

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE | THE NATIONAL SEMINARY OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

# *the* **Crossroads**

The Alumni Magazine for Theological College | **Fall 2019**



ALUMNI DAY

ORDINATIONS

FACULTY UPDATE





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Theological College participates in the mission and responsibility of the bishops to provide for the people of God wise and holy priests close to the heart of Christ and consumed in his work of salvation. In affiliation with The Catholic University of America, Theological College assists seminarians in the task of vocational discernment and in the preparation for priestly life and ministry at the diocesan level, particularly as experienced in the United States.



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This year's Alumni Day — which took place during the Extraordinary Missionary Month called for by Pope Francis — offered an opportunity for the TC community to raise funds in support of St. Anthony's Major Seminary in Malawi.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

7th Annual Sedes Cup: A.G. Prada, TC's long-time HVAC supplier, formed a foursome that won second place in this year's competition. The team was joined for the day by company founder Arnold Prada (center).



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**ORDINATIONS 2019**

Representing 10 different dioceses, 16 Theological College graduates of the Class of 2019 were ordained to the priesthood in the spring and summer.

**ORIENTATION**

Among 18 new seminarians were Vincent Castaldi (New York), left, with his parents, and Nicholas Clinton (Pittsburgh), right, with his mother on move-in day.



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**Cover:** Six Theological College seminarians were ordained as deacons, pictured from left: Mark Garrett (Dallas), Garrett Bockman (Dallas), Elmer Herrera-Guzmán (Dallas), Jaime Maldonado-Avilés (Hartford), Ryan Hiaeshutter (Dallas), and Anthony Ferguson (Richmond).





# Forming Priests for Today's Church

Rev. Gerald D. McBrearity, P.S.S. ('73), Rector

In 2005, the author Geraldine Brooks wrote a novel titled *March*, which eventually won a Pulitzer Prize. This story was about the father character of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, who had enlisted to serve as a chaplain during the Civil War. In the novel, he wrote in a correspondence to his wife, "How often is it that an idea that seems bright bossed and gleaming in its clarity when examined in a church becomes clouded and murk-stained when dragged out in the field of endeavor." Chaplain March had an idealized vision of serving as a chaplain but, as the first bodies were brought in, a new reality emerged. If he knew when he enlisted what he knew after the first day of battle, would he have enlisted? This is one of the many questions this work raises.

The mission of Theological College is to do everything possible to enable a priesthood candidate to be as informed and realistic as possible about the expectations of ordination to the diocesan priesthood. Furthermore, Theological College seeks to

assist each seminarian to remain faithful to his vocation even in the most difficult of circumstances. This is especially important at this moment in the life of our beloved Church. The human, spiritual, pastoral, and intellectual dimensions of formation provide opportunities for seminarians to evidence that they are caring, competent, and contemplative priesthood candidates who are fully prepared to be parish priests in a quickly changing cultural and ecclesial culture.

Saint John Paul II clarified this holy challenge: "The great task before us is to make the Church a home base and school for communion. We need a spirituality of communion. Among other things, that means recognizing others as my own concern by sharing their joy and their sorrow, sensing their wants, embracing their needs, and finally offering a deep and genuine friendship." This is the central task that each priest must embrace and live out on a daily basis wherever he is assigned to serve, whether it be in urban, subur-

ban, or rural parishes, whether with the wealthy or the poor as well as with people of every race and ethnic background. Pope Francis has written, "Communication has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and thus to enrich society. How beautiful it is when people select their words and actions with care, in the effort to avoid misunderstandings, to heal wounded memories, and to build peace and harmony." Especially at this moment in our nation's and our Church's history, how and what a priest communicates can have profound consequences — words can console and invite inclusion or words can offend and invite exclusion. To make the Church a home base and school for communion and to communicate to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and to enrich society are some of the greatest challenges facing a parish

priest, requiring courage even amidst conflict and disappointment.

Chaplain March realized, "How often is it that an idea that seems bright bossed and gleaming in its clarity in a church becomes clouded and murk-stained when dragged out in the field of actual endeavor." For every priest, however, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, remains the source of inspiration and strength. If this is not the case, in the field of actual endeavor he will be unable to remain faithful to his ordination commitment to be, for everyone he meets, the kind of missionary disciple that Jesus was. In the words of Langston Hughes, the mission of Theological College is to prepare a new generation of priests who will each and every day "gather up in the arms of [their] love those who expect no love from above." ■

## Prayer

Gather up  
In the arms of your pity  
The sick, the depraved,  
The desperate, the tired,  
All the scum  
Of our weary city

Gather up  
In the arms of your pity.  
Gather up  
In the arms of your love—  
Those who expect  
No love from above.

— Langston Hughes



Center, Father McBrearity and Catholic University President John Garvey, with the entire TC community after the Opening Mass on Aug. 25.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Dedication of New Priests Residence

At the end of Orientation Week on August 24, the first full day that all seminarians were in house to begin the 2019-20 school year, the TC population witnessed a milestone event: the dedication of the new residence for student priests in Providence Hall by Very Rev. John Kemper, P.S.S., Sulpician Provincial Superior. This is the first semester that eight student priests, most of whom are earning their S.T.L. or J.C.L. degrees, will be hosted in a separate residence that formerly housed the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence. The Congregation faithfully served the domestic needs of TC's Sulpician Fathers and seminarians from 1918 to 1986 while living in this (former) convent on the seminary grounds.

While the resident priests of Providence Hall accompanied Father Kemper through the house to a room with a balcony, the seminarians participated by gathering below the balcony where the dedication was taking place. The unique parallel between the former and current occupants of Providence Hall — between the Sisters' mission in service of the formation of future priests, and the mission of future priests' being further educated to serve the people of God — highlights a providential historical continuum worthy of the profound blessings offered by Father Kemper for the house and the *Sedes Sapientiae* statues placed in the rooms:

*Where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, he is there in their midst. We have gathered here to bless this house where the love of Christ will bring together those who desire to follow him more faithfully*



Father Kemper as he blesses the new priests residence in Providence Hall.

*and closely. Relying on the goodness of God, from whom all blessings flow, we pray that those who live here will conform their way of life to a priestly example of Christ. We ask that with Jesus they will seek the Father's glory in all things.*

*We pray that, led by the Spirit, they will continually fulfill their vocation, so that Christ may always dwell in us.*

*O God, inspirer and author of every holy resolve, hear our prayer that you will bestow the kindness of your grace on the priests who live in this house. Make it a place of*

*continuous meditation on your word, of mutual love, and of tireless service to others. Grant that those who here loyally follow Christ may together become an eloquent witness of their dedication to you.*

### Blessing of the statues:

*Lord, in the blessed Virgin, the Seat of Wisdom, you have given your pilgrim Church an image of the glory to come. May those who receive these statues in the likeness of Mary look to her as a model of holiness and wisdom for all your chosen people. ■*

## Alumni Day Celebration

This year's Alumni Day on October 2 began with an inspiring presentation for alumni, staff, and faculty by Dr. Kathy Galleher titled, "Healthy Ministry: Self-Care in Times of Transition." Dr. Galleher shared that "this is the topic I feel most strongly about — healthy self-care is at the heart of sustainable ministry!" Her counseling experience of over 25 years witnesses to the wisdom in Mother Teresa's words: "Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired. Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." Galleher's presentation outlined causes of depletion, red flags signaling that this "burnout" may be taking hold, and ways to retain a sustainable pace "without sprinting all the time." All present were most grateful for the presentation and ensuing discussion, which has also been addressed in this issue's Healthy Living for Priests column by Rev. Chris Arockiaraj on p. 19.

Later that afternoon, the Alumni Day Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Washington, who

recognized the legacy of faith and service that originates in formation at Theological College, spreading throughout the U.S. as those ordained begin their ministries in the nation's myriad dioceses. Noting that all were gathered at this Mass to praise God for the gifts received at TC, he said, "Just as the Church's remembrance of Christ's life, death, and resurrection ushers in a celebration of praise, so too your time at TC, with all that it contained, is now celebrated in thanksgiving and a renewal of purpose."

At the reception and dinner that followed, Monsignor Michael Clay of the Class of 1980 received the annual Alumnus Lifetime Service Award, recognizing his years of faithful service in the Lord's Church. Clay was surrounded by over a dozen close friends and family members, in addition to the entire seminary community whom he has served as associate dean for graduate ministerial studies and associate professor of practice in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The



Archbishop Wilton Gregory presided at the 2019 Alumni Day Mass in the Crypt Church of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Catholic University of America. In his introduction, the rector, Father McBrearity, said movingly, "I know I speak for the faculty and generations of seminarians who have benefited from his commitment to accompany them by his gifts for listening, guiding, reviewing transcripts, setting goals, and evoking a consensus from his colleagues at the School of Theology and Religious Studies as well as the faculty here at Theological College." The bestowal of this award was particularly poignant at this event because Monsignor Clay will soon conclude his service to TC and Catholic University at the end of the 2019-20 school year, when he returns to ministry in his home diocese of Raleigh. ■

*Please join us next year on October 7 for Alumni Day 2020, with principal Mass celebrant and Alumnus Lifetime Service Award recipient Bishop Robert Barron!*



Monsignor Michael Clay, center, recipient of the Alumnus Lifetime Service Award, celebrates with his mother (left), the rector (far left), and other family and friends on October 2.

The vision that serves as my true north is taken from the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus invites his listeners to join him in building the reign of God. I've learned that the Beatitudes, comprising the compelling vision that motivates me, aren't just nice pious thoughts from Jesus. They are the blueprint of a divine plan for how God's reign will be restored. The beatitudes don't make sense if we don't have a heart for and a commitment to sacrificial service. Embracing poverty of spirit in a "me first" world, mercy in a cruel world, meekness in a power-hungry world, and peacemaking in a warmongering world are not for the faint of heart.

