

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

# *the* **Crossroads**

The Alumni Magazine for Theological College | Fall 2020



50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE  
IN PASTORAL FORMATION

2020 ORDINATIONS

EXTERNAL FORUM





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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.



04

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXCELLENCE  
IN PASTORAL FORMATION**

This year marks the 50th anniversary of TC's Pastoral Formation Program, whose yearlong celebration was inaugurated on October 19 with a Rector's Conference by Rev. Mark Knestout, the 2020 recipient of the Excellence in Pastoral Supervision Award.

**ORDINATIONS 2020**

Five deacons and nine alumni priests from TC were ordained between May and August, during this time of unique circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.



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**Cover:** Created by an Italian artist named Pellegrini and installed in the main chapel in 1926, restorations to this statue were made in 1987 by a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Washington, now Rev. George E. Stuart (Class of 1989). Today, this beautiful image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is in the main lobby at TC, inspiring seminarians daily during this challenging time (see the following letter from the rector).



**EXTERNAL FORUM**

Theological College was not only the first U.S. seminary with a pastoral ministry program, but it was also the first to introduce the "external forum" component integral to formation advising.







# Turning to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.  
Rector



In the foyer of Theological College, as one looks to the right of the main entrance doors before exiting the building, there is an impressive wooden statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in a niche. The large statue was donated to the seminary in the early years of its opening and it used to grace the front altar area of the chapel. It is the work of an Italian artist named Pellegrini and it was completed and installed in 1926. Christ points one of his hands toward his heart arrayed in gold. Countless seminarians have gazed upon this statue and offered their prayers to the Heart of Jesus! They trusted their prayers to him in their struggles and difficulties as well as in their joys and triumphs during their time here at the seminary as they prepared for a life of ministry.

As it was then, so it is now. More than ever we turn to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for comfort and guidance during these trying times. How appropriate, as the year 2020 marks two anniversaries associated with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is the 100th anniversary (1920) of the canonization of the visionary of the Sacred Heart, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. It is also the 300th anniversary (1720) of the first public consecration and worship of the Sacred Heart devotion in Marseille, as, during a ravaging pestilence, the people there turned to the Sacred Heart for help — marking the beginning of that city’s deliverance from the final outbreak of the bubonic plague in Western Europe.

Now, in 2020, we face a similar situation with a type of plague (COVID-19) that threatens our world. Just as the statue of the Sacred Heart here at TC strengthened and encouraged seminarians in the past, so it does for us today. We are blessed to have been able to open the seminary for the 2020 fall semester amidst this pandemic. We are following the proper protocols to assist

us in our daily living. Seminarians have risen to the occasion to navigate through these days with faith, charity, and great patience. We know this too will pass, but as we live with Zoom classes and limited interactions, we are learning how to minister to God’s people with compassion and understanding through the lessons of COVID-19.

As Pope Francis has written in his latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti* (released on October 4, 2020): “No one can face life in isolation ... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together ... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together. Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all.” What a beautiful way to face this pandemic together. What a beautiful way to prepare priests to face the challenges ahead. Father Jean-Jacques Olier wrote, “The priest should be entirely consumed in Christ through love.” May this issue of *The Crossroads* communicate that love experienced here at Theological College as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Pastoral Formation Program.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us!  
Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, pray for us!

May God be praised,  
*Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.*  
Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.  
Rector

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Farewell to Father McBrearity

Justin Motes  
First Theology, Diocese of St. Augustine

“Wherever there were seminarians praying intently or laughing out loud, Gerry McBrearity was always in their midst.

Father Daniel Moore, P.S.S.

These words from Acting Provincial Superior, Father Daniel Moore, P.S.S., at Father McBrearity’s farewell reception capture precisely the type of man and type of priest Father McBrearity is to all of us. Father “McB,” as he is affectionately known, was a father and shepherd to all of the seminarians. He knew us and we knew him. At the farewell Mass on Sunday, Sept. 27, there was a sense of nostalgia in the air as we all remembered the times Father McBrearity said Mass for the community, how he often started his homilies with a poem from Mary Oliver (whose work he cherishes), and how he always conveyed his genuine care for each of us. In his homily, he reflected upon the previous Friday’s reading from *Ecclesiastes*: “There is an appointed time for everything” (3:1). With these words, he assured us that this is the appointed time for him to step back from his many years as a seminary formator, of which the four most recent were spent as rector of Theological College.

