

## Hearts on Fire





A Public Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Omaha

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### Cover Photo:

Seminarians attending the Pre-Ordination retreat in December 2020

### Our Mission

In collaboration with Catholic seminaries and dioceses, we form seminarians, priests, and bishops in holiness and accompany them in their ongoing spiritual growth, so they can more effectively lead others to Christ.

### **Our Vision**

We envision a joyful and powerful renewal of holiness across the U.S. Catholic Church as more diocesan seminarians, priests, and bishops seek and commit to a personal, deep, and sustained spiritual communion with the Trinity.

### **Our Objectives**

- 1. Live out our beliefs and convictions in everything we do with humility and magnanimity, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, knowing we are nothing without God.
- 2. Stay focused on why we exist: to serve the spiritual formation needs of diocesan seminarians, priests, bishops, and those involved in priestly formation.
- 3. Ensure the ongoing excellence of our programs, retreats, publications, and activities by proactively seeking input and information from others.
- 4. Sustain and grow funding to ensure that IPF continues its mission for generations to come.

## From the IPF Executive Director:

### Dear Friends,

One of the great gifts is to watch God work in and through the people that have been part of IPF's 27-year history. This issue of *Hearts on Fire* focuses on the IPF Foundation which, at first glance, raises money to support the mission of IPF. The deeper reality is that the IPF Foundation is really a connection of relationships, starting with Christ's relationship to all of us. The Foundation connects people, and their love of Christ and the priesthood, to the mission of IPF. You will read of the great work that our Foundation undertakes so that we can help diocesan seminarians, priests, and bishops deepen their spiritual lives. Parishes matter to people and good parish priests and pastors bring their people into relationship with Christ and with each other. The work of the Foundation always begins with relationships.

I am grateful that we are honoring Larry and Karen Dwyer in this issue. They have been involved with IPF for over 20 years and their love of Christ and his Church gave them the impetus to donate so much of their time to establish the IPF Foundation, advise us on the future of our mission, write a best-selling book for IPF Publications, and to be a support in friendship for many people in IPF, and in their own parish.

You will also read about the great work that Mary Buttell, the President of our Foundation, undertook this year to bring new people into contact with the mission of IPF. This was not a small task when our programs faced cancellation, or needed to be handled virtually due to the coronavirus. It speaks to the desire people have to be able to return to vibrant parishes. I am grateful to Mary, her team, and the many friends of IPF that worked this year at staying connected with Christ and with us.

### God Bless You,

In Brian

Fr. Brian Welter, Executive Director of IPF



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### How Does a Foundation Help the Institute for Priestly Formation?

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In the summer of 2012,
Letters of Incorporation for the
Institute of Priestly Formation
Foundation were filed with the
state of Nebraska. As stated in
the Articles of Incorporation,
"The Foundation's purpose is
a religious corporation formed
for the exclusive support
and benefit of the Institute for

Priestly Formation, Inc., a non-profit corporation." A thriving foundation is essential to the future of the Institute for Priestly Formation. It is imperative we grow and nurture the IPF Foundation,

The Foundation provides financial sustainability and resources to grow the mission of the Institute.

so we grow and sustain the mission of IPF. Just as the priests of St. Joseph, renowned spiritual directors, and instructors from around the country provide sustainability to the Institute for Priestly Formation for diocesan seminarians, priests, and bishops, the Foundation provides financial sustainability and resources to grow the mission of the Institute and ensure the future of IPF.

The IPF Foundation has a combination of **Endowed Funds**, established for long term investment and
growth in a diverse investment portfolio managed
by professional advisors, **Purpose Restricted Funds**, established for a specific project or program

and invested in a conservative, low risk, and liquid investment portfolio under the supervision of the finance committee and oversight of the Foundation Board of Directors. **Planned Giving** are charitable gifts made during a lifetime or bequests that take effect upon death. **Memorials or Tributes** are gifts in memory of a loved one or to acknowledge a friend or family member.

The Foundation is under the corporate control of its Board of Directors. The investment of assets of the Foundation are under the guidance of the Investment Committee and are professionally managed by investment firms. This committee meets quarterly. Annually, the Investment Committee reviews and, if necessary, revises the Investment Guidelines. The Foundation Board of Directors approves the Investment Guidelines. An independent firm of public accountants annually audits the Foundation.

The IPF Foundation is the gift that keeps on giving. Just as individuals balance fiscal affairs in a household, we have an operating budget that pays the bills monthly, but we also need a savings plan for the future. This plan comes in the form of savings accounts, rainy day funds, crisis preparation, and investments for the future. How we choose to prepare that plan looks different for all of us. The Foundation is the savings plan for IPF.

"Like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house." -1 Peter 2:5



A thriving foundation is essential to the future of the Institute for Priestly Formation. The Foundation provides financial sustainability and resources to grow the mission of the Institute and ensure the future.