**Monsignor Michael Clay,**

*2019 Theological College Alumnus Lifetime Service Award Recipient*



Mission Support at Alumni Day

This year’s Alumni Day — which took place during the Extraordinary Missionary Month called for by Pope Francis — offered an opportunity for the TC community to raise funds in support of St. Anthony’s Seminary in Malawi, which has been entrusted to the Sulpician Fathers. Seminarians organized a display of religious items from TC and Sulpician archives, which were silently auctioned during the Alumni Day celebration. Over \$2,000 was raised to help rejuvenate the Malawi seminary farm, which sustains not only its community but, ideally, will raise funds to support its formation program. To learn more about this “Farm Aid 2019” initiative, go to [www.sulpicians.org](http://www.sulpicians.org), or call 410-323-5070.



Candidacy 2019

Five third theologians were admitted to Candidacy for Ordination on October 9 at Theological College, with Bishop Filipe Estévez of St. Augustine presiding. From left, Michael Kielor (St. Augustine), Brian Ashmankis (Worcester), Jason Allan (Fort Worth), Brett Metzler (Fort Worth), and Wesbee Victor (New York).

Meet Father McKearney

Rev. John C. Selner, P.S.S., *Endowed Chair for Sacred Music and Liturgy*



As Theological College moved into a second century of ministry to the Church in 2018, the Board of Trustees decided to celebrate this milestone with the establishment of the Rev. John C. Selner, P.S.S., Endowed Chair for Sacred Music and Liturgy to both honor Rev. John C. Selner, P.S.S., and to ensure the highest quality of musical and liturgical formation of candidates preparing for ordained ministry at Theological College. Father Selner, a Sulpician musician and composer, served at TC and Catholic University for 13 years as director of music, associate professor, and five years as vice-rector. The goal of this campaign, \$1.5 million, has reached the \$1 million milestone, thanks to pledges and gifts of generous supporters. Rev. James L. McKearney, P.S.S., M.S./M.Mus., S.T.L., S.T.D., has accepted the position as the first Chair for Sacred Music and Liturgy.

Peter Bui, *First Theology, Diocese of Worcester*

Father McKearney, how do you feel about being the first to occupy Theological College’s Rev. John C. Selner Endowed Chair for Music and Liturgy? And what do you hope to accomplish?

I am honored to have been selected to be the first Selner Chair. Father Selner was a noted musician, composer, and organist. He was able to play and assist at the Basilica and served as a very talented organist there, providing excellent music for liturgies. I am hoping to provide the same excellence in music as did he. I am dedicated, in a particular way, to the task of composing new music for the TC community.

What inspired your passion for sacred music?

My passion definitely comes from having the opportunity to serve as a musician in my family’s parish as child and young man while growing up. I began to play the organ

for Masses and funerals at that same parish — my school was one block away from the Church. This was one of the benefits of growing up in a small town. I began to take lessons from my pastor, who was a fine organist himself, and to play for Mass as a middle school student. When I went to the music conservatory in college, my love for sacred music burgeoned. I began playing the organ and directing choirs in three churches during my freshman year and this continued into my musician life after college. My interest in sacred music became more focused during my time at the Gregorian University in Rome, especially when taking up my dissertation theme in the area of sacred music and its role in the Church through history.

What are your thoughts on our current TC Scola?

During our first rehearsal, I was very impressed with the musical education of several members of the group. Those new





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to singing in a choir are coming along very well. My hope is that we will sing classics in the literature as we move forward. The Schola has a particular gift in sight-singing (the ability to read a score without having seen it before). This provides us with the opportunity to use our time shaping the music we sing, as opposed to learning the notes. Given this ability, we are allowed to work on the phrasing, breath control, and dynamics of a piece of music. I am excited about the prospects for the future.

What is your technique for incorporating prayer into music — or do you see it as a form of prayer in itself?

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, speaks of music as the highest form of liturgical art. In so far as the music is joined to the actual liturgical text, it is given a pride of place in the liturgical prayer of the assembly of the baptized. As a music therapist, I have witnessed this fact, especially when rehearsing music for the Liturgy. The heart is deeply moved when singing the classics, as well as competently composed modern music.

Music is often said to be therapeutic...

As a certified music therapist having served for many years, before seminary, in a psychiatric environment, I learned that music definitely affects the whole person. I have always brought that skill to church music. It is amazing to accompany an assembly that is moved by what they are singing, when the music rises above spoken prayer.

How do you see your priesthood as contributing to your talent as a musician?

As a priest, I have a particular opportunity to offer a talent I have been developing for many years. When I was a faculty member at our seminary in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, I served as the director of music, collaborating with brother priests

on how to best provide a deeply spiritual program. I enjoyed working with several ethnic choirs such as the Filipino, Latino, and Vietnamese cantors and choirs, all singing sacred music popular within their ethnic traditions. That aspect of the music program added to a rich experience of liturgical excellence.

When I returned from Rome after my graduate studies, I assumed the role of director of music once again. When I serve as a parish priest on the weekends, I feel privileged and endowed with a special sense of responsibility. I am still serving as an assisting priest in a parish in Baltimore, giving me the opportunity to pray the Liturgy as the presider. This is very fulfilling, and I am happy to bring that experience to TC. I am also privileged to be on the rotation of priests presiding at Mass here. Fortunately, we have several student organists assisting so that I can, on occasion, concelebrate with my brother priests.

What would you say is your most memorable experience as a music teacher?

My most memorable experience has been accompanying young people to discover the power of music. The discovery process within the vast space of musical creation has been wonderful to witness. I have been blessed to accompany young people as they discover music and grow in their skills. One particular memory stands out in my life as a priest, which was at my first Mass as a priest. The day after my ordination, several members of my parish choir traveled from Baltimore for the Mass. Performing along with them were members of a brass quintet from the University of Hartford School of Music and a handbell choir from a Catholic

high school in the state. They were able to perform several of my compositions, contributing to the profound richness of my experience on that day!

Some of us seminarians, like myself, cannot sing very well. What is your advice to us?

Stay with it! The priest is called to be a singing priest. The rituals of the Church have many requirements for the priest to sing. I felt a particular ministry was mine as a parish priest on the weekends in various parishes — especially on feasts and solemnities. As part of my work at TC, I will make it my priority to help seminarians gain confidence in their singing ability. As a student of music, I learned from my elementary methods teacher in class to “never tell a child that they cannot sing!” This has carried over in my work with choirs as well as individuals who struggle with their confidence. ■



Sulpician Provincial Superior Father Kemper (left) and TC rector Father McBrear celebrate the rising thermometer as the Rev. John C. Selner, P.S.S., Endowed Chair for Sacred Music and Liturgy campaign moves successfully forward. To participate in this historic effort to support and enhance the TC formation program, contact Carleen Kramer: [ckramer@sulpicians.org](mailto:ckramer@sulpicians.org); 410-323-5070.



Rev. Nick Redmond ('15), second from left, was part of the first-placed foursome representing Buch Construction, which just completed the renovation of Providence Hall's priests residence.



TC seminarian Joe Kauflin receives from Father McBrear awards for “Closest to the Pin” and “Longest Drive.”

7th Annual Sedes Cup Golf Tournament

Theological College's annual 18-hole golf classic on October 8th at the renowned Turf Valley Country Club in Ellicott City, Md., was once again a welcomed opportunity for corporate and community partners to come together for friendly competition in support of the formation program at Theological College. Enjoying a great day on the links for this noble cause were 12 foursome teams, three of which were made up of seminarians, with the sponsorship

of more than two dozen patrons. Many of these patrons joined TC alumni and seminarians out on the course, coming together later for a convivial luncheon and awards ceremony. TC rector Rev. Gerald McBrear warmly hosted and thanked all those involved on behalf of TC's 74 seminarians and seven student priests, as well as the faculty and staff of the TC community. ■



# ORDINATIONS 2019



**Top left:** Rev. Matthew Browne with Rockville Centre's Bishop John Barres (TC Class of 1989).

**Top right:** Rev. Cassidy Stinson accepts the chalice from Bishop Barry Knestout of Richmond.

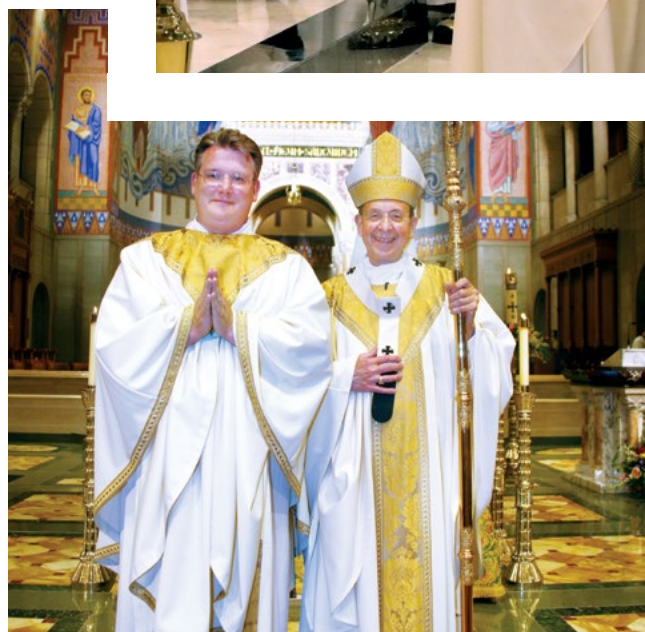
**Middle:** Rev. David Roman blesses TC seminarian Jonathan Pham (3-B, Rockville Centre) after his ordination for the Diocese of Bridgeport.