So that he will always be reminded of our gratitude and affection, the SGA and student body presented Father McBrearity with an illustrated framed poem by Mary Oliver. The poem’s first line, “You do not



From left, Sulpician Fathers Gray, Ciriaco, McBrearity, and Moore. In the upper portrait, Father Nagot is holding the blueprint of the original Paca Street seminary and, below, Father Jean-Jacques Olier is holding a representation of TC.

have to be good,” catalyzed the good humor of all and highlighted the special gifts of levity and joy which Father McBrearity has always brought to the life of the community. The faculty and staff commissioned, from Father Peter Wm. Gray, P.S.S., a portrait of Pope Paul VI for Father McBrearity’s new retirement residence, as this pope has been a great inspiration for him. In recognition of Father McBrearity’s 45-plus years in the Society of St. Sulpice and time spent at Theological College (1999-2003, 2007-2020) as a spiritual director, formation advisor, vice-rector, and finally as rector, a portrait of Father Jean-Jacques Olier was dedicated to him.

In the portrait, Father Olier is holding a representation of Theological College. And a portrait of Father Francis Charles Nagot, the first Sulpician to cross the ocean (in 1791) to serve the country’s first seminary in Baltimore (St. Mary’s), was also created in memory of Rev. John Kemper, P.S.S., the former Provincial Superior, who passed away last May. In this portrait, Father Nagot is holding a blueprint of the first seminary on Paca Street. These two memorial portraits, also by Father Gray, were made possible by a generous donation from former rector and seminarian mentor Father Melvin Blanchette, P.S.S., and they hang together in the refectory. ■



1971–2021

# 50 Years of Excellence in Pastoral Formation

**Rev. Chris Arockiaraj, P.S.S., Ph.D.**  
*Vice-Rector and Coordinator of Pastoral Formation*

“The students should understand most clearly that they are not destined for domination or for honours but are given over totally to the service of God and to the pastoral ministry....

*Optatam Totius,  
Vat. II Decree on Priestly Training (9)*

Following the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, Sulpician seminaries throughout the world were the first to integrate pastoral formation into their formation programs. For the past 50 years, Theological College has seriously invested in pastoral formation as an integral part of preparing future diocesan priests. Successful theological and pastoral integration takes place both in classroom learning and in pastoral settings.

The roots of the pastoral program at Theological College go back to 1971 when Rev. Gerald Brown, P.S.S., a Sulpician and formation faculty member at TC, was asked by the provost of The Catholic University of America to implement the new directives of Vatican II. In collaboration with the Catholic University School of Theology, Father Jerry introduced the “intentional learning model” which was one of the first in the country. TC created the pastoral formation program and the University developed a six-credit course, “Basic Supervised Ministry,” and later a three-credit course, “Advanced Supervised Ministry” with “Clinical Pastoral Education” for students in second theology. The Code of Canon Law of 1983 changed the status of the call to the diaconate as a preparation for priesthood rather than serving as an appropriate testing period. In the 1980s, many bishops started considering a pastoral year for their seminarians in the middle of their theology program. The USCCB insisted on the importance

of pastoral formation in the first edition of the *Program for Priestly Formation (PPF)*. The current fifth edition of the *PPF* highlights that the training of seminarians should focus on forming them to be true shepherds of souls: “The aim of pastoral formation — the formation of a ‘true shepherd’ who teaches, sanctifies, and governs or leads ... after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, teacher, priest and shepherd” (238-239). Pope John Paul II in his apostolic exhortation *Pastores Dabo Vobis* asserted, “The whole formation imparted to candidates for the priesthood aims at preparing them to enter into communion with the charity of Christ the good shepherd. Hence their formation in its different aspects must have a fundamentally pastoral character” (57).