### In Deepest Gratitude to the Dwyers

This issue of the *Hearts on Fire* magazine, with its focus on the IPF Foundation, serves as a fitting place to honor and thank Mr. Larry Dwyer who, together with his wife, Karen, have been friends and supporters of IPF for nearly 20 years.

Larry was the first one to plant a seed in the hearts and minds of IPF leaders regarding the importance of establishing a Foundation. As Larry often said, a Foundation assures that "long after we're no longer here" the future of the Institute will be provided for.

Not only did Larry provide the vision for the Foundation, but he also generously provided the legal work for the incorporation and the elaboration of our Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. Larry also headed up the Foundation's Board of Directors for six years. In addition, Larry designed and provided the organization for several Planned Giving Seminars which introduced local leaders in banking, insurance, and wealth management to the IPF mission, resulting in the creation of a number of estate plans which now include IPF.

The Dwyer's support of IPF goes far beyond the Foundation, however. Larry was instrumental in the growth and development of IPF's Mission Advancement Council through which many local people were introduced to the IPF mission.

Both Larry and Karen served for many years on IPF's Mission Advisory Council. As part of the Council, Karen shared her expertise in academic program evaluation to produce yearly surveys of seminarian program participants which offered testimony to the seminarians' growth in the summer weeks.

When the "Spiritual Moms" program was being created, gathering women who would pray for the summer seminarians, Larry immediately created and organized a group of "Spiritual Dads" who prayed for the IPF faculty during the summer. Both Karen and Larry have served as Spiritual Mom and Spiritual Dad for many years.

Through these and many other contributions, the Dwyers have provided a bedrock of support that will help IPF continue to grow well into the future. Thank you, to both of you!





### Spiritual Moms

Women who pray for the participants of the Summer Seminarian Program are needed again this year to provide the "Dome of Grace" that covers the men hoping to receive the graces God has in store for them. If you would like to be a 2021 Spiritual Mom and pray for a specific seminarian or for each of the 155 attending, you'll find more information on the IPF website, www.priestlyformation.org.





## Blessings

### Received between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020

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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### Where is the Most Need for IPF?

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The Institute for Priestly Formation's Annual Fund supports IPF's yearly operational budget. Tuition to attend IPF programs covers 60% -65% of the total operating revenue. The remaining amount is raised by the Foundation through special events, publications, appeals, capital campaigns, and generous gifts by donors. Gifts to the Annual Fund help bridge the gap to support the many programs and mission of IPF.

If donors wish to see their donations go to work immediately or if they like to give where it's most needed, consider a gift to the IPF Annual Fund. Your participation makes a huge difference allowing seminarians, priests, bishops, spiritual directors, and faculty to participate in the Seminarian Summer Program, Spiritual Director Training Program, Spiritual Formation Bishops Program, Pre-Ordination Retreats, and Alumni Retreats. Contributions to the IPF Annual Fund directly support the operational budget. The fiscal year for the budget begins January 1 and ends December 31. Gifts to the IPF Annual Fund qualify as donations to a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt entity.

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### **IPF** Presents

### The Mystery of Nazareth

A "fun fact": The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, living in Nazareth, provided the inspiration for IPF's largest and longest running program, the Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians. Those hidden years of spiritual development offered Jesus the time and place to mature and prepare for his ministry. IPF strives to provide seminarians with a similar time and place.

A virtual event, premiering April 29th, led the viewers back to Nazareth. Using commentary and testimonials, the viewers were given a glimpse into the summer program in a way few, except for the annual participants, have ever experienced.

Hopefully, by the end of the 35 minute program, viewers had a deeper understanding of why it is so important for seminarians to hear for themselves the words spoken to Jesus: "You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased." And how, when they have the time and counter-cultural quiet space the summer affords, that affirmation becomes deeply embedded in their hearts, and is carried with them as they move toward priestly ministry.



The goal of the event was to raise funds to "Bridge the Gap" between tuition paid and the actual program costs for the 155 seminarians who will be invited into the Nazareth experience this summer.

If you would like to view the video explaining more as to what Nazareth and Omaha have in common, or help to Bridge the Gap, we invite you to go to the IPF website.



Fr. Brian Welter places the Blessed Sacrament on the altar during IPF's Morning of Reflection at St. Vincent De Paul Church, Omaha.

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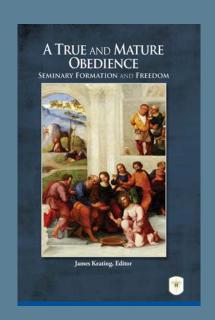
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### A True and Mature Obedience: Seminary Formation and Freedom

Edited By Deacon James Keating

The real fruitfulness in priestly ministry comes not from the effectiveness of a priest's ministry and influence but through the Cross, the same way it did for Christ. And the Cross is the symbol of ministerial obedience. It is obedience that allows a priest's ministry to be God's ministry and not his own. The mystery of this obedience is explored in these essays, a mystery that first must be appropriated in clerical formation and then guarded throughout ordained life.

