

ON THE HILL

WINTER 2016 • VOL. 55:1

Internship sows seeds of vocation

**Day of Service expands
to 10 locations**

**Holy Door opens
for Year of Mercy**

Cover: Taryn Whittington participates in evening prayer before the St. Nicholas Banquet on December 3.



Saint Meinrad



ON THE HILL

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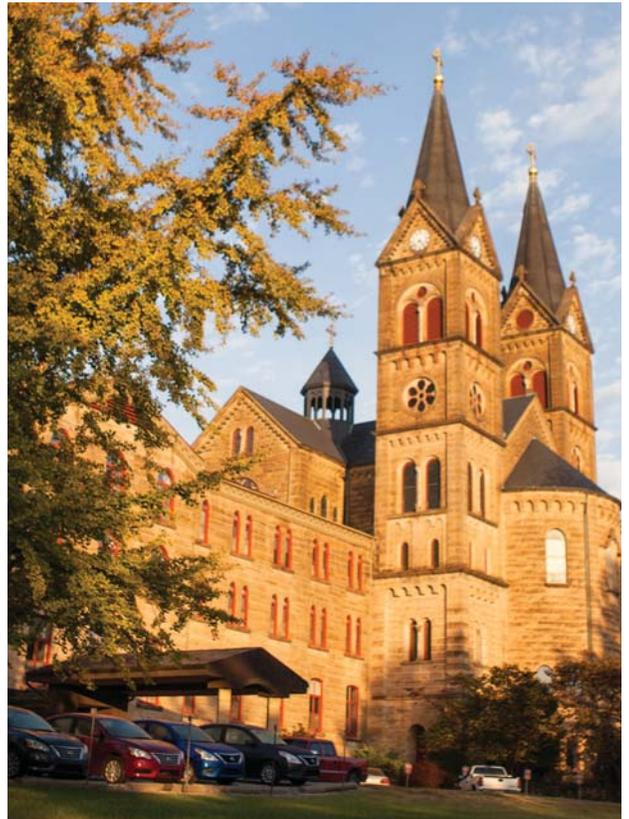
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See more photos of what's happening on the Hill on...

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Honor Your Inner Monk app

New version with updates available

The popular smartphone app developed by the Office of Monastery Vocations of Saint Meinrad Archabbey has an updated version with new features.

Honor Your Inner Monk is a free prayer app, first launched two years ago, that has been downloaded about 20,000 times. The app allows users to pray a different short prayer each morning and afternoon.

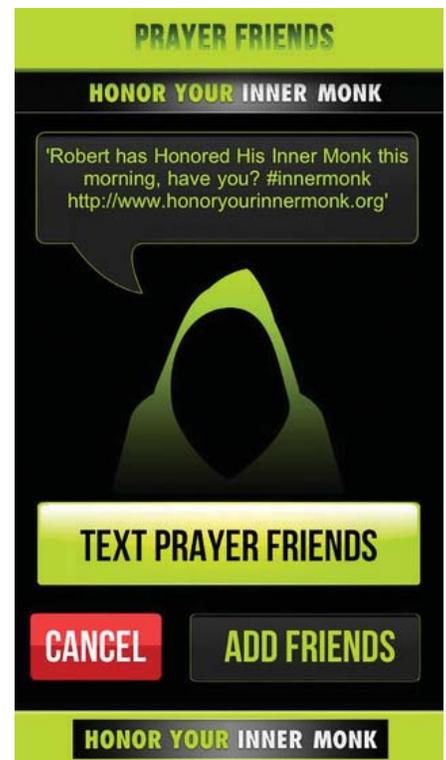
Br. John Mark Falkenhain, OSB, vocations director for Saint Meinrad Archabbey, conceived the “Honor Your Inner Monk” idea. He describes it this way: “We believe that all Christians have an ‘inner monk’ – the part of each of us that wants to move a

little to the side so we can develop a deep, intense and personal relationship with God.”

The new version of the prayer app includes morning and afternoon prayers for 30 more days, allowing for a two-month rotation of prayers.

Another new feature is an alarm that can be used to remind you to say the prayers. In addition, the user can choose five “prayer friends” to send a text to when a prayer has been said.

To download the prayer app, visit www.honoryourinnermonk.org. Links to Google Play and the App Store are at the bottom of the page. A version is also available for iPad. ✚



Monastery News:

Fr. Damian Schmelz named Sagamore of the Wabash

Fr. Damian Schmelz, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and retired pastor of St. Henry Catholic Church in St. Henry, IN, was named a Sagamore of the Wabash at a ceremony on November 5 at the monastery.

The award is the highest honor bestowed by the Governor of Indiana. It is a personal tribute usually given to those who have rendered a distinguished service to the state or to the governor.

Fr. Damian served for 33 years on the Indiana Natural Resources Commission and was co-author of *Natural Areas of Indiana*, published in 1969. The work served as a guide for the creation of Indiana's Natural Preserves.

In 2007, Fr. Damian was awarded a Lifetime Conservation Achievement Award by the Indiana Wildlife Federation. Two years later, he was a member of the inaugural class

named to the Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame.

