creighton.edu.



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www.priestlyformation.org