Over the past half-century, Theological College has trained hundreds of priests for ministry in the American Church across the nation. Its excellent pastoral formation program evolved under the auspices of the creativity and dedication of the program’s many talented directors. Today, Theological College has developed a cordial pastoral collaboration with about 30 parishes, eight hospitals, four university campus ministry centers, one correctional center, and 16 diverse placements for the direct service with the poor, spread all over the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Md., and the Diocese of Arlington, Va.

According to the different stages of formation, seminarians participate in ministry opportunities at various pastoral settings such as parishes, schools, hospitals, correctional centers, campus ministries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, retirement communities, homes for the mentally and physically challenged, Catholic Charities, hospices, special needs outreach, mental health centers, and more. Besides the pastoral placements themselves, reflection on pastoral formation takes place in small group formation, rector’s conferences, homilies, classroom learning, individual supervision, formal theological reflections (in small groups), pastoral evaluations, advising sessions, spiritual direction, Jesu Caritas support groups, pastoral-year experiences, and summer pastoral ministry. (See p. 15 for one seminarian’s experience.)

The fiftieth anniversary of pastoral formation at TC was officially inaugurated on October 19, 2020, with the feast of Blessed Agnes of Langeac who inspired and mentored Father Jean-Jacques Olier to establish the first seminaries in France and to found the Society of Saint Sulpice. Rev. Mark Knestout, the pastor of St. Bartholomew parish in Bethesda, Md., celebrated the inaugural Mass, at which Father Chris Arockiaraj delivered a homily on the life of Blessed Agnes of Jesus and the relevance of a robust involvement in pastoral formation. Following on this theme, Father Knestout gave the rector’s conference on the importance



Father Jerry Brown was the first recipient of The Reverend Gerald L. Brown P.S.S., Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry, conferred at the annual Pastoral Supervisors Appreciation Dinner on April 13, 2016.

of pastoral formation and readiness to serve as priests in a post-COVID era. Father Knestout is and has been the pastoral supervisor of many TC seminarians and was the recipient of The Rev. Gerald Brown, P.S.S., Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry Supervision for the 2019-2020 academic year.

## Father Mark Knestout: 2019-2020 Recipient of the Rev. Gerald L. Brown Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry Supervision

**Charles Silvas**  
*Third Theology,  
Diocese of Corpus Christi*

“May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfilment.” These words, contained in every rite of installation to ministry and ordination, was how Father Mark Knestout began this year’s first Rector’s Conference on October 19, 2020, inaugurating the fiftieth anniversary of pastoral formation at Theological College. Father Knestout offered valuable insights into the importance of pastoral formation for parish ministry and its inseparable connection to the other dimensions of formation. As the conference unfolded, it was easy to realize that he is an experienced and skilled pastor. Having been the pastor of St. Bartholomew’s Catholic Church in Bethesda, Md., for almost a decade, Father Knestout has hosted many seminarians throughout the years, taking an active role in their pastoral formation in addition to his parochial and diocesan responsibilities. David Schmidt, a third theologian for the diocese of Pittsburgh who is assigned to St. Bartholomew’s, stated, “Father Knestout is a good pastor, shepherd, and spiritual father, and I look forward to learning from him during my pastoral assignment over the next two years.”

The *Program for Priestly Formation (PPF)* highlights that priests who serve as supervisors “must have certain qualities that include

Jesus asks us to be present to those in need of help, regardless of whether or not they belong to our social group. In this case, the Samaritan became a neighbour to the wounded Judean. By approaching and making himself present, he crossed all cultural and historical barriers. Jesus concludes the parable by saying: “Go and do likewise.” (Lk 10:37)

