



THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

A Public Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Omaha

“Surrender Everything to God And He Will Do Everything for You”

These beautiful words from Psalm 37 echoed in the hearts of IPF staff as we gathered in the fall to pray about the Lord's desires for our future, including the building of a Center for Priestly Spirituality. The words have led us to deepening humility and confidence in the Lord providing all we need—if we but surrender everything to him.

Another set of words that have been likewise echoing in our hearts comes from the experience of a local priest whose school was in need of a piano. No funds could be found to help defray the cost. So, one day he simply announced at Mass that the school had need of a piano—even an old, used piano would do. At the end of Mass an elderly couple whom he had never met before told him they'd be willing to help. Presuming they had a used piano, he inquired where he could go to pick it up. Instead they told him to go to the local music store, purchase the best piano they could find and send them the bill. And within a few months, this same couple provided a substantial sum to help with the ongoing music needs of the school!

“...in 2009, for the first time in our history, we experienced a budget shortfall...”

Trusting in the Lord's desire to continue to care for the mission of IPF, we come to our friends with confidence to ask for our version of “the piano.” As can be seen in this report, in 2009, for the first time in our history, we experienced a budget shortfall of over \$100,000. Two simple reasons for the shortfall are clear. First, for many years generous friends such as those mentioned in these pages have continued to help us with financial support; but in those years we were joined by anonymous benefactors who had graciously given large amounts to the annual giving. No large gifts were received in 2009, contributing to the shortfall. This fact points to a need to increase our donor base to be less dependent on large annual gifts. A second reason for our deficit is that our investments were down, due to the state of the economy, but also due to the fact that, in a move to ensure our future well-being, our board committed some cash reserves to our Foundation, reducing the level of cash reserves and thus interest on those reserves.

What to do? In addition to careful watching of our finances, we are moved to make a specific appeal to our friends to help us



overcome our deficit. Actually, we want to offer three different ways for people to help us:

- **Join our \$20-a-Month Club.** This can be as easy as visiting our Website or filling out the form accompanying this Report.
- **Sponsor a seminarian for \$850.** This represents the amount we need to raise to cover expenses not covered by dioceses that send their men to us. We need 175 sponsors for this year and the same number for next year.
- **Help our IPF Publications initiative to continue offering materials for priests, seminarians, seminary faculty and lay people by a gift of \$50,000.**

If you can't help us, maybe you can ask local organizations, such as Serra, the Knights of Columbus, your parish Holy Name or other society to consider helping us. Perhaps some of our priest-alumni can add IPF to the list of organizations who receive a “tithe” from the parish offerings.

Though a parish school music program is important, how much more important is the IPF mission, helping to form and shape the hearts of diocesan seminarians and priests throughout the United States and beyond! As one recent alumnus said, “IPF has been a pearl of great price to me. I learned how to pray here. Where would I have been without that?”

We surrender in faith to God who wants to do all for us. We appeal to our friends to help the Lord in his desire to continue to make the experience of IPF the “pearl of great price.”



From Our Executive Director...

Dear Friends,

As the Year for Priests comes to a close, we give praise to God for the graces of this past year and for the blessings of the priesthood to the Church throughout the world. This special Year for Priests will end, but the mission of the Institute for Priestly Formation goes on!

Inside our Annual Report you will see the many ways in which the Institute has been an instrument for continuing to help make spiritual formation the heart of all priestly formation.

Our cover tells the story of our needs in the coming months. We are confident that many will step forward to help us keep the mission moving forward. We are very grateful to the individuals named in this Report who have continued to be generous, even in economically challenging times. Your sacrifice is a precious gift to us and to the Lord!

Regarding upcoming events, we are welcoming 175 seminarians to our summer program; all of our other summer programs are full as well. Our first series of retreats for alumni were very successful; dates for the coming year are provided in the Report. We hope many alumni will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive refreshment in the midst of the busy daily life of diocesan priesthood.

IPF Publications features a new workbook from Fr. John Horn, S.J. entitled, "Heart Speaks to Heart." The title was Cardinal Newman's motto, itself taken from St. Francis De Sales. The book presents a guided path to deeper personal prayer and reflection.