In the spring and summer of 2019, 16 Theological College seminarians were ordained to the priesthood for 10 dioceses across the country. Please join us in celebrating this passage while joining the prayers of the TC community for joyful and fruitful transitions to their new ministry assignments. For their first diocesan placements, see the Class Notes section on p. 22. Also a cause for prayerful thanksgiving, six Theological College seminarians were ordained as deacons: Garrett Bockman, Mark Garrett, Elmer Herrera-Guzmán, and Ryan Hiaeshutter for the Diocese of Dallas; Anthony Ferguson for the Diocese of Richmond; and Jaime Maldonado-Avilés for the Diocese of Hartford (see cover). ■

**Bottom left:** Rev. Christopher Masla at his ordination for the Diocese of Richmond.

**Bottom right:** Rev. Walter Genito and Cardinal Timothy Dolan at the ordination in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral in May.



**Top left:** From left, at the post-ordination gathering at Theological College, the Archdiocese of Washington's Revs. Stefan Megyery, Patrick Mullan, and Michael Russo.



**Middle left:** From left, Pittsburgh's most recent ordinandi: Revs. D.J. Egan, Mingwei Li, Timothy Deely, and Brendan Dawson with Bishop David Zubik.

**Middle right (above):** Diocese of Spokane's Rev. Raymond Kalema bestowing a blessing upon his bishop, Most Rev. Thomas Daly.

**Left:** Theological College's rector, Rev. Gerald McBrearity, P.S.S., laying on of hands for Rev. R.J. Regalado at his ordination for Corpus Christi.

**Bottom left:** Rev. Joseph Wiley after ordination in the Cathedral of St. Joseph with Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, who was apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in June.

**Bottom right:** From left, Rev. Carlos Piedrahita, TC formation faculty; Bishop Leonard Blair of Hartford; newly ordained Rev. Anthony Federico; and his TC classmate, Deacon Jaime Maldonado-Avilés.





## Seminarians Abroad: A Window on Summer 2019

### Fellowship at Auschwitz



**Brian Ashmankas**  
*Third Theology,*  
*Diocese of Worcester*

During the last two weeks of June, I participated in a fellowship with 13 others who are on the path to religious leadership in numerous denominations and faiths. The Fellowship at Auschwitz for the Study of

Professional Ethics (FASPE) is an intensive program in Germany and Poland which uses the conduct of clergy and religious leaders in Nazi-occupied Europe as a way to reflect on contemporary professional ethics. I applied to the program in the hopes that it would help answer questions about my role as a priest amidst ethical questions without clear answers, especially around obedience and where morality limits it as well as where humility requires it. The renewed scandal last summer brought this question even more dramatically to the fore and made my application even more relevant. With the FASPE, we studied firsthand the complicity of clergy during the Nazi rise to power, either as supporters or bystanders. Our program was led by a priest, Rev. Steven Bell, C.S.P., and Rabbi Aaron Bisno.

Our journey began in Berlin. This included visits to the Nazi Resistors Museum, where the few resistors of the Nazis were honored, and the Topography of Terror, where perpetrators and the nature of authoritarian regimes are studied. In these places, we learned how well known Hitler's policies of oppression and exclusion were, and of the power that priests and ministers had to effectively oppose these, although few did. I was especially moved here by the story of the White Rose, a faith-inspired group of mostly young people who distributed pamphlets as the "conscience of the German people." We also visited Wannsee, where the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question" was planned; Sachsenhausen, a concentration camp built during the 1936 Berlin Olympics 20 miles north of the city; and Brandenburg, where gas was first used for murder (of the disabled).

Our time in Poland was mostly centered around Krakow, a breathtakingly beautiful city that contrasted greatly with the evil that had taken place not far away in the German camp of Auschwitz. To enter Auschwitz was to feel the weight of pure evil pile on steadily. I saw where people were systematically robbed, dehumanized, and murdered. I then descended into the underground hell where Saint Maximillian Kolbe and others met their end. This place, on reflection, seemed to be the inverse Eucharist –

the source and summit of death by the Nazis. Ten years of injustice built up, nearly unresisted, coming to its full height in this sinister place. It was also the source of so much destruction and hatred as it spread complicity, imposed trauma, and sowed division. There was an echo of hope, however. The barracks where so many spent their last days are rotting away and many gas chambers have been blown up; grass, trees, and animals have now reclaimed what was once a place of indescribable suffering and loss. God and life do prevail in the end over evil and death, even if the consequences of human evil are significant and long-lasting.

This fellowship taught me how easily seemingly small injustices grow into grave ones if left unchecked. It also gave me a sense of urgency and empowerment in facing the many evils in our world and Church today. The horrible consequences of the complicity of many clergy with the early injustices of the Nazis left me with a lifelong commitment. I believe that the influence I will have as a priest gives me a duty to not play the victim, to avoid being a bystander, and to always be a resistor of evil and injustice. To do anything less would be complicity. ■

### Spanish Immersion in Mexico



**Gabe Bouck**  
*Third Theology,*  
*Diocese of Memphis*

The Diocese of Memphis has a thriving Hispanic community, which is growing. Most of the parishes in our diocese offer a Spanish Mass each week. To prepare to minister to this growing contingent, our

seminarians who do not speak Spanish natively are required to spend a summer in a Spanish immersion environment. I requested a placement in Guadalajara, Mexico. I had two reasons for this request. First, the great majority of the Latino community in Memphis is from Mexico and I wanted to learn about their home and their beautiful culture. Second, the people I know who have participated in this particular program are some of the best Spanish speakers I know, so I knew it would be effective — and it certainly proved to be! But it didn't come without its struggles, one of the most difficult for me being that of loneliness.

Seminary can be a great environment for fostering a close-knit community of like-minded brothers who support one another and love each other. This has been my experience here at Theological College. I have heard from many priests that one of the hardest adjustments of priesthood is going from built-in community at

the seminary to the do-it-yourself project of finding that community in your brother priests and parishioners. One of the hardest parts of this summer for me was going to an entirely different country where I not only knew absolutely no one, but I couldn't even communicate with the people I had met! I found myself in a sort of "relational desert."

In the midst of one-on-one classes six hours a day, and the ensuing mental coma, I found it very difficult to find time to spend with others. But, thankfully, a group of seminarians from Mobile, Ala., came down about a week after I arrived and proved to be a real gift of community for me. We were able to take a few trips and, finally, we made a pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

During my time in Mexico over the summer, one thing became very clear: Our Lady of Guadalupe is as much a symbol of Mexico as is the Mexican flag. To be Mexican is to be Guadalupano. And for me, having the opportunity to go to this national shrine and pray in front of Our Lady's image on Juan Diego's tilma was one of the greatest gifts I have ever received. I look forward to returning to Our Lady in Mexico and, God willing, leading pilgrimages there as a priest. My appreciation for the language learning I achieved is accompanied by the deep love I developed for my Mexican brothers and sisters and a sincere gratitude for their custody of this unbelievable pilgrimage site. ¡Viva Cristo Rey! ■

### A summer in Vietnam



**Peter Bui**  
*First Theology,*  
*Diocese of Worcester*

This past summer I had the opportunity to spend seven weeks in Vietnam. I have lived in the U.S. my entire life, so I definitely experienced a culture shock. During my first week there, I saw a whole family

riding on a moped: in the front sat a child, behind him was his mother, behind her was another child, then came the father, and a smaller child at the end! I could not believe it, but apparently this is the norm there. From the outset, I knew that I had much to learn about Vietnamese society and culture.

My mornings usually started at 4 a.m. because, in the part of town in which I lived, Mass began at 4:30 a.m., which allowed people to go to Mass before heading to work. Each morning, volunteers would ring the bells on the bell tower to wake up the neighborhood. I witnessed that the parishioners expressed immense devotion and love for the Catholic faith and, in many respects, the Church was central to their lives.

Since my return, people often ask me, "What did you like most about Vietnam?" And my response has not changed. What I admire most about the Vietnamese people is the fact that they stress the importance of teaching and living values that promote close-knit, loyal, and loving families. On important holidays, regardless of where one might be in the country, parents and their children are expected to get together to celebrate. One young man said that during his years in college, when it was time to celebrate the New Year, he would travel from the city to the countryside by boat to see his parents; this was a 24-hour boat ride that left passenger tightly crammed with little room to breathe. But the whole ordeal was worthwhile to him because it enabled him to spend a week with his parents, siblings, and distant relatives.

I was able to grow in many ways through this immersion experience. Despite the common challenges associated with learning a language, my Vietnamese speaking and reading proficiency improved tremendously. I am particularly grateful to my language teacher, Mr. Van. I did not become a linguistic expert in just seven weeks, but I can now do more than order from a Vietnamese take-out menu! In the future, I hope to be able to use my language skills to serve the Vietnamese community in my diocese. ■



### Student Government Association 2019–2020

The 2019–20 Student Government Association, from left: Treasurer, Jason Allan (3-T, Fort Worth); Hispanic Affairs Chair, Michael Kieler (3-T, St. Augustine); Community Life Chair, Scott Barkhe (2-T, Memphis); President, Brett Metzler (3-T, Fort Worth); Social Justice Chair, Nic Cochran (1-T, Wheeling-Charleston); Secretary, Philip Decker (3-T, Richmond); and Prayer and Worship Chair, William Buckley (2-T, Richmond). Class representatives (not pictured here): Fourth Theology, Deacon Ryan Hiaeshutter (Dallas); Third Theology, Thomas Lawrence (Richmond); Second Theology, Gregory Schettini (Dallas); First Theology, Michael Golla (Corpus Christi); Pre-Theology, Patrick (Cole) McDowell (Louisville); and Basselin Scholars, Mitchell Carson (Cleveland).