**Pope Francis,**  
*Fratelli Tutti (81)*

a loyal commitment to priestly formation, patience, honesty, an almost instinctive way of thinking theologically in pastoral situations, and a habit of prayer that permeates the ministry” (*PPF*, no. 240). While this was evident in his conference and from seminarian feedback over the years, the faculty of Theological College felt it right to acknowledge his dedication to the pastoral formation of seminarians. Therefore, after the Rector’s Conference, Father Dominic Ciriaco, rector, and Father Chris Arockiaraj, vice-rector and director of TC’s pastoral formation program, awarded Father Knestout The Reverend Gerald L. Brown, P.S.S., Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry Supervision. The award was intended to be conferred during the annual Pastoral Supervisors Appreciation Dinner in spring 2020. However, due to the pandemic, the presentation of the award was postponed to the fall 2020 semester. Theological College continues to be grateful for the relationship it has with all its pastoral placements and site supervisors, as they continue to work with each other to cultivate the gaze of the Good Shepherd in seminarians for the Church in the United States.

After his well-received Rector’s Conference, Father Mark Knestout received the award for his superior mentorship of TC seminarians over the years.





ALUMNI DAY 2020

# Bishop Barron in the House

**Charles Silvas**  
*Third Theology,  
Diocese of Corpus Christi*

The relationship between intellectual and pastoral formation in parish ministry, perseverance, and challenges in the priesthood ... These were just some of the topics of a virtual Q&A session TC seminarians had with the Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, Bishop Robert Barron (Basselin Class of '82), in lieu of the annual Alumni Day on Wednesday, October 7. In the weeks before, Deacon Tom Lawrence (Richmond) solicited seminarian questions while also laboring to meet the technical demands that livestreaming this event under a tent in the courtyard would require. The Alberione Project's Gabe Bouck (3-T, Memphis) prepared the script for this hourlong session that he hosted on behalf of all the seminarians who had been greatly anticipating the event. For Luke Kirk, a third Basselin from the Diocese of Lafayette, La., "Bishop Barron's live Q&A was exactly the booster shot that we needed. It is easy to lose focus when juggling papers that are piling high with seminarian responsibilities and the various stresses that 2020 brought us." Bishop Barron began his time with the TC community with

an exhortation on the importance intellectual formation has in parish ministry. He explained that, through the study of theology, a priest is called to accompany people to an encounter with the mystery of God. Beginning in this way was particularly fitting, as this year Theological College celebrates its 50th anniversary of pastoral formation (see p. 4). The seminarians also asked questions about Bishop Barron's interests and his experiences at TC and Catholic University. They learned that the Bishop's favorite authors include Augustine, Dante, John of the Cross, and Thomas Merton. They listened with fascination as he described the most formative book he read as a seminarian, *The God of Faith and Reason: Foundations of Christian Theology* by Monsignor Robert Sokolowski. The TC cohort also enjoyed hearing the bishop relate one of his favorite memories as a Basselin scholar, of being able to get a good seat at Ronald Regan's 1981 Presidential Inauguration by following Charlton Heston!

From his Word on Fire studio in Los Angeles, Bishop Robert Barron met live with TC seminarians who were assembled in a makeshift studio of their own in TC's inner courtyard.



Seminarians did not shy away from asking hard questions, such as how to persevere amidst the difficulties of the priesthood, specifically those faced by newly ordained priests, which lead some to leave ministry within their first years of priesthood. Acknowledging that difficulties in the life of a priest are inevitable, Bishop Barron linked perseverance with prayer. While stressing the need for consistency in prayer and, specifically, the paramount importance of a daily holy hour, he also placed emphasis on cultivating healthy relationships. In addition to these practices, he included the significance of obedience for a diocesan priest in attaining holiness.

A prevalent theme was ministry to the disaffiliated, which Bishop Barron identified as perhaps the biggest challenge that will face priests in the next 25 years. As someone who could be considered the "face of the New Evangelization," Bishop Barron highlighted the vital role social media has as an efficient means of encounter. He also encouraged the seminary to help its future priests focus on how to address this ministerial challenge, affirming the value of The Alberione Project outreach with its Big Tree podcast series. Citing the "Road to Emmaus" encounter, when Jesus explained the Scriptures to the disciples he was walking with, Bishop Barron invited the seminarians to relate all the pillars of formation to this endeavor, with a renewed commitment to the New Evangelization. Bishop Barron left a lasting impression on Auguste Horner, a first-year pre-theologian from the Diocese of Rockville Centre, who commented, "His prayerfulness, intellectual ability, pastoral character, and sense of mission were an inspiring example of how the different aspects of priesthood can come together for the service of God."