Fr. Damian is also known for his research in Indiana old-growth forests. As chairman of a blue-ribbon committee assigned to study controlled deer hunts in Brown County State Park, he and other state wildlife experts determined that the hunts would thin deer herds and prevent destruction to the flora of the state park.

An addition to the Donaldson's Woods Nature Preserve was dedicated in Fr. Damian's honor in 2000. He also was active in the Indiana Academy of Science, being named a fellow in 1973 and receiving the Outstanding Service Award in 2003.

He attended Saint Meinrad College, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy. He earned a baccalaureate in sacred theology in 1959 from Saint Meinrad School of Theology and The Catholic University of America. He

was ordained to the priesthood in 1958. He did graduate studies at Purdue University, earning a master's in plant ecology in 1964 and a PhD in that field in 1969.

Fr. Damian taught biology at Saint Meinrad High School and College for nearly 40 years. He also served as academic dean and, later, as provost and vice rector of Saint Meinrad College. He has served on the school's Board of Trustees. He served as pastor of St. Henry Parish from 2001 until August 2015. ✝

Monks' Personals

Archabbot Justin DuVall and Br. John Mark Falkenhain

celebrated Mass with the Servants of the Paraclete Community at the Vianney Renewal Center in Dittmer, MO, on October 11.

Br. John Mark Falkenhain, Br. William Sprauer, Br. James Jensen, Fr. Christian Raab and several other monks traveled to Indianapolis, IN, for the National Catholic Youth Conference on November 20-22. The vocations office and the "One Bread, One Cup" program combined efforts to create an attractive and popular booth.

Fr. Denis Robinson, Br. Zachary Wilberding and Br. John Mark Falkenhain presented at the first Conference on Human Formation, co-hosted by Saint Meinrad and the Saint Luke Institute on December 6-9. The conference focused on "Practical Models of Celibacy Formation" and brought together 150 formation personnel from around the country. ✝



▲ Francis Lueken and John Goss (partially hidden) congratulate Fr. Damian Schmelz, OSB, on receiving the Sagamore of the Wabash. Br. Giles Mahieu, OSB, at right, applauds.

College interns

find a vocation starts with seeds planted at Saint Meinrad



Stacey Winderrowd

Stacey Winderrowd did not expect to be a Dominican sister. James Brockmeier was dating and planning to be a teacher.

As college students, both served as summer

interns assisting with Saint Meinrad's high school youth program, "One Bread, One Cup." In fact, they are among nine former interns who are currently in formation for priesthood or religious life.

Stacey was an intern in 2008 and 2009. "During the two summers I served as a college intern, I was not discerning a religious vocation. It was not even on my radar at the time.

"However, reflecting back on how the Lord was working in my life, I can see that the seeds of my religious vocation were planted during my time at Saint Meinrad."

A highlight of the internship for Stacey – now Sister Mary Xavier – was the community the interns formed while working and living on campus. "Another highlight was the faithful recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass," she says. That experience drew her closer to God.

She first met the sisters of her religious community, the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, at a retreat she attended at the motherhouse in Nashville, TN. "I was drawn to the balanced life of prayer, study and community that I had experienced at Saint Meinrad." Still not attracted to a religious vocation, Stacey realizes now it was another seed sown.

After college, she served two years as a missionary for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). First-year missionaries are asked to go on a dating "fast."

"It was during that year that the Lord revealed His love in a powerful way," she says, which opened her heart to the idea of a religious vocation.

She returned to the Nashville Dominicans again – this time for a vocational discernment retreat. She became a postulant in August 2013 and received her habit and religious name, Mary Xavier, the next year. On July 28, 2015, she took her first vows.



James Brockmeier

James Brockmeier participated in the "One Bread, One Cup" internship after his sophomore year of college at Marian University. "I thought it would be a good opportunity to gain some experience in

teaching and leading groups of young people."

He had never attended the youth conference as a high school student, but had heard good things about the experience and felt it would be helpful toward his goal of teaching high school religion.

He recalls that that summer was important in changing how he thought about the liturgy. "The conferences were about enriching liturgy and making liturgy a cornerstone of your life – and the life of your community," he says.

"I gained a lot of knowledge about liturgy that I didn't have before.... When the conferences weren't going on, we (the interns) prayed morning and evening prayer together and we had Mass, and those were cornerstones of our day."

That led to a new appreciation for living a liturgical life. "All of a sudden, I was asking myself the question, 'How do I keep that going?'" he recalls. But back at college, it was two more years before he thought much about the priesthood.



▲ Last March, five former college interns who are in formation for priesthood or religious life were on campus. From left are Novice Timothy Herrmann, OSB, Deacon Kyle Rodden, Novice Geoff Mooney, Deacon James Brockmeier and Novice Peter Szidik, OSB.

As a college senior, he was applying for jobs as a theology teacher when some seminarian friends asked if he had thought about being a priest. “That spurred me on to start thinking about it,” he says.

“I started to sense that this was something that I really was interested in again. When it came to applying and looking at what the next step was in that, it was come to Saint Meinrad,” according to Brockmeier.

Now in his last year of his studies, Deacon Brockmeier is looking forward to his priesthood ordination this summer for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

As the coordinator of the college internship program for “One Bread, One Cup,” Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, has been observing the interest in vocations among former interns for a couple of years.