# Orientation Week

For the 2019-20 academic and formation year at Theological College and Catholic University, TC welcomed 18 new seminarians from 12 different dioceses. Throughout the day on August 20, 2019, the TC orientation team greeted each new seminarian with helping hands for the move, hospitality for family and friends, and blessings of each room by TC’s deacons on the orientation team. The following day, Wednesday, was dedicated to spirituality, beginning with Eucharist offered by Father Leonardo Gajardo, P.S.S., director of Liturgy, and ending with a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Night Prayer, and Benediction. On Thursday, new seminarians focused on getting academically situated and familiar with the University campus. And Friday’s community life briefings revealed the seminary calendar, the Rule of Life, and the Student Government Association, and concluded with a cookout for the entire TC community of new and returning seminarians, student priests, and faculty. Saturday’s highlight marked a TC milestone: the blessing of the new priests residence in Providence Hall by Very Rev. John Kemper, P.S.S. (see p. 6). Finally, after a morning dedicated to prayer and an early afternoon of individual and group photos, the staff and University President John Garvey arrived to join the community for the opening Mass, reception, and dinner to celebrate the start of what promises to be another fruitful year of formation at Theological College. The goal and aim of this week of transition is echoed below, in a TC deacon’s reflection on the tradition of the orientation welcome and new room blessings, a beautiful way to begin a year of facing the exciting challenges all will encounter in answering God’s call of discernment.

## Christ in Our Midst

**Elmer Herrera-Guzmán**  
*Fourth Theology, Diocese of Dallas*

“May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts and may the word of Christ in all its richness dwell in us, so that whatever we do in word and in work, we will do in the name of the Lord.” This is the concluding prayer for the rite of blessing a new home. This is the prayer I used to bless the rooms for our new seminarians this year and it marks many points of transition for all those present. I am recently ordained, so these are the first blessings I have done as a deacon. For my brothers joining us this year, the whole experience is new and probably confusing. Yet, the first thing we invite them to do is to quiet down and think of the one who called us first. We invite Christ to be present in our confusion,

in the midst of transitions, and we first and foremost welcome him into our new space. What a gift!

There are so many people involved in making this week possible. We must be thankful for our TC staff and faculty, our student body, and all those involved in making this a great place to live. It is a physical and intellectual effort to get everything set up and running while also planning the logistics of orientation. In addition to being an exercise in patience and commitment, being on the orientation team is the finest exercise of love and charity that I have witnessed. It is so impressive to see the example of my brothers when they engage in hospitality, giving a warm welcome to our new seminarians and their families, as soon as they arrive at the front when suddenly (as I have heard it being described by a seminarian) “a swarm of busy bees” come down to the cars to carry belongings to the new rooms. The elevator was not working for one of the guys living on the fifth floor, so these heroic men took everything up the stairs. That is what I call commitment to their post! Their efforts will not be forgotten and, for our new men, instead of seeing a new and confusing place of studies, they are privileged to witness what makes Theological College a great place: our desire to serve and witness to Christ by our word in prayer and our work to help them. For them we hope it is clear that we have done all this “in the name of the Lord” and for his Glory!!



Deacon Elmer Herrera-Guzmán blesses the room of David Birkdale (1-T, New York) during move-in day.

# Annual Hike in West Virginia

**Jonathan Pham**  
*Third Basselin, Diocese of Rockville Centre*

The Outdoor Rec Committee is a subcommittee of the Community Life Committee at Theological College. Outdoor Rec organizes a variety of activities like backpacking, kayaking, cycling, and skiing. The committee seeks to foster a community and fraternity among those seminarians who have a love for the outdoors.

Over the Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 31 to Sept. 2, the Outdoor Rec Committee organized a three-day backpacking and camping trip to the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area, in the Allegheny Mountains of eastern West Virginia. Ten seminarians — experienced and non-experienced hikers — embarked on the outdoor adventure along with the trip’s chaplain, Rev. Leonardo Gajardo,



P.S.S., TC’s Director of Liturgy. The seminarians traversed a 20-mile loop that offered stunning views of the Allegheny Mountains. Most of the time on the trip was spent around the campfire, which presented opportunities for cooked meals, wonderful conversations, and stargazing, as well as prayer, which was the core of the trip. The Divine Office was prayed in common, and Father Gajardo offered daily Mass. This hiking trip was a welcomed occasion for the seminarians to exercise leisure before entering back into the full swing of the seminary life of formation, apostolates, and classes. We look forward to more excursions sponsored by the Outdoor Rec Committee, to strengthen our fraternal bond as we escape the busy city life of D.C. and wonder at God’s creation. ■

## VETERANS DAY Seminarian Profile: A Soldier of Our Nation Becomes a Soldier for Jesus Christ



**Stephen C. Wong,**  
*First Pre-Theology,  
Archdiocese of Washington*

On July 1, 2019, I left a 40-year career with the U.S. Army and retired my counterintelligence badge for a long-overdue service to God. I’m a native of Kingston, Jamaica, and of Chinese ancestry. My ancestors came to Jamaica in the late 18th century as indentured laborers. My family and I immigrated to the U.S. in 1979, leaving behind a period of violence and political unrest. Although I grew up embracing the Jamaican culture, I recognize that much of the Chinese culture has left an influence on the country as well.

Given my family’s financial struggle and challenges from migrating to America, our Lord led me to a direction of service different than what I had originally envisioned. One day, while I was sitting at a mall, I saw a man in some sort of uniform. Curious, I approached him and inquired as to the nature of his job. Unbeknownst to me, he was an Army recruiter. After much deliberation, I felt the Lord wanted me to serve him, but first he wanted me to serve as a soldier in my new country, a means by which I could help integrate myself into a society with which I was unfamiliar.

While unclear at the time, the Lord was laying the groundwork by allowing me to successfully serve in the “wilderness” for 40 years. In the U.S. Army, I worked in an array of complex jobs and in diverse environments. As a soldier in federal civilian service, I supervised global counterintelligence and human intelligence operations and activities. My work required world travel to support U.S. interests. My final job prior to entering the seminary was as the Director of Operations for Counterintelligence in support of the NATO Supreme Commander, primarily working on threats and Russian malign influence impacting the U.S. and NATO allies. I had spent the past 16 years overseas, bouncing back and forth between Asia and Europe. My combat tours include deployments in the Persian Gulf, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Iraq, Korea, and Afghanistan.

Despite my successful and progressive career, I had always felt a void in my life. I could not really put my finger on it until two years ago when my heart was drawn to the Liturgy of the Hours and I fell so deeply and passionately in love with Jesus Christ. I knew the work at hand had incredible implications beyond myself. The more I prayed and read the breviary, the more Jesus Christ revealed his calling to me. The connection further intensified while attending a Mass when I experienced the Eucharist in a way that meant more to me than ever before. I was more awake and the words from the priest were amplified. I knew and felt the Holy Spirit leading me to a change in direction — to leave behind everything and follow him. As I have served my nation, Jesus Christ is now leading me to serve his people. ■



# Pastoral Year Reflections: Part I

By Alexandre Jiménez de Alcântara, Pastoral Year, Diocese of Richmond



Alex Jiménez, right, helps parishioners to clean and repair donated bicycles for the “Pass It On” event at St. Ann’s Church.

I can hardly believe I am already on my pastoral year. My first three years of seminary seem to have passed by in the blink of an eye. I now find myself at St. Ann’s Church, a parish of about 900 families and just 20 minutes south of Richmond, Va. I will be assigned here until August 2020. St. Ann’s is a community with a big heart and an inspiring commitment to social outreach. Since arriving, I have also had time to reflect upon what I wish to receive from my year here.

St. Ann’s is located in a small suburban town called Colonial Heights. It is a calm town that offers plenty of options for food and business. Some of the local restaurants here include several Italian eateries and a few Tex-Mex places – spots that my pastor and I have enjoyed frequenting for dinner

together. When my pastor and I are not eating dinner out you can usually find us enjoying a home-cooked meal prepared for us by St. Ann’s parishioners.

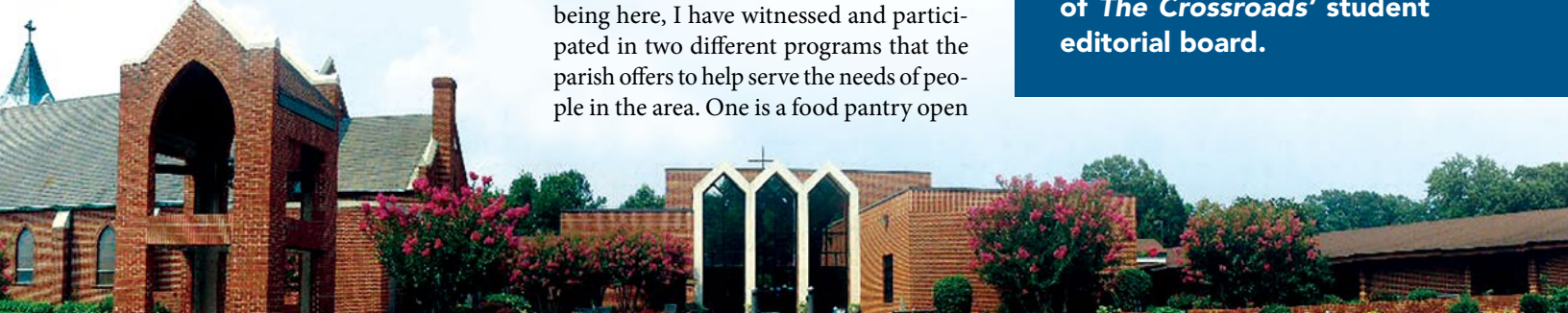
This has been one of the most touching aspects of my assignment here thus far — namely, that the parishioners have been so generous towards me, especially because they want to make sure that I am well fed while at the parish. People have brought hot-and-ready meals to the two of us at church, they have taken us out to eat, they have invited us to their homes, and one family has even delivered a couple of hot meals directly to our rectory. I am so grateful for the care and love offered to me since arriving at St. Ann’s.