Order online at www.ipfpublications.org

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## Retreats at Broomtree



Despite IPF's main programs having been cancelled because of COVID-19, the Lord provided a few small windows through which IPF could be of service to priests. In October and February, spiritual directors travelled north to Broom Tree Retreat and Conference Center in the Diocese of Sioux Falls where they were able to offer two silent directed retreats to priests.

The October retreat welcomed 10 priests; the February retreat welcomed 20 priests. A number of the priests were alumni of IPF programs, some were priests who had signed up for the new round of the Spiritual Direction Training Program. With that program's cancellation, they were still looking for a personal retreat for the year. As always, the prayerful atmosphere and welcoming staff at Broom Tree provided a wonderful setting for the Lord to provide graces for these priests. Thanks to Broom Tree and to the participants!

Rev. Martin Goetz

Rev. Seth Gogolin



Members of IPF's Corporate Board gather for their spring meeting, joined by Fr. Brian Welter, Executive Director and Mary Buttell, President of the Foundation.

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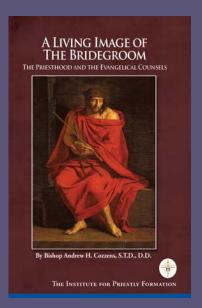
Margaret Kaminski

### A Living Image of The Bridegroom: The Priesthood and the Evangelical Counsels

By Bishop Andrew Cozzens

This book aims to study and explain the fundamental insights of Saint John Paul II—that the priest is called to be a living image of Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church. The book studies the nuptial image in the whole Tradition, starting with the Scriptures and paying special attention to the Fathers of the Church. In this book, one can see the nuptial nature of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and come to understand how the image of Christ the Bridegroom inspires the priest to total self-gift.

Order online at www.ipfpublications.org ISBN #: 9781734283136



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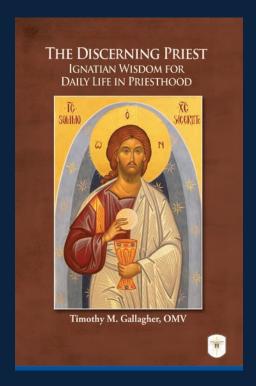
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By Father Timothy Gallagher, O.M.V.



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The Saint Teresa of Calcutta Fund was established in honor of Msgr. John Esseff, a prominent spiritual director for IPF Programs. This is an endowed fund to retain renowned, faith-filled spiritual directors, clergy, and instructors to facilitate the Summer Seminarian Program, the Spiritual Direction Training Programs, Bishop's Program, and multiple retreats for clergy. Each year clergy, spiritual directors, and instructors from across the United States and beyond travel to serve in the IPF Programs. As Joseph and Mary were instrumental in the formative years of Jesus, these dedicated individuals are instrumental in the formation, spiritual growth, and renewal of the Church and Christ's teachings within IPF programs.

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### Saint Catherine of Siena Theological Formation Fund

Saint Catherine of Siena is an endowed fund for the theological formation and renewal of faculty members dedicated to the instruction of seminarians and inspiring them to have their hearts on fire for Christ. The fund was established in honor of Deacon James Keating.

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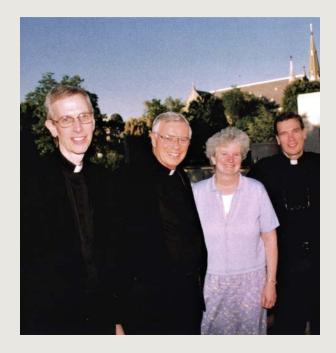
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### Saint Joseph and Mary Seminarian Fund

The Joseph and Mary Fund is a purpose restricted fund designed to "Bridge the Tuition Gap" between tuition charged by IPF and the actual costs of offering the summer spiritual formation programs for seminarians. Each year the Institute for Priestly Formation needs to raise approximately \$1000 per seminarian to bridge the tuition gap.

"The formation of future priests is considered by the Church as one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future evangelization of humanity." - St. John Paul II

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### Saint Ignatius of Loyola Spiritual Direction Training Fund



The Saint Ignatius of Loyola Fund is a purpose restricted fund that supports the Spiritual Direction
Training Program for Diocesan
Priests. It fosters the priest's heartfelt encounter with the Trinity and anchors the priest's identity in an ongoing, deep, personal relationship with God. It also introduces the priest to the dynamics of contemplative spiritual direction so that he might exercise this discerning awareness in pastoral ministry. The fund was gifted in honor of Rev. James McCormick.

Named Fund
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# Saint Charles Borromeo Spiritual Program for Bishops Fund

The Saint Charles Borromeo Spiritual Program for Bishops Fund is a purpose restricted fund which supports this new program. The program honors the desire of Bishops to grow in relationship with the Lord so as to become more attentive to the Lord's presence leading and guiding them during their daily lives as Bishops. It will be a two-week program for three years with seminars, prayer, presentations, and a 5-day silent retreat each year.