The virtual event concluded with TC rector, Father Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S., presenting Bishop Barron with the 2020 Alumnus Lifetime Service Award for outstanding priestly service as shepherd, seminary formator, author, and media apostle dedicated to promoting the New Evangelization, in the tradition of the Priests of St. Sulpice.

Bishop Barron's participation in this unprecedented event was, without a doubt, inspirational for all the seminarians. David

His prayerfulness, intellectual ability, pastoral character, and sense of mission were an inspiring example of how the different aspects of priesthood can come together for the service of God.

**Auguste Horner**  
*Diocese of Rockville Centre*

Schmidt, a third theologian from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, captured the essence of the event. He said Bishop Barron is "such a great example of the incredible things that God can do through you in your life, if you use the gifts that he has given to you, and surrender yourself fully to him." While the Alumni Day reunion was not celebrated in the traditional way as in years past, the seminarians undoubtedly have a very memorable moment to look back on during their time at TC.

To watch the recording of this event, go to: [theologicalcollege.org/news](https://theologicalcollege.org/news).

Event organizers Gabe Bouk (left) and Deacon Tom Lawrence (center) appreciate a joke shared by Father Ciriaco as he prepares to virtually present Bishop Barron with the Alumnus Lifetime Service Award.





# 2020 ORDINATIONS



**Above:** One of the highlights for the 2020 bicentennial celebration in the Diocese of Richmond were the ordinations on July 11, which also celebrated two TC seminarians. From left, TC rector Father Dominic Ciriaco, newly ordained Father Anthony Ferguson, Bishop Barry Knestout, and newly ordained Deacon Tom Lawrence.

**Far left:** Jason Allan receives the imposition of hands from Bishop Michael Olson (B '89) of Fort Worth on March 19.

**Center:** Deacon Michael Kieler with Bishop Felipe Estevéz after his ordination on August 15.

**Bottom left:** The Archdiocese of New York's Deacon Wesbee Victor with his TC brothers after ordination on June 28. From left, Father Walter Genito (Rockville Centre, '19), Father Matt Browne (Rockville Centre, '19), Deacon Wesbee, and Father Carlos Limongi (New York, '18).

**Bottom right:** Fort Worth's Brett Metzler at his diaconate ordination on March 19.



**Top left:** Charleston's Will Frei (B '16) prepares for his ordination on July 10.

**Above:** Nathaniel Glenn (B '16) was ordained by Bishop Thomas Olmstead on June 6, assisted by his former Basselin classmate, Harold Escarcega (B '16).

**Far left:** Mason Wiggins being ordained by Bishop Felipe Estevéz on June 20.

**Center:** Father Jaime Maldonado-Avilés celebrating his first Mass on June 28, after being ordained for the Diocese of Hartford.

**Below:** Ordained for the Diocese of Dallas on May 30, from left, Fathers Garrett Bockman, Elmer Herrera-Guzmán, Mark Garrett, and Ryan Hiaeshutter.







## Rev. Gabriel Richard, P.S.S. (1767–1832)

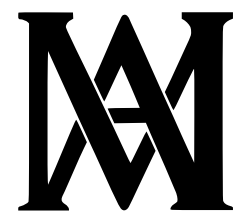
**Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, P.S.S.**  
*Rector*

In September, the Archdiocese of Detroit opened the cause of canonization of Rev. Gabriel Richard, a Sulpician priest and missionary who devoted his entire priesthood to helping to build up the Catholic Church in the Midwest.

Father Richard was an exile from France, fleeing the French Revolution, and arrived in Baltimore in 1792 — one year after the original Sulpician foundation in 1791. He went to Detroit where he worked and remained until his death from cholera at age 64.