I have discovered that this care and love also extend to the wider community. Since being here, I have witnessed and participated in two different programs that the parish offers to help serve the needs of people in the area. One is a food pantry open

daily between 1:00–2:00 p.m., operated by several parishioner and nonparishioner volunteers. The second program is a biannual event called “Pass It On.” For this event, parishioners donate to the parish various unwanted items, such as clothes, books, toys, bicycles, and other household objects. The parish then opens its doors on a Saturday morning to give away all the items to anybody who wants them. Over the years, St. Ann’s has served thousands of people through “Pass It On.” Just in the short time that I have been here, I have been inspired and edified to see this community’s deep commitment to reaching out and serving those in need.

While beginning my pastoral year, I have also had some time to reflect upon what I personally hope to receive from my time at St. Ann’s. To put it simply, I hope to receive the grace to be able to say “yes” to the priesthood with all my heart. I have come to the point of personal certainty in the fact that God is inviting me to become a priest. I just pray for the grace to desire it as much as the Lord does for me. I am hoping that this year at St. Ann’s will be the time and place for this to happen. Whatever graces or challenges that God decides to send my way, I know it is bound to be an exciting year. ■

Watch for the spring issue’s Part II of this three-part series of pastoral year reflections from Alex Jiménez de Alcântara, who is a member of *The Crossroads’* student editorial board.



# HEALTHY LIVING FOR PRIESTS

## Combating Depletion in Pastoral Ministry

Rev. Chris Arockiaraj, P.S.S., Ph.D., Director of Pastoral Formation

One of the compelling issues that affects flourishing and efficacious pastoral ministry is depletion, and the resulting devitalization. It can come about as a result of pastoral overwork, burnout, and exhaustion. An empirical study conducted among newly ordained priests<sup>[1]</sup> explains the situation of pastoral demands and high expectations for Catholic priests who could be susceptible to burnout.

### Compassion Fatigue

A couple of significant factors leading to burnout are compassion fatigue and depersonalization. These factors are unique to caregivers, especially the clergy population. The routine overwork of pastoral ministry, especially in inner-city parishes, parishes with trauma hospitals, hate crimes, and frequent funerals and committal services seems to numb the feelings of compassion in pastors and ministers and leads them to compassion fatigue. Studies<sup>[2]</sup> show that compassion fatigue is the primary contributor for burnout in clergy. Thus, in many cases, priests experience compassion fatigue as their energy and coping mechanisms are burnt out in the process of showing compassion to alleviate the suffering and pain of those they serve. Compassion is possible when the following four components are present: 1.) an awareness of another’s pain, perception of reality, and psychological

state; 2.) a feeling of kindness; 3.) a desire to alleviate another’s suffering; and 4.) doing what is within one’s power and ability to alleviate suffering.<sup>[3]</sup> Compassion fatigue (apathy and indifference) can occur when a caregiver emotionally and profoundly involves himself or herself in the suffering of the care receiver for a long period of time without any break or self-care. Sometimes compassion fatigue may lead to depletion, poor performance, and even secondary traumatic stress when the caregiver witnesses the trauma of the care receiver either directly or indirectly. In an empirical study,<sup>[4]</sup> it was reported that 54 percent of the physician population experiences compassion fatigue and burnout at some point during their careers. Though compassion fatigue is common among caregivers, Catholic priests seem to be more vulnerable as they do not generally differentiate their pastoral ministry from their personal life in their total self-giving in service of the needy and the suffering for the sake of Christ.

### Depersonalization

Depersonalization<sup>[5]</sup> happens as a result of an overload of routine work without any break for a long period of time, during which a person loses a sense of self and of his or her surroundings. Depersonalization is manifested when a person detaches himself or herself from reality and takes shel-

ter in pretext. Thus, the person responds negatively or indifferently to care receivers. Persons experiencing depersonalization are generally cynical, hostile, irritated, and lonely. Leslie Francis, Stephen Loudon, and Christopher Rutledge report that 27 percent of Catholic priests said that they are less patient with their parishioners than they used to be and about 26 percent of them said that they found it difficult to listen to others’ problems and concerns.<sup>[6]</sup>

### Keys to Prevent Compassion Fatigue and Depersonalization (CF&D)

1. Develop self-awareness and self-acceptance (monitor any situation or behavior that might lead you to CF&D: unhealthy pastoral leadership style, workload, frustration, ministry with lack of motivation, draining routine pastoral performance, etc.).
2. Share possible symptoms, feelings, and episodes related to CF&D with your spiritual director, counselor, priest support group, a close friend, etc.
3. Do not miss your day off, sabbatical, or annual retreat — maximize the benefits and reenergize yourself.
4. Use mindfulness techniques and develop a habit of theological reflection.
5. Manage time for a balanced lifestyle (spiritual practices, ministry, relaxation, social life). ■

<sup>[1]</sup> Dr. Dean R. Hoge, *The First Five Years of the Priesthood: A Study of Newly Ordained Catholic Priests* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2002).

<sup>[2]</sup> J. Louis Spencer, et al., “Validating a Practitioner’s Instrument Measuring the Level of Pastors’ Risk of Termination/Exit from the Church: Discovering Vision Conflict and Compassion Fatigue as Key Factors” (2009).

<sup>[3]</sup> Amy B. Wachholtz and Michelle Pearce, “Compassion and Health” in *Spirit, Science, and Health: How the Spiritual Mind Fuels the Body*, Thomas G. Plante and Carl E. Thoresen, eds.

(Westport, CT: Praeger/Greenwood, 2007), 115–128, quoted in Plante, *The Psychology of Compassion and Cruelty* (Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2015), 191.

<sup>[4]</sup> John-Henry Pfifferling, “Can You Care Too Much?” *Hippocrates* (April 1994): 32–33.

<sup>[5]</sup> In this article, I use the term “depersonalization” not to signify any sort of psychiatric disorder, but to indicate a state of being insensitive to the needs of care-recipients as outlined in “Maslach Burnout Inventory” (Christina Maslach, Susan Jackson, and Michael Leiter, “Maslach Burnout Inventory,” in *Evaluating*

*Stress: A Book of Resources*, Carlos P. Zalaquett and Richard J. Wood, eds. (London: Scarecrow Press, 1997).

<sup>[6]</sup> Stevan E. Hobfoll, “The Influence of Culture, Community and the Nested-Self in the Stress Process: Advancing Conservation of Resources Theory,” *Applied Psychology: An International Review*, 50, no. 3 (2001): 337–421; Leslie J. Francis, Stephen Loudon, & Christopher J. F. Rutledge, “Burnout among Roman Catholic Parochial Clergy in England and Wales: Myth or Reality?” *Review of Religious Research* 46, no.1 (2004): 5–19.



# FACULTY AND STAFF



Theological College faculty for the 2019-20 formation year, from left: Rev. Jim Froehlich, O.F.M. Cap.; Rev. Chris Arockiaraj, P.S.S.; Rev. Carlos Piedrahita, Sulpician Cand.; Rev. Gerald McBrearity, P.S.S.; Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.; Rev. Leonardo Gajardo, P.S.S.; and Deacon Ed McCormack. Inset: Rev. Andrew Szablewski, P.S.S., formation faculty.



## New Vice-Rector

Effective July 1, the Society of St. Sulpice and the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas, announced the appointment of Rev. Hy Nguyen, P.S.S., as Rector of Assumption Seminary in San Antonio. This follows the resignation of Rev. Jaime Robledo, P.S.S., due to health issues. Father Nguyen has been Theological College's

Vice-Rector and Dean of Men since 2016, and also served as Director of Extern Spiritual Directors and Associate Director of Intellectual Formation. He taught Foundations of Catholicism at The Catholic University of America. Father Nguyen is no stranger to Assumption Seminary where he served from 2012 to 2014 as faculty mentor and Dean of Men as well as Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology at the Oblate School of Theology.

The Sulpician Provincial Council also approved the appointment of **Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.**, as the new Vice-Rector of Theological College. Father Ciriaco (see photo at top) has been on the formation faculty of TC for four years, serving as spiritual

director, Director of Basselin Scholars, and Associate Director of Intellectual formation. He also teaches Preaching Practicum at The Catholic University of America. Enthusiastic about taking on his new responsibilities, he commented, "I am happy and humbled to serve in this role as Vice-Rector because TC is a great seminary community to be a part of." ■

## Other Faculty News

**Rev. Carlos Piedrahita**, a Sulpician candidate who has been a part of the Theological College formation faculty for over a year, has accepted new responsibilities as Director of Intellectual Formation and Director of Basselin Scholars.

**Rev. Leonardo Gajardo, P.S.S. ('06)**, Director of Liturgy, also at TC since 2018, has recently earned his S.T.D. in liturgical theology from the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Sancta Croce) in Rome. ■

## Honoring the Legacy of Theodore Basselin

### Cornelia Hart

*Pastoral Formation Assistant  
Speech, Language, and Rhetoric Instructor*

Apart from ordinary humanity, what in the world could connect an actor, director, and public speaking coach with scholars, philosophers, and seminarians? The Basselin Foundation. This unlikely connection began with a phone call. But more on that later.

The Basselin Foundation fellowships were established to

fulfill the will of philanthropist Theodore Basselin (1851-1914) to provide a demanding special course of studies for diocesan seminarians, with a rather surprising requirement of "special attention to public speaking in view of later pastoral responsibilities."

Now back to the phone call. Sitting in the Pastoral Formation Office during the Spring of 2019, a call from CUA's Dean of the School of Philosophy was the last thing I expected. My husband and I have known Dr. McCarthy and his lovely family for some years as members of the same parish, but I was astonished when he asked me to teach the first of two classes in Speech, Language, and Rhetoric to the Basselin Scholars. I had prayed secretly (telling no one) that a door might open for me to use my skills for the Church and her seminarians and clergy and, as often happens when prayer is answered in an unexpected way, I had much to consider.