The main goal of the internship is to help the high school participants grow in discipleship and develop their Catholic faith. In doing that, Fr. Christian says, the interns are being formed as well. “As part of their formation, they get classes on the theology of vocations and they get classes on discernment. So we’re definitely trying to build awareness of vocations.”

But some of the formation happens in informal ways as well. As the monastic community has become more involved with the program, the interns have opportunities to connect with the monks throughout the summer. “The interns are spending a lot of time with men in religious life – happy men – men who enjoy being around people, enjoy what they’re doing, enjoying ministry, enjoy sharing the Gospel,” Fr. Christian says.

The interns also get to visit women’s religious communities – the Benedictines in nearby Ferdinand and the Dominicans in Nashville, TN. But it’s more than looking at life in community from the outside. Fr. Christian says, “The experience of the internship itself is an experience of living in community.” The college students live, pray and work together, forming an intentional community with a common goal of serving the Church through OBOC.

“And if you need any evidence that it’s no pressure,” he says, with a laugh, “we can point out that we’ve also had six or seven marriages come out of the intern community.”

The interest in religious vocations among interns is affirming to Fr. Christian. “I

love religious life and I feel like it is such a treasure in the Church,” he says. “There has been anxiety about whether or not the next generation would receive this gift. And so it’s exciting to see that happening.” ✝

College interns discerning vocations

These former college interns in the “One Bread, One Cup” program have entered seminary or religious life after serving as an intern.

Stacey Winterrowd, intern in 2008 and 2009, is recently professed Sr. Mary Xavier of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia (Nashville, TN).

Colleen Bailey, intern in 2010 and 2011, is a postulant with the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary (Miami, FL).

Theresa Higson, intern in 2009 and 2010, is a postulant with the Daughters of Mary, Mother of Israel’s Hope (Tulsa, OK).

Timothy Herrmann, intern in 2007, 2008 and 2009, is a novice with Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Peter Szidik, intern in 2008 and 2009, is a novice with Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

James Brockmeier, intern in 2009, is in his last year of priesthood studies for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Kyle Rodden, intern in 2010, is in his last year of priesthood studies for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Alex Becker, intern in 2012, is a seminarian for the Diocese of Salina.

Geoff Mooney, intern in 2008, is a novice with the Holy Cross Fathers (Notre Dame, IN). ✝



▲ As part of their internship, college interns in the “One Bread, One Cup” program learn about spirituality, Benedictine tradition and their ministry roles.

[Meet the Student]

Taryn Whittington

Diocese: Diocese of Little Rock
Hometown: Scott, AR

Q. *What attracted you to the priesthood?*

The idea of complete self-giving in ministry certainly has a strong attraction for me. The priesthood is a vocation that involves the whole person. In that way, a priest becomes for the world an icon of Christ, who empties himself in service to the world. Here we can see the challenge of priestly life, but also its promise.

Of course, all Christians are called to bring Christ to the world – to become icons of Christ – but over the years it became clearer that God had called me to live out that vocation in the priesthood, embracing a life of sacramental service to God’s people and to the world.

Q. *Who or what influenced you to begin study for the priesthood?*

Too many people to mention, but I think in particular of my parish priest in Texas, who brought so much passion and thoughtfulness to his priestly life. When I think of how I want my life in ministry to look, he always comes to mind.

I think also of friends who encouraged me along the way, including one in England who was discerning the priesthood many years ago when we met. I was able to attend his ordination there a few years later, which was a wonderful experience. Such influences always came to mind as I considered whether or not to follow this path.

Q. *What were you doing before you came to the seminary?*

I was teaching philosophy at a university in northeast Ohio.

Q. *Favorite saint and why?*

St. Philip Neri comes immediately to mind. I love the particular witness he brought to his time. He lived in Renaissance Rome, a time of great creative and spiritual achievement, but also, in many ways, a time of corruption and decay.

To this situation, he brought a great sense of humor, gentleness of heart and burning passion for God. He worked hard as a priest to convert one person at a time, and his life shows that personal holiness can accomplish as much as sweeping programs and movements – although programs and movements have their place, too.

Q. *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

I often return to the passage in I Kings 19 where Elijah, we are told, hears the voice of God not in the wind or the earthquake, but in a still, small voice. This passage speaks to me of great intimacy with God. It is surely one of the most beautiful passages in Scripture.

Q. *Hobbies?*

I love to read and usually have a stack of books by my chair. I am slowly learning to play piano with the help of Sr. Bernardone [Rock, FSE], and hope to continue making progress in that area.

Q. *What aspect of seminary life has been most rewarding?*

Living here has given me a chance to develop skills and talents I probably would not have cultivated otherwise. I mentioned learning piano, but I have also grown as a public speaker, gaining a level of comfort I did not have before.



On a different note, seminary also allows you to build relationships with guys who will be, in the future, your brother priests, and so living here teaches you to forge fraternal connections that will remain with you throughout your ministry.

Q. *What aspect of seminary life has been most challenging?*

Fraternity is a great blessing, but it is also a challenge, especially (perhaps) for those of us who come here after living on our own. The loss of private space definitely challenged me, but it has also stretched me in ways that will benefit my ministry.