Named Fund
Rev. James Swertley Estate

## Saint Paul Communication and Publication Fund

The Saint Paul Communication and Publication Fund is a purposed restricted fund designed to spread the important mission of IPF through communications and publications for clergy and laity.

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## **Pre-Ordination Retreat**



For the third time, the Institute for Priestly
Formation provided a silent directed retreat for
men preparing for ordination to the diaconate and
priesthood. Church law requires a seminarian to make
a retreat within the months leading up to ordination
as a spiritual preparation for the significant step he is
about to make in accepting holy orders. Twenty-six
men from dioceses around the country gathered at
the Pax Christi Retreat Center in Corpus Christi, Texas,
from December 28 to January 6. Six priest spiritual
directors accompanied them. Each seminarian had
an individual daily meeting with a spiritual director.
The seminarians entered into silence throughout the
retreat and dedicated themselves to four hourlong
prayer periods in addition to Mass each day.

The time apart with the Lord as ordination approaches roots the man in his particular identity

before the Lord and reassures him of the Lord's faithfulness to him as he prepares to offer his life in ordained service in a definitive way. In many respects the time of prayer and silence focuses not so much on the event of ordination as on deepening his personal friendship with the Lord and ever-expanding his confidence that the Lord will accompany him in all that he experiences as his priest. Often, men find comfort in the awareness that they remain poor and dependent on the Lord's providence in the midst of future ministry, without having all the answers to every situation they will encounter in priestly service. In the retreat, the Lord renews the affection and joy of the initial call the man experienced on the way to seminary and pledges to be with him in the life the ordained man and Jesus undertake together.

### N

### Blessed Stanley Rother Pre-Ordination Retreat Fund

Blessed Stanley Rother Pre-Ordination Retreat Fund is a purpose restricted fund for a silent directed retreat to serve seminarians approaching ordination. The silent retreat includes daily Mass, individual spiritual direction, retreat silence, and four personal prayer periods of one hour daily.

Named Fund Rev. James Swertley Estate

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Donations to the Saint John Paul II Fund may be deposited into an endowed fund or into a non-endowed purpose restricted fund. The purpose of the fund is to honor a priest, living or deceased, diocesan or a member of a religious order, who has been a special part of your life, and at the same time support the mission of IPF.

When five thousand dollars or more is donated in honor of a particular priest, he will receive the Saint John Paul II Medallion.





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# Showing Appreciation for the Gift of the Priesthood



The Institute for Priestly
Formation has at its core the value
of accompanying priests throughout
their lives. The Institute's spiritual
formation opportunities give priests
access to resources that counter
what, from a human perspective,
could sometimes be considered
thankless or stressful work.

Most priests will tell you they serve out of a love for our Lord and the desire to foster that love of God in others.

We know a simple "thank you" can brighten anyone's day.

The St. John Paul II Fund for Priests and Medallion continues to be a beautiful way to visibly let our priests know we appreciate the difference they make in our lives. A double blessing results because donations to the Fund also supports IPF programs.

These pages are full of people, who despite all the challenges of 2020, were enthusiastic about showing their priests they are appreciated. Their support of the Institute as a tribute to their priest includes gifts of every size.

What if you were able to see the priests who have positively impacted your life receive the St. John Paul II Medallion and be recognized during the St. John Paul II Fund for Priests Event this fall?

continued on pg. 37







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## Make a Donation to Honor a Special Priest in Your Life

Visit www.priestlyformation.org/sjp2 or contact Beth Wells (elizabethwells@creighton.edu) in order to make a donation in honor of a specific priest.

Working together to highlight and celebrate a specific priest as a parish community or any group, it becomes easy to establish and fully fund a St. John Paul II account in his honor.



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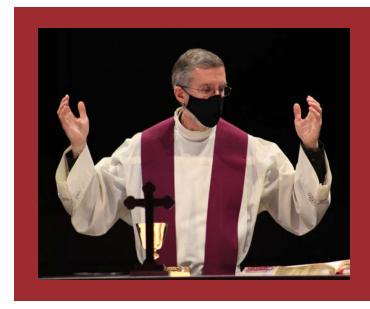
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### **IPF** to Offer New Spiritual Program for Bishops



Throughout its 26 year history, IPF has accompanied seminarians and priests in their spiritual lives. As our mission grows and deepens, there is a desire to offer that same service to bishops. Bishops are faced with many challenges in shepherding their dioceses, often making difficult pastoral decisions, while simultaneously desiring to remain rooted in Christ through a strong and dedicated prayer life. During 2020, we set up a consultation with a group of bishops, discussing how IPF could work to grow its mission by accompanying bishops in their spiritual lives. From discussions with those bishops, as well as internal discussions, a new program has been formed. Beginning in fall 2021, IPF will offer a spiritual formation program for bishops. Participating bishops will meet twice a year, for a span of three years. It is our hope that the first program will have 12 bishops attending. Please join us in prayer, that the fruits of this program will not only impact bishops in their personal spiritual lives, but also will provide good fruit for their dioceses and the whole Church.