Through my years of teaching people how to perform Shakespeare, a method emerged to help them convincingly speak in that idiom clearly and confidently. It is based on some of my own training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, focusing on the development of good physical use of body and voice, confidence and precision in speech, and a deep appreciation for the English language. Adapting the approach to respect the vocational demands of seminarians has been a challenge and a joy. We work on the mechanics of voice production and speech, how to extract textual meaning, and using sound to express that meaning. We use Scripture — and a few great works of literature — to help attune our ears to the subtleties of language and its power to express the human condition. Sometimes the challenge of improving habits of posture or vocal use requires real humility, perseverance, and determination, leaning heavily on the scholarly discipline and interior lives of prayer that fuel the work of these remarkable young seminarians.

Ultimately, the long-term goal is to enable these men to communicate the love of Christ in freedom and charity, clearly and skillfully proclaiming the Good News. As Padre Pio once said, "getting out of God's way," is to be prepared, as Saint Paul instructed, to "preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching." (2 Tim 4:2) ■

## Sunder Michael Recognized by Sodexo

Sunder Michael, Theological College's multiservice general manager and executive chef, was recently awarded the Sodexo Gold Team Spirit Award. The highest global award given by Sodexo, it recognizes



Sunder Michael with his recent Gold Star Award. In the background, first-place leadership awards and "double gold" certificates received over the past seven years for Sodexo's perfect scores for the annual Health and Food Safety Audit conducted by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF).

Sunder's outstanding contribution in working to make each day a better day for over 400 of his colleagues in Sodexo's North American universities segment. Sunder was especially celebrated for creating a web-based app that would significantly reduce usage of temp labor and overtime hours within the organization.

Also recognized were his contributions on the 15-member general manager council team, which focuses on addressing organizational and operational issues affecting unit operators in the USA and Canada. Sunder has been tasked with engaging with other managers within the universities segment to help them further their quality of life by creating innovative solutions and initiating strategic plans to simplify their operations. In his current role, Sunder is also a district controller and hosts financial training calls to assist his fellow team members.

Sunder comments, "The supportive and collegial environment of Theological College has been a wonderful proving ground for best practices in management and in employee relations. I am happy to be able to share our positive experiences here, which have also inspired in me new and creative ideas that can benefit not only TC, but all general managers in North American universities." ■



The Basselin speech class with Cornelia Hart meets in the terrace-level conference room at TC.

“Preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching.”

2 Tim 4:2



# ALUMNI



## Class Notes

### 50s

**Rev. Paul E. Hulsman**, '58, of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, shared with *The Crossroads* that he is living as a retired priest at his parish church, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, in Louisville, Ky., where he celebrates Mass each Monday, teaches Scripture classes on the weekends, and assists the pastor with sacramental duties as needed.

### 60s

**Mr. John C. Schultz**, B'63, of the Diocese of Saginaw, graciously donated to Theological College shirts designed by his fellow Basselins, with the following description: *In 1962, it was decided that we should design a sweatshirt that featured the Basselin program. On the shield, the artists worked in the lamp of wisdom as well as a tree representing scholarship founder, Theodore Basselin, as lumber mag-*

*nate. When it was completed and distributed, one of the third-year men quipped: "Basselin College: an existing non-entity! Many thanks for his generosity in parting with his unique memorabilia from his time as a Basselin scholar in the early 1960s!*

**Monsignor James Gilg**, '66, of the Archdiocese of Omaha, a generous and faithful supporter of Theological College through the years, shared the following with *The Crossroads*: "I am so very grateful for my years at TC and pray that God will bless all of you in every way."

### 80s

**Rev. John E. List**, J.C.L., '85, of the Diocese of Lexington, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of St. Peter Church in Lexington to serve as pastor of St. William Church in Lancaster, which includes responsibility for its mission church, St. Sylvester in Ottenheim. Additionally,

Lombardi, Joe Tyson, Robert Barron, Jeff Vandenheuvel, Greg Bittner, Fred Cowey, Mitch Rozanski, John Abe, Chris Walsh, John Barres, and many others.

We learned that, in his spare time, Monsignor Hirsch is promoting the cause for sainthood of Casa Hogar's founder, Father Joseph Walijewski. While the brief reunion of three TC graduates on another continent more than 30 years after their TC days does not qualify as a miracle for Father Walijewski's cause, the miracle is that the mystical body of Christ had clearly bound the lives of all gathered during those 10 days of pilgrimage. Thank you Sulpicians and Theological College! *Deo Gratias!* ■

Father List's duties as judicial vicar for the Diocese of Lexington will continue, an office he has faithfully served for more than 27 years.

**Rev. John J. Wagner III**, '87, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of Church of the Redeemer in Mechanicsville to serve as pastor of Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Richmond.

**Rev. William Platt**, '88, of the Diocese of Bridgeport, has been named pastor of the newly merged parish in Greenwich called the Parish of St. Catherine of Siena and St. Agnes, while continuing to serve as the director of diocesan hospital chaplains.

### 90s

**Rev. Timothy J. Nadeau**, '91, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), was transferred from his ministry as pastor of Prince of Peace Parish in Lewiston, Holy Trinity Parish in Lisbon Falls, and Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Sabattus to serve as parochial vicar of Stella Maris Parish, St. Joseph Parish, and the Parish of the Transfiguration of the Lord, cluster parishes comprised of 10 churches in the diocese.

### 00s

**Rev. Anthony Marques**, V.F., '06, of the Diocese of Richmond, was named rector of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond in June, followed by his appointment as dean of Deanery 6 in August, after serving as pastor at St. Benedict's Church in Richmond.

**Rev. Gregory P. Dube**, '07, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine) has been appointed director of the seminarians for the diocese while continuing to serve as rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland and as pastor of the Portland Peninsula & Island Parishes.



Dominican seminarians Tyler Santy (B '17), now Brother Gregory (left), and Nicholas Hebert (B '18), now Brother Bertrand, stopped in to TC in August to visit TC seminarians on the orientation team.

**Rev. Chris Seibt**, J.C.L., '13 (B '08), of the Diocese of Syracuse, has been appointed administrator of Divine Mercy Parish and the Mission of St. Bernadette in Central Square, N.Y., and to serve as director of the Office of Liturgy and Tribunal Advocate for the Syracuse diocese.

**Rev. John David Ramsey**, '08, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Newport News to serve as pastor of St. Benedict Church in Richmond.

**Rev. David Pickens**, '09, of the Diocese of Paterson, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of St. Ann Church in Parsippany to serve as pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Church in Parsippany.

### 10s

**Rev. Kyle Doustou**, '14, (B '10), of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), has been appointed interim director of campus ministry for the diocese while continuing his assignment as the new pastor of the cluster parish, Parish of the Resurrection of the Lord.

**Rev. Aaron M. Qureshi**, '10, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at St. Peter Parish in Olney, Md., to serve as administrator of the Catholic Community of St. Catherine of Alexandria

Parish in McConchie, and St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in Hilltop.

**Rev. Jack Dickinson**, J.C.L., '11, of the Diocese of Portland, Maine, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at Good Shepherd Parish in Saco to serve as parochial vicar at St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish in Sanford.

**Rev. Daniel Carson**, '12, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been appointed as Vicar for Clergy and Assistant Secretary for Ministerial Leadership, while continuing as pastor of St. John Vianney Parish in Prince Frederick, Md.

**Rev. Charles E. Luckett**, '14, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at St. Elizabeth Parish in Rockville, Md., to serve as parochial vicar at St. Jane de Chantal Parish in Bethesda, and to serve as chaplain for the youth programs of the Boy Scouts of America for the Archdiocese of Washington.

**Rev. Louis Masi**, B '14, of the Archdiocese of New York, has been assigned as parochial vicar at St. Mary Mother of the Church in Fishkill. After his ordination in 2018, he served at St. Gregory the Great in Harrison for his summer assignment, then returned to Rome for further studies.

**Rev. Kyle O'Connor**, B '14, ordained by Bishop Barry C. Knestout on June 1 for

## Alumni Reunion

**Wayne Barry**, *Class of 1987*

At first glance, Lurin, Peru, was an unlikely place for three alumni of Theological College to have an impromptu reunion, but such was the case this past August 7–16, when Monsignor Roger Scheckel (Lacrosse, '84) invited Dr. Wayne Barry (Richmond, '87) to accompany him, Monsignor Sebastian Kolodziejczyk (Lacrosse), and two dozen parishioners on a visit to the Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II orphanage that the Diocese of Lacrosse founded in 1985. Monsignor Joseph Hirsch (Lacrosse, '86), director of the 64-child orphanage, graciously hosted the 24 guests from North America and led tours of several Peruvian sites and wonders: Lima, Cusco, Paracas, the Sacred Valley, and Machu Picchu. As majestic

as the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu are, the highlight of the trip was eating with and interacting with the children and their eight parent-teachers (Casa Hogar is modeled after Boys Town Home in Omaha, Neb.), and experiencing the Christian love lived there.

The precious little time the TC grads had together privately brought to light many names from the 1980s at TC and Catholic University: Tony Lobo, Al Giaquinto, Joe Bonadio, Geno Walsh, Mel Blanchette, Gerry McBrearity, Charlie Curran, Avery Dulles, Carl Peter, Patrick Granfield, Joseph Fitzmyer, Gerry Austin, Elizabeth Johnson, Allanah Cleary, Ann Stango, Lucy Malarkey, Phil Brown, Gregory Kandt, Damian Muller, Ron Damian, Jack



the Diocese of Richmond, served over the summer as parochial vicar of St. Bridget in Richmond. He returned to complete graduate studies at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Rome, in October.