Q. *Best advice you’ve heard in seminary?*

Keep a sense of humor. The person who said this did not mean to take everything lightly, but to keep things in perspective. Life becomes hectic as the semester takes off, and we immerse ourselves in serious matters – in theology and the duties of ministry.

Through all of that, it’s important to see the humor in things, to enjoy the grace of laughter and conversation with friends. We do everything we can and leave it at the feet of God, who will take care of the rest. ✚

Energy Saver:

Monastery installs geothermal system

There are 94 wells being drilled outside the monastery, each 500 feet deep. No, the monks aren't drilling for oil. Rather, the wells are part of a project to reduce energy costs.

A geothermal well field is being installed to provide heating and cooling, as part of the major repair work under way to the 33-year-old monastery.

Work began after the monks moved out of the monastery in May. They are residing in St. Anselm Hall until the repairs are complete.

A geothermal system uses the constant temperature of the earth to heat and cool a building, according to Ron Steinhart, a mechanical engineer with Hafer Associates of Evansville, IN. The wells are drilled so that plastic pipes can be installed underground.

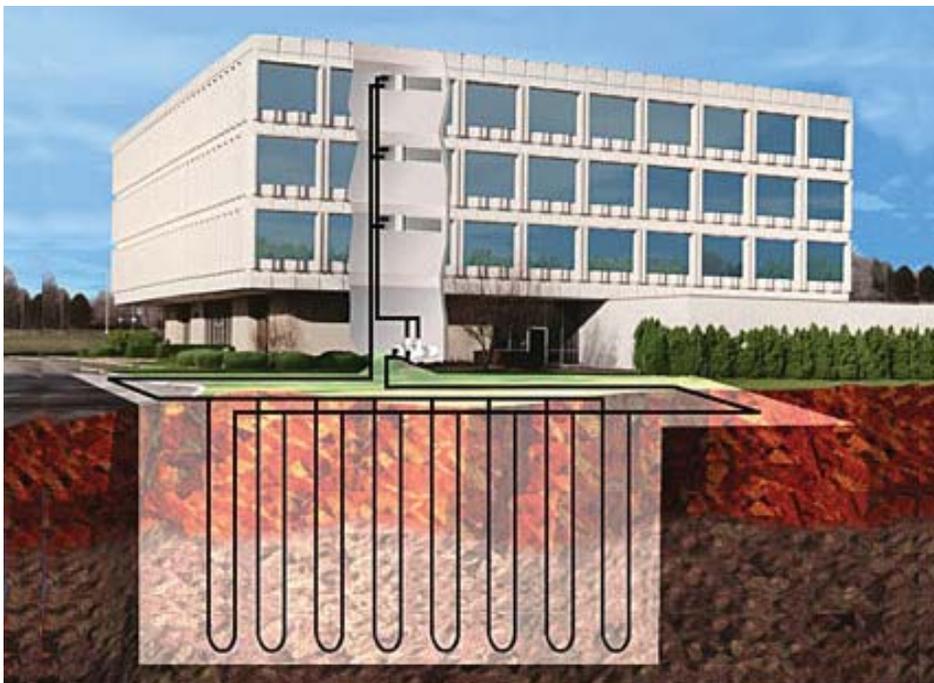
These pipes circulate water to a unit called a geothermal heat recovery chiller. The chiller is used to produce chilled water (44 degrees) and hot water (130 degrees). That water is then

pumped to fan units throughout the monastery, allowing for individual temperature control.

For example, you might want the heat on in your room, but your neighbor prefers to adjust his thermostat for cooler air.

A geothermal system has several advantages, according to Steinhart:

- Because the earth maintains a steady temperature of about 55 degrees, less energy will be needed to heat the monastery in the winter and cool it in the summer.
- The system has a long life expectancy and is low maintenance, compared to other systems.
- The geothermal system is also designed to preheat the domestic hot water, further reducing energy use.
- The system is quiet and does not require any outdoor equipment that could mar the landscape. ✚



▲ An illustration of a geothermal system that shows how underground pipes circulate water that is then used for heating and cooling.

EVENTS ON THE HILL

February 2

Black History Lecture given by Fr. Dexter Brewer.

February 12-14

Guest House Retreat: "Sincerely Yours" by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB.

March 8

Thomas Lecture given by Dr. Robin Jensen.

March 8-10

Guest House Retreat: "From Anger to Forgiveness" by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB.

March 10-13

Guest House Retreat: "Administration and Evangelization" by Fr. Jeremy King, OSB.

March 18-20

Guest House Retreat: "Benedictine Spirituality as Lived in Marriage" by Deacon Rich and Cherie Zoldak (Married Couples only).

March 23-27

Guest House Retreat: "Reflections on the Triduum" by Very Reverend Denis Robinson, OSB (Holy Week Retreat).

March 28-April 1

Guest House Retreat: "Retreat for Angry Priests" by Fr. Vincent Tobin, OSB.

April 8-10

Guest House Retreat: "He Has Been Raised" by Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB.

April 15-17

Guest House Retreat: "Living Virtuously: Exploring Christian Virtues" by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB.