For all of these endeavors and more, we depend upon the generous intercessory prayer of all of our friends and supporters. Please know how grateful we are for this gift! And please continue to remember us in prayer. You and your intentions are remembered in our grateful prayers as well.



Gratefully in the Lord,

Richard J. Gabuzda

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Executive Director

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Supportive and Encouraging

"After working nine years with seminarians I now understand better the role of a spiritual director in discerning affective movements and insights within diocesan priestly spirituality. I will share this skill with the Sudanese seminarians."

— Fr. John Marcello Tombe

St. Mary's Seminary, South Sudan
Seminary Spiritual Directors Seminar Participant

Become a Member of IPF

"I will pray regularly for the continued success of IPF's mission, the people who serve the mission and the men who are served by the mission. In conjunction I pledge to commit annually towards financial support. I make this offer in gratitude for the 10 weeks in 2002 that changed my life" (IPF alumnus).

Commitments such as these have been received by IPF from across the country in response to the recent membership drive. Individuals with a sincere love for the diocesan priesthood who feel called by the Lord to enter into a closer relationship with the Institute's mission now have an opportunity to become members of IPF either at the Friend or the Associate level. These members may represent any call to holiness in the Church, including laymen and laywomen. Members are called to support, nurture and promote the charism of IPF, offering a concrete expression of availability and co-responsibility for its mission.

All members are to embody and cultivate receptivity to the Living Word of God, joyful, humble and obedient acceptance of the Church's Magisterium, transforming devotion to Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist, frequent celebration of the Sacraments of Eucharist and Penance and sincere love for the diocesan priesthood.

"I felt compelled to offer my services to IPF", volunteer

Michele Stinson said recently. "My heart was touched when I received the mailing with the invitation to become an associate and was deeply drawn to the call to pray for priests and their holiness." Michelle has committed to offering up to 10 hours a week to aide in some small way the program or other needs of the Institute. Michele lives in Omaha and regularly comes to IPF's chapel to pray in adoration. She often joins the staff at daily Mass in the IPF chapel before offering her assistance in whatever task needs completing, whether it be filing, stuffing envelopes, or organizing materials to be used in the summer program.

For an application and details about the two levels of membership consult the IPF website www.creighton.edu/ipf or call the toll free number 1-888-528-5668.



Michelle Stinson

Sunday Night Live with Fr. Benedict Groeschel



Fr. Rich Gabuzda and Fr. Joe Kelly received national attention during an appearance on EWTN's *Sunday Night Live with Fr. Benedict Groeschel* on March 28th. The program gave them a chance to talk about IPF's mission and the future Center for Priestly Spirituality.



Faculty Member Receives Award

Fr. Tom Richter, Vocation Director from Bismarck, ND and IPF adjunct teacher was the recipient of the first ever St. John Vianney Award at the NCDVD (National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors). His vocation promotion booklet "Is Jesus Calling You to be a Catholic Priest?", which is based on St. Ignatius Loyola's "Rules for Discernment of Spirits" applied to spiritual conversation has sold over 57,000 copies and is also available in Spanish. He is presently completing a second booklet entitled, "Lend Your Own Voice to Christ." It will be a simple guide intended to help priests more confidently and effectively identify and call forth men Jesus has chosen to be priests.



Fr. Tom Richter

Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit

From the beginning of its history, IPF has invoked Mary under the title of "Spouse of the Holy Spirit." The title, also dear to St. Francis of Assisi, captures the heart of IPF's logo and expresses IPF's desire to teach priests and seminarians how to receive the Holy Spirit's grace in prayer.

Now, Sr. Cor Immaculatum Heffernan, IHM, has completed a small model (maquette) of a larger bronze statute bearing that title. The eventual



completed work will grace the foyer area of IPF's future Center for Priestly Spirituality. However, we are in need of a donor who might be willing to gift this beautiful work of art to IPF. For more information on how you can help sponsor this and other works of art within the Center, contact Tom Pogge at 402-280-3528.