**Rev. Michael Ruminski,** '14, of the Archdiocese of Hartford, shared with *The Crossroads* that after having been named administrator for the newly merged parish, Our Lady of Hope, in November of 2016, he was named its pastor in June of 2017, and continues his work as the director of the Office of Divine Worship for the archdiocese as well. Currently, at the request of Archbishop Blair, Father Ruminiski has begun studies at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake for his M.A.L.S. degree, finishing the first year of the five-year program for this degree this summer.

**Rev. Matthew Kiehl,** '15, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Andrew Church in Roanoke, and chaplain and teacher at Roanoke Catholic School, to chaplain of the Catholic Campus Ministry serving the College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, and as rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, also in Williamsburg.

**Rev. John Large,** '15, of the Diocese of Trenton, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at the Parish of St. Thomas in Manalapan to serve as administrator of St. Theresa Catholic Church in Little Egg Harbor.

**Rev. Keith T. Burney,** '16, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at St. Jane de Chantal Parish in Bethesda to serve as parochial vicar at the Shrine of the Little Flower Parish in Bethesda.

**Rev. Colin P. Davis,** '16, of the Diocese of Arlington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Fredericksburg to serve as parochial vicar at St. John the Apostle Parish in Leesburg.

**Rev. Ryan I. Pineda,** '16, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at Holy Redeemer Parish in Kensington, Md., to serve as parochial vicar at St. Peter Parish in Olney.

**Rev. Miguel Melendez,** '17, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Church in Harrisonburg to serve as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Newport News.

**Rev. Casey Sanders,** '17, of the Archdiocese of Louisville, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at St. James Church in Elizabethtown to obtain his J.C.L. degree from The Catholic University of America while in residence at Theological College.

**Rev. Andrew T. Wakefield,** '17, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at the Church of the Annunciation Parish in Washington, D.C., and assistant chaplain to the Catholic students and faculty at George Washington University in Washington, to serve as administrator of St. Joseph Parish in Beltsville, Md.

**Rev. Daniel Waruszewski,** '17, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at Immaculate Conception Parish in Washington to serve as parochial vicar of the Catholic parishes of Butler to include Sts. Andrew, Fidelis, Michael, Paul, and Peter, and to serve as director of youth and young adult ministries.

**Rev. Nicholas Redmond,** '18, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Newport News to serve as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Church in Petersburg. Additionally, Father Redmond has been appointed as associate director and promoter of vocations for the diocese.

**Rev. Matthew Browne,** '19, ordained by Bishop John O. Barres on June 22 for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, began his fifth year of study at Theological College to obtain his S.T.L. degree in Systematic Theology this fall after assisting at the Parish of St. Anthony of Padua in East Northport (N.Y.) during his summer assignment for his diocese.

**Rev. Brendan Dawson,** '19, ordained by Bishop David A. Zubik on June 29 for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, is serving as parochial vicar at Holy Spirit Parish in New Castle, Pa.

**Rev. Timothy Deely,** '19, ordained by Bishop David A. Zubik on June 29 for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, is serving as parochial vicar at the parishes in the Bellevue, Emsworth, and Franklin Park grouping: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bellevue; Saint John Neumann, Franklin Park; and Sacred Heart, Emsworth, Pa.

**Rev. David Egan, Jr.,** '19, ordained by Bishop David A. Zubik on June 29 for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, is serving as parochial vicar at the parishes in the Cranberry Township, Ellwood City, and Zelienople grouping: Saint Ferdinand, Cranberry Township; Saint Gregory, Evans City/Zelienople; and Holy Redeemer, Ellwood City/Koppel/Wampum, Pa.

**Rev. Anthony Federico,** '19, ordained by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on June 22 for the Archdiocese of Hartford, is serving as parochial vicar at the Parish of St. Bridget of Sweden in Cheshire, Conn.

**Rev. Walter Genito Jr.,** '19, ordained by Cardinal Timothy Dolan on May 25 for the Archdiocese of New York, this fall began his fifth year of study at Theological College to obtain his S.T.L. degree in Systematic Theology after assisting several parishes during his summer assignment for his archdiocese.

**Rev. Raymond Kalema,** '19, ordained by Bishop Thomas A. Daly on May 17 for the Diocese of Spokane, is serving as parochial vicar at the Walla Walla parishes of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Patrick, and St. Francis of Assisi in Walla Walla, Wash.

**Rev. Mingwei Li,** '19, ordained by Bishop David A. Zubik on June 29 for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, is serving as parochial vicar at the parishes in the Coraopolis, Crescent, Moon Township grouping:

Saint Catherine of Siena, Crescent; Saint Joseph, Coraopolis; and Saint Margaret Mary, Moon Township, Pa.

**Rev. Christopher Masla,** '19, ordained by Bishop Barry C. Knestout on June 1 for the Diocese of Richmond, is serving as parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Church in Harrisonburg, Va.

**Rev. Stefan Megyery,** '19, ordained by Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory on June 15 for the Archdiocese of Washington, is serving as parochial vicar at St. Elizabeth Church in Rockville, Md.

**Rev. Patrick Mullan,** '19, ordained by Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory on June 15 for the Archdiocese of Washington, is serving as parochial vicar at St. Patrick's Church in Rockville, Md.

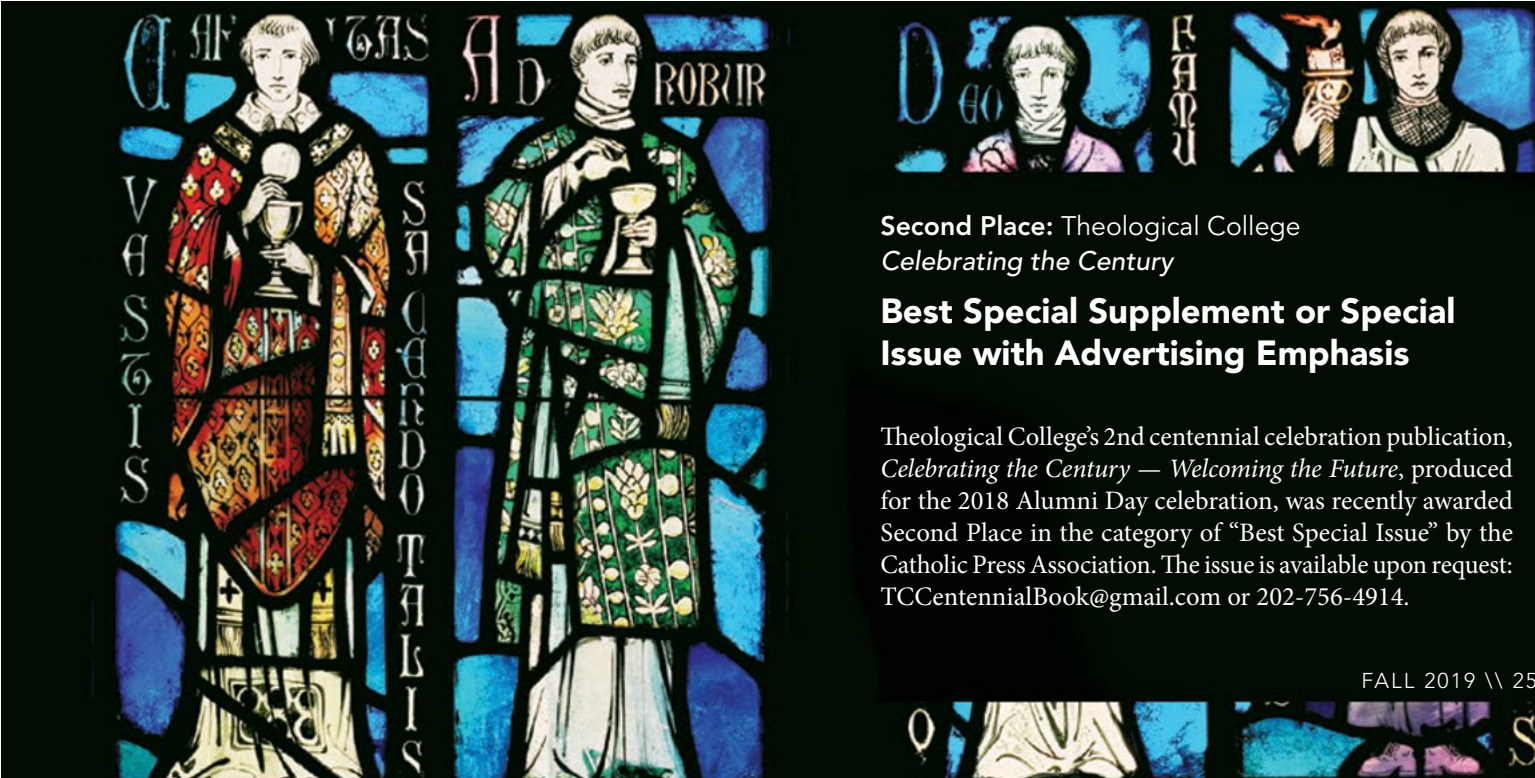
**Rev. Ramiro (RJ) Regalado,** '19, ordained by Bishop William M. Mulvey on June 8 for the Diocese of Corpus Christi, is serving as parochial vicar at Most Precious Blood Church in Corpus Christi, Tex.

**Rev. David Roman, Jr.,** '19, ordained by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano on June 1 for the Diocese of Bridgeport, is serving as parochial vicar at St. Aloysius Parish in New Canaan, Conn.

**Rev. Michael Russo,** '19, ordained by Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory on June 15 for the Archdiocese of Washington, is serving as parochial vicar (pro-tem) at St. Bernadette Church in Silver Spring, Md., and has begun his fifth year of study at Catholic University to obtain his S.T.L. degree in Systematic Theology.