May 3-5

Guest House Retreat: "Singing the Gospel – Day by Day!" by Fr. Jeremy King, OSB.

For more information, call (812) 357-6611 or visit our website www.saintmeinrad.org

Endowments light the way of the future

If you've ever turned on a flashlight at night, you know that its beam of light cuts through the darkness. When you shine the light ahead of you, various objects will appear. The light shows you where to go and how to get there.

Some flashlights are tiny and use only a single watch-sized battery. Others are powered by five or more batteries. And, of course, large searchlights can send beams of light far into the distance.

Every endowment at Saint Meinrad is like a beam of light casting rays of hope. Some endowments are larger than others, but each one penetrates the darkness and gives us confidence as we move into the future with the work of our mission.

Endowments are created by people who care about tomorrow. These perpetual funds provide a steady stream of financial help to underwrite programs,

personnel and facilities. They illuminate the future with hope.

You can use current assets to establish an endowment now, or you can create one later through a charitable gift in your will or trust. Your endowment can bear your name and provide an ongoing legacy. Or, you can honor a family member or someone else who has impacted your life.

Once established, your "ray of hope" will continue in perpetuity, providing encouragement and financial resources for generations to come.

Would you like to learn more about Saint Meinrad's endowment program and how you can cast a "beam of light" into the future? Contact Darren Sroufe, director of planned giving, at (800) 682-0988 or email dsroufe@saintmeinrad.edu. ✝

Saint Meinrad hosts spiritual directors

Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology hosted the annual conference of the Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors from October 22-25, 2015.

Local hosts Fr. Bede Cisco, OSB, and Fr. Peter Marshall welcomed 36 directors and staff members from 17 seminaries, both college and theology, as well as from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations Office and other organizations. The last time Saint Meinrad hosted a similar event was 1990.

Speakers included Fr. James Mason, rector of Kenrick Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, MO; Fr. Ralph O'Donnell from the USCCB; Fr. John Cippel, of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL; Fr. Michael Muhr, president of the Federation; and Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

In addition to the conference sessions, participants toured St. Joseph Church in Jasper, IN, and Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN. ✝



▲ *Br. Hugh Ernst, OSB, prays in the Archabbey Cemetery after the monastic community processed there during the Feast of all the Faithful Departed in November.*



▲ *Seminarian Norman McFall serves as deacon during a Sunday Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jasper, IN.*

Saint Meinrad opens Holy Door for Jubilee Year of Mercy

In conjunction with this year's Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, CSsR, designated two churches in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as pilgrimage sites with a door of mercy.

One church is the SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, and the second is the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln at Saint Meinrad.

"I think having the Archabbey Church designated as the other official site in the Archdiocese for a holy door is a great honor," said Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB. "It strengthens our relationship to the whole Archdiocese, but also to the Universal Church for this Jubilee Year of Mercy."

At Saint Meinrad, the holy door is the northernmost of the three west doors of the Archabbey Church. The door is distinguished by artwork created by Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB.



▲ Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB, leads the community in prayer before ceremonially closing the Holy Door on December 3. It was then opened for the Jubilee Year of Mercy on December 13.

Br. Martin painted five glass panels that include images of Pope Francis' coat of arms, the Lamb of God as a symbol of mercy, and three angels looking toward Jesus.

People may make a pilgrimage to one of these two churches to receive a plenary indulgence established by the Holy See during the jubilee year, which began on December 8 and will conclude November 20, 2016.

A plenary indulgence is a full remission of the temporal punishment due for sins that have already been forgiven. Such

an indulgence can be granted on behalf of the individual petitioner, another person or intention designated by the petitioner, or for departed souls.

To receive a plenary indulgence, Catholics need to pass through the door of mercy, make a profession of faith in the church, and pray for the pope's intentions and the pope himself. Catholics must also meditate on mercy while receiving communion and participate in the sacrament of reconciliation, 20 days before or after visiting the pilgrimage site. ✚



▲ Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB, created artwork to distinguish the Holy Door from other doors at the entrance of the Archabbey Church.

Photos of Fall 2015 events



Photos, beginning at top left: Students Cesar Estiller, left, and Joseph Chan prepare food for the Around the World party in October. The event celebrates culture and diversity through food, music and socializing.

The Knights of Columbus attended a pilgrimage to honor the Blessed Mother at the Monte Cassino Shrine in October.

Seminarians celebrate a soccer match victory during a seminary journey at Conception Seminary College in Missouri.

Candidate Joshua Leeuw, left, and Novice Thomas Fish, OSB, carve pumpkins for the annual Halloween party.

Robert Smith, center, and David Farrell, right, serve as candle bearers during the Advent Lessons and Carols service on December 7.



Photos, beginning at top: Deacon Chaz Dunn, right, pulls a wig off Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, to reveal he was disguised as a visiting professor during the annual St. Nicholas Banquet skit.

From left, Novices Timothy Herrmann and Tony Wolniakowski, Br. Stephen Avery and Novice Jonathan Blaize sing Gregorian chant during the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis in November.

Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB, is greeted by Sr. Susan Marie Krupp, ASC, who was on the Hill attending the Conference on Human Formation in November. Br. Martin helped provide food in the commuters lounge during the conference. About 150 attended the conference, which was co-hosted by Saint Meinrad and the Saint Luke Institute.