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#### Showing Appreciation for the Gift of the Priesthood, cont.



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Individuals, parishes, and other organizations have worked with the Institute to create an effort that funds their particular priest's account. Group efforts are easy. This gives many people the opportunity to say, "THANK YOU!" Usually, it helps a particular priest's fund reach the minimum perpetual level quickly.

If you would like to make a donation to a particular priest's St. John Paul II Fund or receive more information about the St. John Paul II Fund for Priests, call 402-280-3528 or email elizabethwells@creighton.edu for more information.





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Fr. Larry Gillick, S.J. Don and Rita Wall

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Kennedy

Fr. James Golka Brian and Dianne Countryman Steven and Gwen McMahan Viola Wray

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Edward and Mary Heavican
Jerome and Margaret Mary
Thoendel

Fr. Matthew Gutowski Anonymous John and Ann Hawkins

Fr. Peter Hahn Clark and Beth Tomlinson

Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt Jeff and Cindy Bishop Ken and Beth Vyvlecka Fr. Dennis Hanneman
Jeff and Cindy Bishop
Dr. Timothy Crowley and Celia
LaGreca

Fr. Jeremy Hans Joseph and Judy Engelbert

Fr. Scott Harter
Brian and Dianne Countryman
Steven and Gwen McMahan

**Deacon John Paul Heisler**Julie Schram

Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck
Joan Lines

Fr. Paul Hoesing Gordon and DiAnn Bird Katy Dornbos Duane Hoesing Marcel and Sheila Kramer

Fr. Lawrence Hoffmann John and Sharon Beckman

**Brother Jean-Marie Hogan** Dr. Jerome and Susan Moga

IPF Founders
Patrick and Sarah Mealey

#### Join IPF During the Joy of Giving Day on May 19th



May God bless the Archdiocese of Omaha! Their Office of Stewardship is sponsoring the first Joy of Giving day set for Wednesday, May 19th to benefit the schools, parishes, ministries, and organizations who serve the Archdiocese of Omaha, including IPF. The Joy in Giving effort replaces the annual Omaha Gives day which is no longer being offered and would have been sorely picking up the ball and running valued immensely from the online donations received, not only from Omahans, but donors nationwide. The Joy of Giving provides a similar opportunity for our supporters to joining the Archdiocese of Omaha community in support of the nonprofit organizations they serve. To join the effort on May 19th, click https://omaha.igivecatholictogether. orq/

#### Tributes, continued

Fr. Gregory Jarzombek Joan Lines

Fr. Andy Jaspers Barbara Melser

Fr. Daniel Kampschneider Gus and Carol Dworak Jan Menks Leo and Mary Ellen Stessman

Fr. Dan Kirby John and Sharon Beckman

Fr. Marcus Knecht Vince and Linda Antonelli

Fr. George Komo John and Sharon Beckman

Fr. David Korth
Dr. Timothy Crowley and Celia
LaGreca

Bishop Joseph Kurtz Theresa Fiedler

Fr. Robert Lampitt Joan Lines

Fr. Robert Landewe Tony and Martie Jaworski

**Fr. Timothy Lannon, S.J.** Tim and Francie Conrad

Fr. Taylor Leffler Josephine Caliendo

Fr. Tobias Letak Peter and Renilda Mishek George and Margarita Wanek

Msgr. Richard Liddy Msgr. Gerard McCarren

**Fr. Marc Lim** Jan Menks

Fr. Craig Loecker Marshall and Cathy Hohman

Fr. Steven Logue Clark and Beth Tomlinson Fr. Jeff Lorig
James and Anna Marie
Spargo

Fr. Charles Mangano Alice Simmel

Fr. Matthew McClain Susanna Fraley

Fr. Mark McKercher
Dr. Michael and Jan Brannen
Tammy Hill
Stephen and Heather Hruby
John Minton
Donald and Nancy Steffen

Fr. Pat McLaughlin Mary Bruckner Florence Lavender

**Fr. Eugene McReynolds** Paul Maginn

Fr. Nicholas Mishek Peter and Renilda Mishek

Fr. Paul Monahan Lois Ann O'Gara

Fr. Patrick Moser Tammy Hill

Fr. Mike Niemczak George and Margarita Wanek

Fr. Mark Nolte Stephen and Heather Hruby James and Anna Marie Spargo

Fr. Walter Nolte Peter and Renilda Mishek

Fr. Patrick O'Kane James and Susan O'Kane

**Fr. Christopher Onuoah** Gus and Carol Dworak

Fr. Gary Ostrander Jim and Lori Sperry

Msgr. Robert Panke Thomas and Lynn Welch Dean and Julie Rock

#### Tributes, continued

Fr. Lou Pascazi

Susanna Fraley

Fr. John Pietramale

Clarence and Janet Brunnert Mike and Kathy Gross

Fr. Tim Podraza

Josephine Caliendo Ruth Gappa

Fr. Matthew Quail

Troy Riesberg

Fr. James Rafferty

Yvonne Rafferty

Fr. Mario Rapose

Clarence and Janet Brunnert Judi Jarecki

Fr. David Reeson

Mary Buttell Mitzi Keuter

Robert and Christine Watson

Fr. Leo Rigatuso

Edward and Linda Janeczko

Fr. Patrick Riviere

Richard and Angelle Hebert Robert and Mary Riviere

Fr. Tom Roach, S.J.