**Rev. Cassidy Stinson,** '19, ordained by Bishop Barry C. Knestout on June 1 for the Diocese of Richmond, is serving as parochial vicar at St. Bede Church in Williamsburg, Va.

**Rev. Nye (Joseph) Wiley,** '19, ordained by Apostolic Administrator Bishop William E. Lori of Baltimore on June 1 for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, is serving as associate pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg, W. Va.

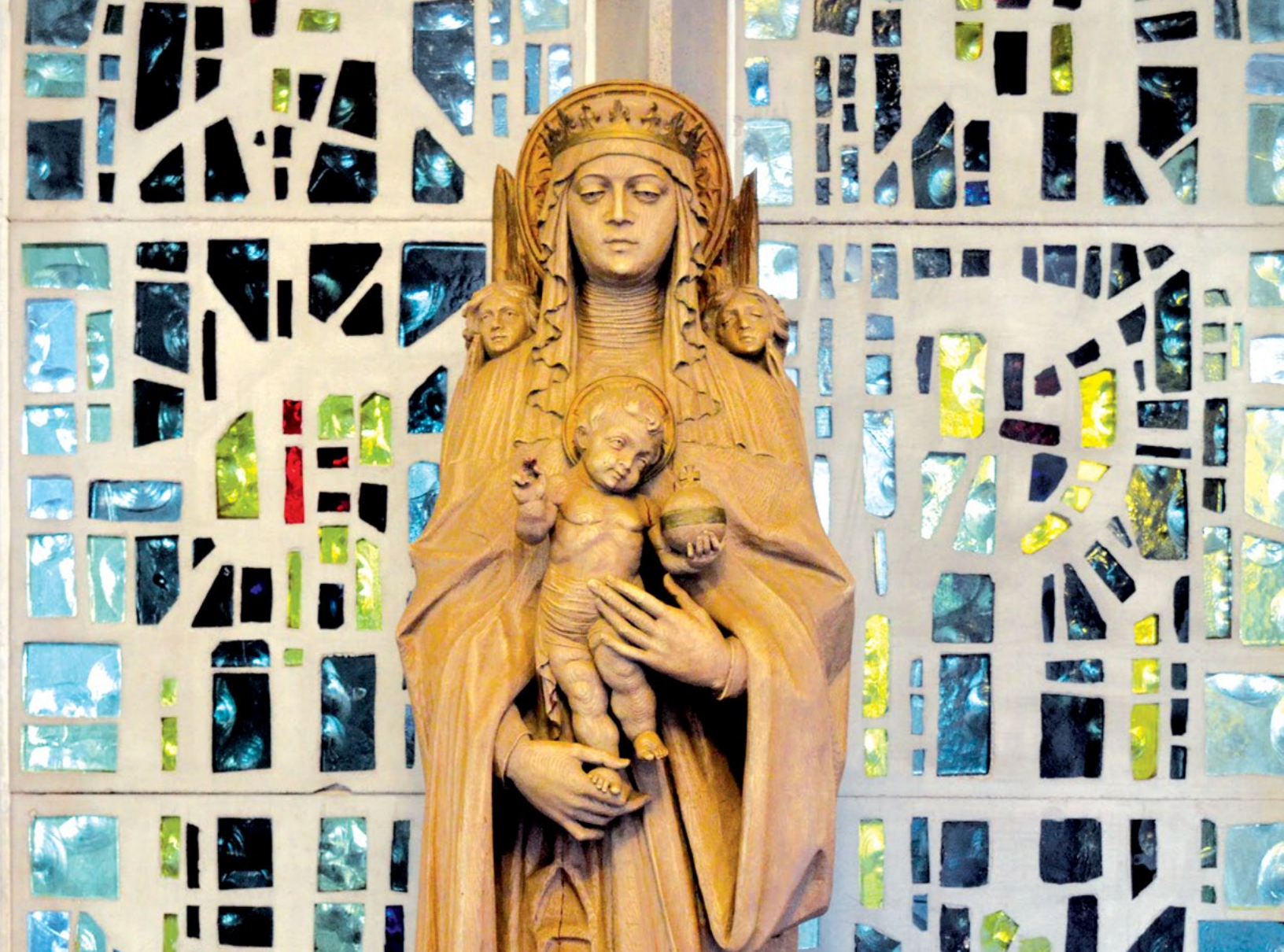


**Second Place:** Theological College  
*Celebrating the Century*

**Best Special Supplement or Special Issue with Advertising Emphasis**

Theological College's 2nd centennial celebration publication, *Celebrating the Century — Welcoming the Future*, produced for the 2018 Alumni Day celebration, was recently awarded Second Place in the category of "Best Special Issue" by the Catholic Press Association. The issue is available upon request: TCCentennialBook@gmail.com or 202-756-4914.





Celebrating its centennial birthday, this *Sedes Sapientiae* statue was designed and carved by Johannes Kirchmayer of Boston in 1919. It was originally located in the rear of the main chapel on a side altar and was moved outside the chapel to the refectory hallway in 1966 when the Blessed Sacrament Reservation Chapel and the stained glass windows were installed for the rededication on February 21, 1966, by Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle of Washington.

## In Memoriam



**Monsignor Walter J. Ziemba**, '51, died on June 8, 2012, at the age of 85. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Detroit on June 2, 1951, and was appointed to the Orchard Lake Schools' faculty in Orchard Lake, Mich., that same year. His dedicated priestly ministry spanned over 6 decades serving the

Orchard Lake Schools in numerous positions on the faculty and in administration, including teaching in the seminary and college, serving as librarian, serving as dean of St. Mary's College, and as rector-president-superintendent of the Orchard Lake Schools from 1967 through 1977. During his tenure as CEO of the schools,

Monsignor Ziemba hosted visits by Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, St. John Paul II, to the campus in 1969 and 1976, and served as translator-interpreter for the cardinal's visits to other areas of the United States. In 2001, he was awarded the 2001 Fidelitas Medal for "fidelity in serving God and country through the realization of the religious and cultural ideals of the forefathers" of the Orchard Lake Schools. His Eminence, Adam Cardinal Maida, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit, presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Monsignor Ziemba on June 12, 2012, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Orchard Lake, Orchard Lake, with interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorial donations may be made to the Orchard Lake Schools, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, MI 48324.



**Rev. Charles R. Dautremont**, B'57, died on August 28, 2018, at the age of 84. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Grand Rapids on December 18, 1960, at the North American College chapel in Rome. Father Dautremont's dedicated priestly ministry for the Grand Rapids diocese spanned more than five

decades and included service at eight parishes, before moving in 1996 to St. Dominic's Church in Wyoming, Mich., where he remained until his retirement. In addition to his parish duties, Father Dautremont served many years as the diocesan ecumenical officer and as the diocesan theologian. A former parishioner and friend of Father Dautremont remembered him fondly at his passing as a "devout reader and teacher, [who] gave his life to Christ and doing what's right. A sad loss here, but a great gain in heaven; he will be missed by so many." Most Reverend David Walkowiak, Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Father Dautremont on September 6, 2018, at St. Dominic's Church, Grand Rapids, with interment at Resurrection Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Priests' Retirement Fund for the diocese.



**Rev. James B. Sullivan**, '58, died on September 3, 2017, at the age of 84. Father Sullivan was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Newark on May 31, 1958, by Archbishop Boland at Sacred Heart Basilica in Newark. Prior to his studies for the priesthood, Father Sullivan earned a master's degree at Fordham

University and a Ph.D. in classical languages from Yale University. Upon ordination, Father Sullivan began teaching classical languages at Seton Hall Divinity School where he was subsequently named director. He later served as the director of the college seminary department of the National Catholic Education Association in Washington, D.C. After serving as parochial vicar at St. Francis parish in Newark, Father Sullivan was appointed as pastor of Holy Trinity parish in Fort Lee, where he remained in dedicated service until his retirement in 2002. At this time, he resided at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament parish in Roseland where he was actively involved in parish life even though retired. Father Sullivan was devoted to his family, both in the U. S. and Ireland, and celebrated the baptisms, weddings, and funerals of his loved

ones here and abroad. Additionally, he was a renowned preacher and was fondly remembered as "an inspiring example of priesthood." Mass of Christian burial was offered for Father Sullivan on September 7, 2017, at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, Roseland, with interment at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Upper Montclair. Memorial donations may be made to St. John's Soup Kitchen, P.O. Box 200147, 22 Mulberry St., Newark, NJ 07102-5202 or Alzheimer's Association, 3 Eves Dr., Suite 310, Marlton, NJ 08053.



**Monsignor Joseph F. Hanley Jr.**, '68, died on November 2, 2017, at the age of 75. Before entering Theological College for his studies for the priesthood, he attended Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md., and was a graduate of The Catholic University of America, earning a B.A. in mathematics. Monsignor

Hanley received a master's in religion and religious education upon completion of his seminary studies at TC. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Charleston on May 25, 1968, by Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. Monsignor Hanley's dedicated priestly ministry, which spanned more than four decades, included service at nine parishes throughout the Diocese of Charleston, with his longest assignment as pastor at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church and School in Charleston for 18 years. Monsignor Hanley's last assignment was serving as pastor at Holy Family Church on Hilton Head Island from which he retired in February 2017. Additionally, Monsignor Hanley served as a chaplain at Wofford, Converse, and Spartanburg Junior Colleges, a moderator of the Greenville Deanery Catholic Youth Organization, and was a member of the priests' senate, the diocesan personnel board and presbyteral council, the college of consultants, and the Bishop's Curia. He was also vicar forane of the coastal deanery. Monsignor Hanley was remembered as "a kind, gentle, devoted man whose life was an example for all to follow. He was a pastor's pastor." Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone, Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Monsignor Hanley on November 6, 2017, at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Charleston, with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery, Charleston. Memorial donations may be made to Catholic Charities, 901 Orange Grove Rd., Charleston, SC, 29407.





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