IPF Alumni Retreat

*"Fr. Tim Gallagher, O.M.V., and
St. Ignatius Loyola's Discernment of Spirits"*



October 4-11, 2010
January 31 – February 7, 2011
October 31-November 7, 2011

*The Cenacle of Our Lady of Divine
Providence, Clearwater, Florida*

Contact: Ron and Adrienne Novotny
(727) 724-9505 • cenacleofourlady@aol.com
www.divineprovidence.org

Weekly Update on Webpage

IPF now posts weekly updates on our webpage. Postings such as upcoming events and registration deadlines can be found on our website as well as links to membership applications, course descriptions, IPF Publications and Creighton University to name a few. On-line donations are now easy to make via the website. The IPF website can be found at <http://www.creighton.edu/ipf/>



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The New Evangelization: Implications for Priestly Formation



The Saint Paul Seminary in St. Paul, MN was the site of the 9th Annual Symposium in March. The symposium reflected on Pope John Paul II's call for a "new evangelization" and the ways in which this call impacts the process of priestly formation. Nearly 200 attended the symposium which featured keynote speaker, Mr. Ralph Martin, pictured at far right with members of the IPF staff and guest speakers, Fr. John Riccardo and Dr. Mary Healy.

Celebration of Priesthood Banquet



Msgr. Bill Whelan (center) being congratulated by his brothers, Ed and Don.



Bishop Aquila from the Dioceses of Fargo was the guest speaker.

Nearly 300 gathered in Omaha in April to celebrate the Year for Priests and to congratulate Msgr. Bill Whelan, this year's recipient of the Pope John Paul II Award for Priestly Service.



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MR WILLIAM DRESSEL

Rev Rolf Tollefson

KAREN DWYER

St Wenceslaus Church

A Man After the Heart of Jesus

"I entered IPF a wayward son, but then I let the Father have his way, and I became a man, . . . a man after the heart of Jesus Christ. May the Lord bless and keep IPF."

— Glenn Evers
Seminarian

Diocese of Wilmington, DE

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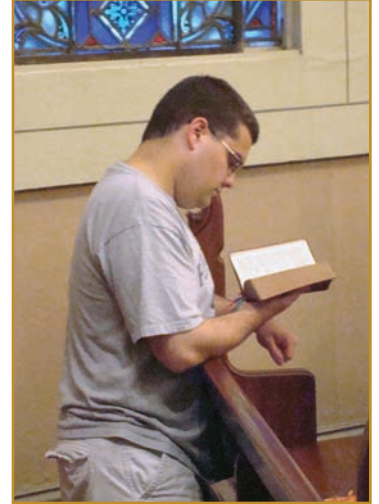
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Mr and Mrs Lawrence Dwyer

MISS MARY NEUGENT

Mr and Mrs Lawrence Dwyer



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Mr and Mrs Lawrence Dwyer

REV MSGR BILL WHELAN

Mr and Mrs Don Whelan





MEMORIALS

Donations given in memory of a deceased friend or family member during 2009

IN MEMORY OF:

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Mr and Mrs Kevin Amick

MR AND MRS F W AMICK

Mr and Mrs Kevin Amick

MRS IRENE AMICK

Mr and Mrs Kevin Amick

BERNIE AND BUD AUMEN

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REV MICHAEL WASIEL

Mrs Genevieve and Mr Gerard Wojtczak

HAROLD J ZIMMER

Rev David Zimmer

MR VERNON ZUBROD

Mr Philip Zubrod

Love for Me in My Weaknesses

"I learned that I had to
surrender to God that part
of me that I hated. He
already knew my weaknesses
and He wanted to love me
there, in my weakness, by
overcoming my pride."

— John Norman
Seminarian
Archdiocese of Omaha, NE

Rev Mr and Mrs Robert Jergovic

Jim LaHood Construction Inc

Mr and Mrs George Johnson

Mr and Mrs K E Kampfe

Mr and Mrs John Kaplan

Mr and Mrs William Kaplan

Mr and Mrs Paul Kielian

Ms Ann Kineen

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Mr Matt Kizer

Mr and Mrs Richard Kizer

Dr and Mrs Harold Kreski

Dr and Mrs R Michael Kroeger

Mr and Mrs Richard Kubat



Couples Retreat in Pennsylvania



"I felt as if a great fire had been lit within me as I was drawn into a deeper intimacy with Christ. A life changing event."