Seminarian Colby Elbert reads a book during children's catechesis at Our Lady of the Springs Catholic Church in French Lick, IN, where he does ministry each week.

Saint Meinrad Day of Service expands to 10 locations in 2016

Plans are set for the third annual Saint Meinrad Day of Service. This year, the day of service will be Saturday, March 12, 2016, in eight locations across the country. Other projects in southern California and Elizabethtown, KY, will be held Saturday, February 27, and Saturday, March 19, respectively.

The event is organized by the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association in partnership with the Alumni Office and is open to any participants, not just alumni.

“Site coordinators have partnered with organizations who serve their communities in a variety of ways,” explains Christian Mocek, Saint Meinrad’s director of alumni relations. “We have projects at soup kitchens and food banks as well as projects that require painting and yard work.”

The Alumni Association Board of Directors, in collaboration with the Alumni Office, started the Saint Meinrad Day of Service two years ago in an effort to develop more creative ways for alumni to live out the mission of Saint Meinrad in their communities with their fellow classmates and friends.

For over 50 years, students at Saint Meinrad have volunteered in various capacities through the Cooperative Action for Community Development (CACD) program. The Saint Meinrad Day of Service is an opportunity for

our alumni and friends to continue this tradition of service – a chance to pray together, socialize together, and encourage one another in order to strengthen their local communities.

“I am very excited that we have 10 project locations this year. Two years ago, we started this event with one project and 20 volunteers. Last year, we had five locations and 120 volunteers. It is a special event and one that I hope continues to grow with each passing year,” says Mocek.

Keeping with the last two years, *Ora et Labora*, Prayer and Work, is the theme of the event. In addition to the actual service activities, volunteers at each project location will come together and pray before or after their project either by celebrating Mass or praying the Liturgy of the Hours proper to the time of day.

Saint Meinrad
DAY OF SERVICE
Project Locations

1. Cleveland, OH
2. Elizabethtown, KY
(on March 19, 2016)
3. Evansville, IN
4. Indianapolis, IN
5. Joliet/Kankakee, IL
6. Louisville, KY
7. New Albany, IN
8. Saint Meinrad, IN
9. Southern California
(on February 27, 2016)
10. Owensboro/Bowling Green, KY



▲ Tom Weintraut, from left, Steve Rasmussen and Bill McGuire work together to build shelves during the Day of Service in Indianapolis, IN, last year.

To stay up to date on project details for locations in your area, and to register as a Day of Service participant, visit the Saint Meinrad Day of Service registration page at: <http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu/dayofservice/>

There is no cost to participate and each volunteer will receive a free Saint Meinrad Day of Service t-shirt, courtesy of the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association.

Volunteers are asked to register by March 1 to ensure an accurate count for lunch and t-shirts. In southern California, volunteers are asked to register by February 12.

If you have questions about the Day of Service in your area, contact the Alumni Office at (812) 357-6501 or email Christian Mocek at cmocek@saintmeinrad.edu. †

Phonathon connects alumni and friends

As the second semester gets under way at Saint Meinrad, students are gearing up for the annual Alumni and Friends Phonathon. The phonathon will take place on seven evenings over a period of five weeks in February and March. Students will have a chance to talk with alumni and friends of Saint Meinrad from around the country.

“This is an event that involves the entire student body,” says Associate Director of Annual Giving John Huether O’78, who organizes the phonathon. “The students find it very rewarding to have some conversation with an alumnus or friend of Saint Meinrad. Many times they will field questions about monks who taught in the Seminary and School of Theology

years earlier. Students will also tell of recent news and happenings on the Hill, such as the monastery infirmary renovation, and Saint Meinrad being named a pilgrimage site during the Holy Year of Mercy designated by Pope Francis.”

The annual phonathon also gives students an opportunity to thank alumni and friends for their past generosity, and invite them to continue their support of Saint Meinrad’s work of preparing future leaders for the Church.

Gifts to the phonathon help make possible classroom instruction, spiritual formation, ministry opportunities, library resources, upkeep of buildings and grounds, wellness activities and many other day-to-day operations.

Alumni whose gifts qualify will also receive this year’s premium, a set of four burgundy, bonded leather coasters with the Saint Meinrad logo imprinted in silver. †



▲ Volunteers prepare and serve food at the St. Vincent de Paul Open Hands Kitchen in Louisville, KY, during the 2015 Day of Service.

Mark Your Calendars!

*Atlanta Area
Alumni & Friends Dinner*

April 19, 2016

*Saint Meinrad
88th Annual
Alumni Reunion*

August 1-3, 2016

ALUMNI ETERNAL

Fr. William J. Alcuin, OFM Cap. (formerly Fr. Alcuin Schutkovske, OFM Cap.) O'52 ('44-45), of Kaukauna, WI, died on March 5, 2015.

Mr. Richard Carl Bosler Sr. O'50 ('40-41), of Indianapolis, IN, died on June 12, 2009.

Mr. Charles Buescher O Feb.'45 ('41-44), of Clearwater, FL, died on June 7, 2015.