Fr. Michael Roach

Marilyn Roche

Ann Glinski

Fr. Carl Salanitro

James Bosanek and Dr. Shannon Kennedy

Fr. Matthew Schiffelbein

Gary and Susan Friedrichsen

Fr. Scott Schilmoeller

Mary Bruckner Florence Lavender

Fr. Bill Schooler David and Julie Wilson

Msgr. Kenneth Seifried

Tim and Francie Conrad

Fr. Thomas Shanahan, S.J.

John Heenan

Fr. Donald Shane

Mary Buttell

Randy and Debra Lenhoff

John Minton

Mary Morrison

Mary Ann Pavich

Boyd and Kathy West

Fr. Matthew Shireman

Barbara Melser

Fr. Jeff Shooner

Theresa Fiedler

Fr. Loren Snow

James Bosanek and Dr. Shannon

Kennedy

Fr. Daniel Soltys

Paul Maginn

Fr. Padraic Stack

Tammy Hill

Don and Jean Schaefer

Fr. Clifford Stevens

Dr. Michael and Joanna Wolpert

Fr. Steven Stillmunks

Anonymous

Mary Buttell

John Minton

Terry and Jill Petersen

Fr. William Sullivan

Clark and Beth Tomlinson

Joan Taphorn

Fr. Joseph C. Taphorn

Fr. Joseph Taphorn

Terry and Jill Petersen

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Lois Ann O'Gara

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Steven and Gwen McMahan

Fr. James Tiegs

Tammy Hill

Fr. Robert Uzzilio

Alice Ryan

Fr. Joseph Vogel

Dr. Michael and Joanna Wolpert

Fr. Michael Voithofer

Deb Fortina

Fr. Joseph Voor

Theresa Fiedler

Fr. Ronald Wasikowski

Josephine Caliendo

**Scott Wehling** 

Carla Wehling

Fr. Thomas Weisbecker

James and Anna Marie Spargo

Msgr. William Whelan

Capt. Edward and Marvel Whelan

Fr. Glen Wilwerding

Lois Ann O'Gara

Fr. Dan Wittrock

George and Margarita Wanek

Fr. Dennis Zehren

Barbara Melser



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Fr. Paul J. Begley Noden Family Rosemary Weide

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**Jerry Beninato**Jeff and Cindy Bishop

William Brennan Kathleen Brennan

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Mary Ann Cafferty Kim Cafferty

Msgr. James Cain Marguerite Whetstone

**Deacon Marvin Capoun** Clarice Capoun

**Fr. Patrick Carroll** Jim Hughes

**Père Cassenave** Kathleen Knight

Kristi Coughlin
Airways Freight
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Norman Firkins
Ryan and Suzanne Hult
Les and Phyllis Lawless
Marcia Leichner
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Betty Shrier
Mark and Michelle Stinson
Rob and Mary Stuart

Rose Ann Cretella Fr. Joseph Cretella

Robert Doran
Judy Doran

Fr. Neil Doyle Marguerite Whetstone

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Fr. Robert Duffy
Gus and Carol Dworak

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Nicholas Goedert Ronald and Mary Ann Bobka

Robert and Dorothy Gottuso
Eric and Theresa Gottuso

**Francis Gross**Diane Gross

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**Bill and Marilyn Hartshorn** Fr. Christopher Hartshorn

Joseph Hayden Marion Denion

Fr. Al Hewett Fr. John March

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Dr. Timothy and Barbara

Baxter

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Sue Mooney

Fr. John Nacca Michael Buttarazzi, Sr.

Msgr. Nelson Newman Capt. Edward and Marvel Whelan

**Ken O'Brien**Eileen O'Brien

Fr. Tom O'Brien Marguerite Whetstone

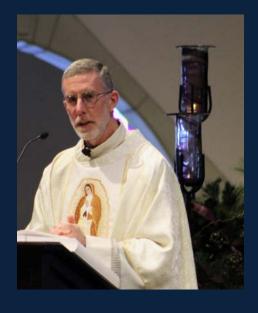
**Dr. Thomas O'Keefe** Joan O'Keefe

Mark Pelan Edward and Jean Crouchley

Msgr. Paul Peter William and Lesa Lindsay

Howard and Margaret
Peterson
Jo Ann Peterson







#### Memorials, continued

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Dr. Thomas and Cheryl Cavel

Joan Pitner

Dr. Richard Pitner

Daniel Pogge

Dr. Richard and Michaela Belatti Mary Buttell

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Dr. Marv and Lynette Dvorak

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Capt. Edward and Marvel Whelan