— Deacon Robert Jergovic, IPF Couples Retreat participant

IPF invites you and your spouse to experience a four day "Couples Retreat" modeled on the eight day retreat of the Summer Seminarian program. Situated on the beautiful grounds of Precious Blood Convent,

Mariawald Renewal Center, just minutes from Reading, will offer contemplative spaces and restful places for couples who come for this silent, directed retreat. Mariawald is located in a wooded area with two large ponds and an abundance of nature, wildlife, and walking trails to serve as a backdrop for your peaceful retreat. Msgr. Bill Whelan will be the director. Join him as he gives retreatants tools needed to deepen their prayer life and establish habits of daily prayer through talks, personal spiritual direction, and silence. Daily Mass, time for silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and daily conferences will be available to all retreatants. The dates for the retreat are September 29th -October 3rd, 2010. For more information, contact Linda at 402-280-3901.

Updates, Please

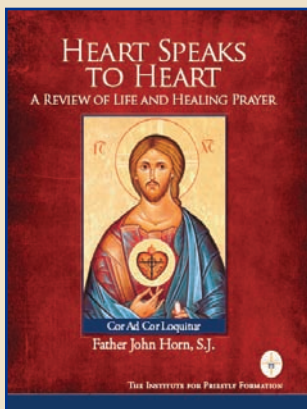
In order for us to keep our database current, we ask that you update us with moves, ordinations, and changes in assignments. We are also attempting to capture as many email addresses as possible. Please send a quick email to ipf@creighton.edu letting us know where you are and how best to contact you.

IPF Staff Growth



The growth of the IPF staff mirrors the call to expand programs. Eleven individuals work tirelessly to provide quality programs and publications for seminarians and priests.

New from IPF Publications



Heart Speaks to Heart: A Review of Life and Healing Prayer

Father John Horn, S.J.
\$12.95 (Paperback)

"Anyone who seeks to serve the Lord in sincerity and truth will benefit from this prayerful review of their life before the Lord. Heart Speaks to Heart offers new strength for service through a courageous remembering of one's life before the healing image of Jesus' risen pierced Heart."

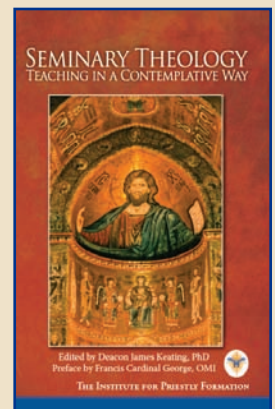
— Father Joseph Hanefeldt
Director of Spiritual Formation
Pontifical North American College
Vatican City

Seminary Theology: Teaching in a Contemplative Way

Edited by Deacon James Keating, PhD
\$13.95 (Paperback)

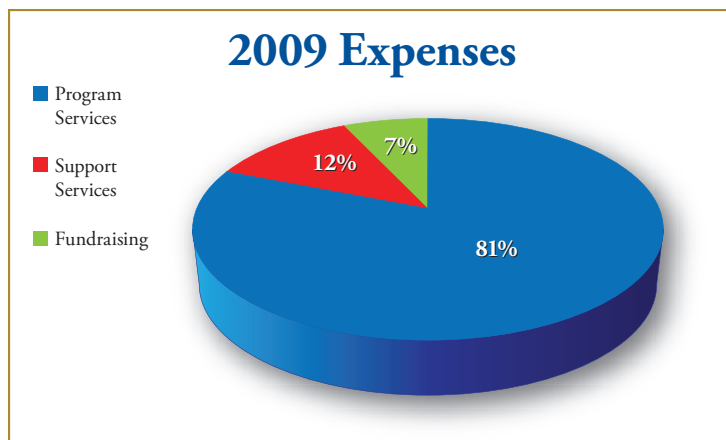
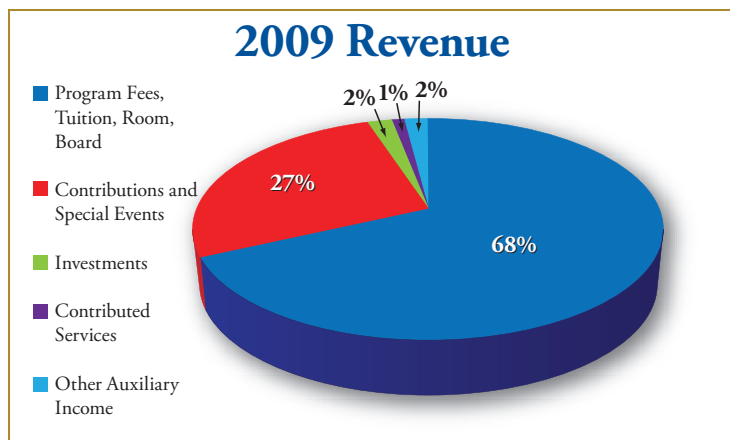
"The effort to explore seminary theology from a more contemplative perspective should strengthen the formation of a priesthood that is at once both spiritual and intellectual... In this book, we see theologians who truly believe that spiritual growth in seminarians is not simply a facet of seminary formation but is to be established as learning's foundation."