Mr. Edward J. Canarie O'52 ('44-46), of Cincinnati, OH, died on November 15, 2015.

Msgr. William G. Charnoki O'65 ('56-57), a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg, PA, died on August 15, 2015.

Mr. Paul E. "Gene" Clements SPH ('43-45), of Indianapolis, IN, died on November 3, 2015.

Mr. John "Jack" Connor O'59 ('52-53), of Westlake, OH, died on September 14, 2015.

Rev. Carl Collins T'86 ('82-85; '86), of Oakland Park, FL, died on October 14, 2015.

Fr. David Cowden O'76 ('69-72), a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, died on March 23, 2015.

Mr. Joseph Curtin O'55 ('49-52), of Victoria, British Columbia, died on January 26, 2015.

Mr. James D. Davis O'57 ('45-46), of Lake Worth, FL, died on October 6, 2015.

Mr. Philip M. Doherty O'56 ('44-49), of East Moline, IL, died on November 29, 2015.

Mr. Richard L. "Dick" Dukes O'66 ('58-59), of Delphos, OH, died on July 12, 2015.

Fr. Gary M. Ferguson O'71 ('63-67), a retired priest of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, died on October 11, 2015.

Deacon James Guldán PD'12 ('08-12), of New Ulm, MN, died on June 5, 2013.

Ms. Miriam "Sue" Hixenbaugh SS'91 ('86-90), of Columbus Grove, OH, died on October 16, 2015.

Fr. Clarence Howard O'61 ('57-61), a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, died September 10, 2015.

Dr. William Edwin Jacobs SS ('74-75), of Decatur, IL, died on August 21, 2015.

Ms. Loretta Javra SS'75 ('72-74), of West St. Paul, MN, died on August 10, 2015.

Mr. James "Pat" Kelly O'75 ('63-64), of Terre Haute, IN, died on March 24, 2014.

Mr. John F. Klein O'63 ('57-63), of Swansea, IL, died on October 11, 2015.

Mr. Walter R. Laude O'71 ('67-68), of Indiana, PA, died on November 6, 2015.

Fr. Raymond M. Lukoskie O'58 ('52-54), a priest of the Diocese of Peoria, IL, died on August 11, 2015.

Fr. Richard J. Macke O'54 ('50-54), a priest of the Diocese of Sioux City, IA, died on October 29, 2015.

Mr. Thomas R. McIntyre Sr. O'65 ('53-56), of Pittsburgh, PA, died on August 10, 2015.

Mr. G.E. "Buddy" Mullan O'71 ('66-67), of San Antonio, TX, died on October 27, 2015.

Mr. Thomas L. Murray O'50 ('42-44), of Notre Dame, IN, died on May 8, 2014.

Mr. Thomas N. Osborn Jr. O'66 ('54-62), of San Antonio, TX, died on November 9, 2015.

Fr. Venantius P. Preske O'52 ('39-44), a priest of the Diocese of Little Rock, AR, died on November 9, 2015.

Sr. Marcella Anne Sullivan, PBVM, S 2000, of New Windsor, NY, died on July 3, 2015.

Fr. Alfred H. Winters O'63 ('55-57), a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland, OH, died on November 7, 2015.

Mr. Bernard W. Woerdeman O'52 ('41-43), of Southfield, MI, died on December 25, 2011. ✚

A key to the initials behind the names of alumni:

C: College

GTP: Graduate Theology Programs

HS: High School

MAT: Master of Arts (Theology)

MAPT: Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology)

MTS: Master in Theological Studies

O: Ordination

PD: Permanent Deacon Formation Program

S: Sabbaticant

SPH: St. Placid Hall

SS: Summer Session

T: Theology

ALUMNI NEWS

Fr. Mark Boyer O'76 ('72-76) published three new books in 2015. They are *Human Wholeness: A Spirituality of Relationship*, *A Simple Systematic Mariology* and *Praying Your Way through Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles*. He is a priest of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau and a part-time faculty member at Missouri State University.

Fr. David Bruning O'78 ('70-74), pastor of St. Caspar Parish of Wauseon, was a speaker at the Muslim-Catholic Dialogue held October 8 at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo.

Mr. Philip Coit MTS'02 ('97-00; '02) has been named the director of faith formation at St. Matthew's Parish in Largo, FL.

Fr. Michael Dandurand T'97 ('83-85; '87-88; '02), pastor of Assumption Holy Trinity Parish in Swanton, OH, is also serving as chaplain to the 180th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard in Swanton.

Fr. Pat Gaza O'69 ('63-65), retired pastor of Ss. Monica and Luke Parish in Gary, IN, received the Gold Life Membership at the annual Life

Membership Dinner of the Gary branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), held on June 6.

Br. Theodore Haggerty, OSB T'19 ('13-15), a monk of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, is student teaching in theology at Marmion Academy.

Lt. Patrick Horton C'98 ('94-95), of Temple City, CA, was honored at a reception hosted by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on September 28 for Horton's promotion to lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. He also works for the city of Los Angeles as an urban planner and emergency manager.

Mrs. Rachel Forbes-Kaufman MAT'14 ('11-14) and **Ms. Mary Ortwein MAPT'15 ('11-15)** led a two-day workshop called "Ignite the Fire: Becoming a Parish of Joyful Disciples" for parishes in the Diocese of Evansville.