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Don and Rita Wall

Rev. Eric Swearingen

Fr. Daniel Avila

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James and Callista Ambrose

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Steve and Sherry Brownrigg Robert and Rose Campney

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Anonymous

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Patricia Kemp

Don Wingert

Angie Wingert

Msgr. Richard Wolbach

James and Callista Ambrose



## Spiritual Direction Training Begins With New Sections in Chicago

The week of April 18th marked the return of IPF's large spiritual direction training program, hosted by the Conference Center at Mundelein Seminary in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The start of the new round of this program was delayed for a full year as a result of the pandemic. IPF's staff welcomed 75 participants from nearly 40 dioceses/religious communities to this first week of the nine-week program. The group gathers three times per year for three years. The second section of the program, with 80 participants, met during the week of May 2nd.

Full-time IPF staff members were joined by a variety of adjunct staff members who led the participants in large group presentations, small group activities, as well as providing one-on-one spiritual direction during the week.

Please keep these priests in your prayers as they continue to move through these three years, growing in their own spiritual lives so as to be of greater service to those whom they will serve as spiritual directors.



Priests attend Mass during a retreat in January 2020 at the Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, Florida.

#### Raising Funds Throughout 2020

During the past year, almost all of in honor or memory of those who our events raising needed funds for the operation of IPF were canceled including our major fundraising banquet, A Celebration of Priesthood, held in Omaha each year during Easter week. Both in 2020 and in 2021, the banquet was canceled. There were no seminarians on the Creighton campus in 2020 nor were there any participants in IPF's 30-day Ignatian Spiritual Exercises or the other programs generally offered during the summer months. The new session of the three-year Spiritual Direction Training program held at the Mundelein Seminary, which was set to begin in May 2020, was postponed for a full year.

But IPF still needed to raise funds. How?

IPF had to put their foot into the "virtual waters". Replacing the annual Mass, dinner, and award ceremony associated with the St. John Paul II Fund for Priests with a virtual event was IPF's first challenge. A pre-recorded video showcasing the recipients who received their JPII medallions after their accounts had reached the perpetual level in 2020 premiered in October. It is still on the IPF website if you missed it. Viewers responded by wanting to acknowledge other priests by opening or adding to fund accounts

had served their parishes or families so meaningfully.

The second virtual event replaced the 2021 Celebration of Priesthood banquet. IPF Presents: The Mystery of Nazareth, through commentary and testimonies, gave viewers an inside look into the Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians. The goal of that event was to raise enough funds to "Bridge the Gap" between what IPF charges the participants' dioceses and the actual costs of the program. That video also remains on the IPF website if you missed it or want to learn more about what Nazareth in the time of Jesus and Omaha. Nebraska share in common.

2020 was also the year Creighton University recognized the 25year history of IPF by conferring a special award upon Fr. Richard Gabuzda, Fr. John Horn, Fr. George Aschenbrenner, and Kathy Kanavy at their (virtual) Commencement Ceremony. Those close to the founders were invited to send their congratulations and a financial token of their appreciation to IPF. The four founders were touched by the generosity by so many individuals to the Institute they cherish.

Father's Day 2020 took on a different meaning as past donors were invited to send a donation honoring a (Father) priest who had impacted their faith life. 200 priests were notified of donations made in their honor to an Institute that supports current priests in their vocation as well as encouraging the spiritual growth of future priests.

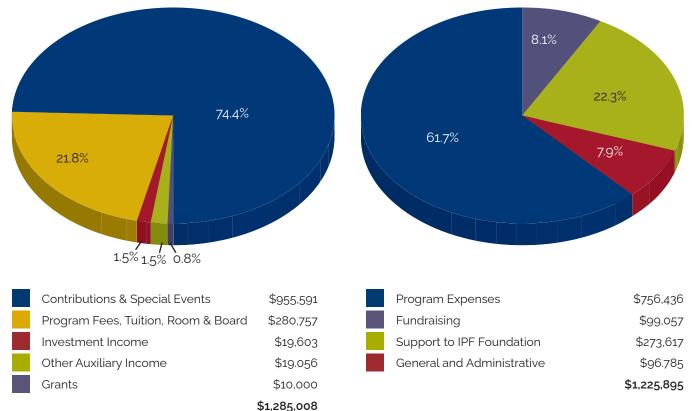
Last year, donations came to IPF in all manners, from recurring monthly contributions sent directly from banks, to a growing number of online donations, to free will offerings collected at events, to checks mailed to IPF from every state in the nation.

Some were specific to a purpose such as the St. John Paul II Fund for Priests. Some were estate gifts directed towards a specific fund in the IPF Foundation. Appreciated stock gifts and distributions from IRAs are more and more common.

Every single gift, no matter the amount or its specific intention, is needed, valued, and greatly appreciated. Seeing firsthand the generosity of so many, the love they have for their priests, and their desire for future priests to be well nourished in their spiritual growth is tremendously edifying. Your loyalty to the mission and work of IPF is remarkable.