— Francis Cardinal George, OMI
Archbishop of Chicago



To order any item from IPF Publications, visit www.IPFpublications.com or call 888-309-5520.

The Institute for Priestly Formation 2009 Summary of Activities



Program Fees, Tuition, Room, Board	\$1,509,831
Contributions and Special Events	\$ 592,867
Investments	\$ 41,610
Contributed Services	\$ 24,394
Other Auxiliary Income	\$ 53,206
TOTAL	\$2,221,908

Program Services	\$1,904,131
Support Services	\$ 279,221
Fundraising	\$ 172,393
TOTAL	\$2,355,745

A Prisoner Set Free

"I honestly feel like a prisoner who has been set free because I no longer have to be chained down by the lies about myself that come when I am in a desolation. I have never had such a deep spiritual experience. I actually feel like I have experienced a miracle in my life. Words cannot come close to expressing my gratitude to IPF for providing me with this opportunity!"

— Fr. Paul Timmerman

Diocese of New Ulm, MN

30-Day Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola Participant

New Life in Christ

"The IPF seminarian program has helped me to experience the love of the Blessed Trinity at a whole new level that I never imagined I could experience. It has changed my life. It has given me a new life in Christ."

— Matias Hualpa

Seminarian

Archdiocese of Miami, FL

Honor Others with Gifts to IPF

Ordinations to the priesthood, special anniversaries, birth, graduations, retirements and birthdays are all occasions of celebration. Consider honoring a loved one with a financial gift to IPF. Remembering a deceased member of your family or a treasured loved one with a memorial gift is a beautiful way of honoring them. Supporting IPF financially is a compassionate way to assist in the spiritual formation of diocesan priests and seminarians in the Roman Catholic Church. IPF is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization and all gifts are deductible to the extent of the law.

To make a donation, call us at 1-888-528-5668, or visit the IPF website at www.creighton.edu/ipf/whygivetoiptf.



THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

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We invite you to visit our website at
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Mission Statement

The Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) was founded to assist bishops in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Roman Catholic Church. The Institute responds to the need to foster spiritual formation as the integrating and governing principle of all aspects of priestly formation. Inspired by the biblical-evangelical spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, this spiritual formation has as its goal the cultivation of a deep interior communion with Christ; from such communion the priest shares in Christ's own pastoral charity. In carrying out its mission, the Institute directly serves diocesan seminarians and priests, as well as those who are responsible for diocesan priestly formation.

The Institute for Priestly Formation Mission Advisory Council

IPF Founders

Fr. George A. Aschenbrenner, S. J.
Fr. Richard J. Gabuzda
Fr. John P. Horn, S. J.
Kathleen A. Kanavy

Chairmen

Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila, Co-Chair
Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, Co-Chair

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Chairman, Mission Advancement Council
Mr. George J. Esseff
Ex Officio Member

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Chairman, Finance Council

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*Director of Christian Spirituality Program,
Creighton University*

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