Fr. Gueric Letter, OSB T'12 ('07-12), of Conception Abbey, Conception, MO, is the abbey's kitchenmaster. He has begun producing a new product for commercial sale called Abbey Oven granola, available in Honey Nut Blend and Orchard Blend.

Mr. Vincent Luecke T'98 ('91-96; '01) is co-owner of St. Benedict's Brew Works in Ferdinand, IN, which opened on October 10 on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Benedict. The brewery makes and sells small-batch craft beers.

Mr. Robert Mickens C'86 ('84-86), a journalist who has reported on the Vatican and the Catholic Church for 30 years, gave a lecture, "Fifty Years after the Council: A Pope for Vatican II Catholics," at Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY, on September 17.

Br. Antony Maria Minardi, OSB, T'17 ('13-15), of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, is student teaching in theology at Marmion Academy.

Msr. Steven Rohlfs O'76 ('68-71) joined the spiritual formation faculty at The Saint Paul Seminary in St. Paul, MN, this past fall.

Mr. John "Jack" Schaffer O'67 ('55-63) oversaw a project to create a St. John Neumann Prayer Center and a St. Francis of Assisi Portiuncola (small chapel) at St. Alphonsus Parish in Norwalk, OH. The prayer center is located in the cabin of the parish founders; St. John Neumann is said to have visited them in 1841.

Fr. Eric Schild T'07 ('02-07) was honored as a member of the 2015 class of 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition program by the Northwest Ohio chapter. He is pastor of St. Jerome Parish, Wallbridge, and president of Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School and St. Kateri Catholic Academy, Oregon.

Dr. George F. Simons O'63 ('55-57), of Mandelieu la Napuole, France, is co-author with Walt Hopkins of *Seven Ways to Lighten Your Life Before You Kick the Bucket*. The book is available in paperback from Amazon.

Fr. Robert Van Kempen C'89 ('85-89) was appointed a dean in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN.

Fr. Joseph Voor O'50 ('46-50), a senior associate pastor at St. James and St. Brigid parishes in Louisville, KY, was invited to concelebrate Mass with Pope Francis on September 23, at which time Fr. Junipero Serra was canonized as a saint. Fr. Voor is chaplain of the local Serra Club.

Fr. Noel Zamora T'07 ('02-07) presided at Mass in the native Tagalog language to celebrate the second anniversary of the establishment of the Filipino Ministry in the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, on July 19 at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Louisville. ✝



Fr. Peter C. Harman C'95 ('91-95)

Fr. Peter C. Harman C'95 ('91-95) has been named the 23rd rector of the Pontifical North American College in Rome. The appointment takes effect on February 1.

A priest of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, he most recently served as director of pastoral formation at the college. Ordained a priest on July 17, 1999, Fr. Harman returned to Rome to complete a license in sacred theology.

He began his pastoral service in 2000 in Springfield at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, where he later served as pastor for five years. He also taught at Ursuline Academy and spent two years at St. Agnes Parish. Fr. Harman earned a doctorate in sacred theology at The Catholic University of America.

He then returned to Rome to serve in his current role on the North American College formation faculty, as well as serving as its director of media relations and as an adjunct instructor in theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University. ✝

Website

On The Hill is also

available on the Web:

www.saintmeinrad.edu/onthehill



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2016 Reunion will honor classes of 1966, 1976, 1991, 2006 and 2011



▲ *Alumni Reunion participants gather on the church steps after Mass for the 2015 group photo.*

The 88th annual Alumni Reunion will give former Saint Meinrad students the opportunity for fellowship with classmates, relaxation, spiritual renewal and learning. The 2016 event is planned for August 1-3 on the Saint Meinrad campus.

“I think things are shaping up very nicely for the reunion,” says Christian Mocek, director of alumni relations. “This year we worked hard to ensure there are chances for professional development as well as opportunities to reconnect with friends and classmates.”

This year’s reunion will include a golf scramble, day of recollection, workshops, time for prayer and socializing, and the awarding of the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The reunion kicks off on Monday, August 1, with a golf scramble at Christmas Lake Golf Course in Santa Claus and a day of recollection presented by President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB. Fr. Denis has been president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology since 2008 and serves as assistant professor of systematic theology.

The anniversary banquet will be held Monday evening, honoring the classes of 1966 (50th anniversary), 1976 (40th), 1991 (25th), 2006 (10th) and 2011 (5th).

On Tuesday, Sherry Weddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, will give a workshop. She is co-director of the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs, CO.

Alumni can also attend a workshop about *Laudato Si*, the papal encyclical on the environment, given by Kyle Kramer, executive director of the Passionist Earth and Spirit Center in Louisville, KY.

The Reunion Mass will be held in the Archabbey Church in the afternoon on Tuesday, followed by a reception and banquet. At the banquet, Fr. G. Nicholas Rice O’67 (’61-67; ’71) of the Archdiocese of Louisville will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Details of the reunion will be available on the website, <http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu> and the alumni Facebook page, www.facebook.com/SaintMeinradAlumni. ✝