#### 2020 Revenues

#### 2020 Expenses



These are pre-audit numbers. Any changes that occur as a result of the audit will be included in our fall magazine.

## Thank You for Meeting the Challenge

At the end of 2020, a year that was particularly challenging to non-profit organizations, you, our donors, were especially generous. There were several individuals who, recognizing the challenges IPF had faced in having to cancel its annual programs, not only wanted to help IPF meet its financial challenges but were hopeful that others would be inspired to match their gifts which together totaled \$150,000.

They were not disappointed. A mailing with a message of hope during Advent 2020 was mailed to IPF's constituents including past program participants, alumni, those serving the Church as bishops

and vocation directors, and our beloved laity, who understand the importance of IPF's mission: to work in collaboration with Catholic seminaries and dioceses to form priests and bishops in holiness while accompanying them in their ongoing spiritual growth so they can more effectively lead others to Christ.

The donations began to arrive in December and continued through January 2021. Not only did our generous donors meet the challenge, but they exceeded it by over \$75,000! Gifts were sent from 41 states, 2 Canadian provinces, and from Rome! Half were from local supporters and half from outside

the Omaha metro. Archbishops and Bishops sent personal donations. Two archdioceses and two dioceses donated to the match. Almost 200 priest alumni responded to IPF's appeal for funds. A total of over 700 donations were received gratefully by IPF.

IPF wishes to thank the donors who wished to challenge other IPF supporters and match their challenge dollars. We can't say thank you often enough to them and to you, our loyal supporters. May God bless you for your generosity and prayers for this important work for the Church and her priesthood.

## IPF Permanently Endowed Purpose Restricted Funds

- Holy Spirit Programs Fund
- St. Teresa of Calcutta Spiritual Directors and Instructors Fund

  In Honor of Msgr. John Esseff
  - Esseff Foundation
  - Rev. James Swertley Estate
- St. John Vianney IPF Founders Fund In Honor of the IPF Founders
  - → Inez Throener Estate
- St. Catherine of Siena Theological Formation Fund

  In Honor of Deacon James Keating
  - Lou and Rosemary Oberndorf
- St. John Paul II Fund for Priests

Establish a Named Fund in either an Endowed or Non-Endowed Purpose Restricted Fund as a way to honor or keep in memory an individual, couple, or family (minimum \$25,000). Gifts of any amount can also be given to established named funds.

#### IPF Annual Fund

- Scholarships
- Tuition
- Clergy Retreats
- Operations Budget
- Where Most Needed

## IPF Non-Endowed Purpose Restricted Funds

- St. Joseph and Mary Seminarian Fund
  - Msgr. Francis Kubart Trust Estate
- St. Paul Communication and Publication Fund
  - → Msgr. Francis Kubart Trust Estate
  - Rev. James Swertley Estate
- St. Ignatius of Loyola Spiritual Direction Training Fund

#### In Honor of Rev. James McCormick

- Richard and Mary Pat McCormick
- Nazareth House Fund
  - Allyn L. and Charlotte Wiebelhaus
- St. Charles Borromeo Spiritual Program for Bishops Fund
  - Rev. James Swertley Estate
- Blessed Stanley Rother Pre-Ordination Retreat Fund
  - --- Rev. James Swertley Estate
- St. John Paul II Fund for Priests
  - → Larry and Karen Dwyer

#### Sacred Heart of Jesus Legacy Society

A unique opportunity to support the mission of the IPF Foundation or Institute during your lifetime or beyond. Making provisions with a Planned Gift or through your estate will secure the future of Catholic priests for generations to come.

Each of the IPF Foundation Funds works to support a unique aspect of the mission of IPF. The details on the individual funds can be found in the magazine on the pages listed below:

- Holy Spirit Programs Fund pg. 17
- St. Teresa of Calcutta Spiritual Directors and Instructors Fund - pg. 16
- St. John Vianney IPF Founders Fund pg. 18
- St. Catherine of Siena Theological Formation Fund - pq. 17
- St. Joseph and Mary Seminarian Fund pg. 20
- St. Paul Communication and Publication Fund pg. 22
- St. Ignatius of Loyola Spiritual Direction Training Fund - pg. 21
- Nazareth House Fund pg. 23
- St. Charles Borromeo Spiritual Program for Bishops Fund - pg. 22
- Blessed Stanley Rother Pre-Ordination Retreat Fund - pg. 25
- St. John Paul II Fund for Priests pg. 27



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# Calendar of Upcoming Events

- May 19, 2021

  Joy of Giving Day with the Archdiocese of Omaha
- May 30, 2021
  IPF Summer Program for Spiritual Formation of
  Diocesan Seminarians Begins
  Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska
- June 11, 2021
  Seminar for Seminary Spiritual Directors
  Program Begins

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

June 27, 2021
Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, 30-Day
Silent Retreat Begins

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

September 19 - 24, 2021
Spiritual Formation Program for Bishops
Joseph and Mary Retreat House, Mundelein Seminary, Chicago, IL