After being sent to the Midwest to minister to the Native American population, he was held in the highest regard in Detroit and became the first congressman to represent Michigan in Washington, D.C., and the first Roman Catholic priest ever to hold political office in America. He opened schools for Native Americans, was the first to use a printing press (he published several works on the spiritual life as well as political commentary), and he organized a road system connecting Detroit to Chicago. He is a co-founder of the University of Michigan, where he also served as Vice President. He cared for those with cholera, succumbing to this very disease himself, and is buried in Saint Anne Church in Detroit, where he had served, at one point, as an associate pastor.

Missionary zeal, devotion as a pastor, concern for the less fortunate, and astute political engagement are just some of the heroic traits this holy priest of the Society of St. Sulpice is to be admired for and we pray that one day his holiness will be acknowledged by the Universal Church with the title of Saint.



This stained glass window, *Fr. Gabriel Richard*, by Conrad Pickel Studios (1967), can be found across the street from Theological College, in the Upper Sacristy of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. (Photo courtesy of the Basilica of the National Shrine.)

## Orientation 2020

**David Birkdale**  
*Second Theology,*  
*Archdiocese of New York*

August 16–22, 2020: a Theological College move-in week like any other. True, new seminarians were welcomed in from behind masks, with frequent recourse to hand-sanitizer stations; adjustments had to be made. But orientation week has always been about embracing new realities through fraternity. In that way, through the dedication of the faculty, staff, and orientation team, our opening week felt just like the ones in years past — an auspicious start to the year, despite many challenges.

As new seminarians arrived, one by one, they were greeted by a team of volunteers in red polo shirts, upperclassmen who had volunteered their last week of summer to help with the move-in. One of the new Basselins, Joe Krug of Rockville Centre, remarked that he and his father had expected to spend an hour moving luggage into his room; instead, as they watched, red shirts swarmed their van and had it unloaded in minutes, and just as quickly had moved everything upstairs. It is quite a sight to behold and can be a real relief from the stress that naturally comes from such a move; after a morning of driving, the last thing anyone wants to do is lug boxes around. But this is the relief that I felt when I moved in last year, and that all the volunteers experienced when they first moved in, catalyzed by a spirit of fraternity which is passed down from class to class at Theological College — your first encounter on move-in day.

Once the new men were moved in, they began a week filled with activities and conferences devoted to all the four pillars of formation — human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral. Faculty helped them navigate the formidable academic structure at the University, gave instruction on liturgy and music, outlined various aspects of formation, and generously offered advice to the new

The orientation team awaits TC's new arrivals on August 18.



On August 22, the Feast of the Queenship of Mary, Archbishop Wilton Gregory opened the seminary school year with evening prayer after spending some time visiting with the faculty, shown here in the 4th Street garden.

members of the community. When I asked Michael Villavicencio, of Santa Fe, if any of the conferences made an impression on him, he immediately mentioned Father Ciriaco's conference on spirituality on the first day. He said it gave him a new perspective on the Sulpician charism, and what it means to be formed, spiritually, in a Sulpician seminary inspired by the French School of spirituality. Father Ciriaco, in fact, gave a number of conferences, leading by example as he jumped headfirst into his inaugural orientation week as rector of Theological College. As each wave of seminarians arrived — the orientation team, the new men, the rest of the house — Father Ciriaco was there to personally welcome them, and also to take on the unenviable task of explaining the safety measures that would keep the community healthy. These precautions might have required sacrifices but were ultimately proven effective.

I thought it particularly fitting that each day began with Eucharist and ended with an opportunity for fraternity. Theological College is a community with the Eucharist at its center and that Eucharistic community is lived out in a spirit of fraternity. It bodes well for the rest of the year, to see this kind of collegiality from the very first week, giving us all hope for a normal year despite the unique challenges.



# Student Government Committee Updates

## Social Justice Committee

**Justin Damask**  
*Third Basselin,  
Diocese of Charleston*

Our vision for the Social Justice Committee (SJC) is to foster a holistic understanding of social justice in the house beginning in prayer, then leading to spiritual and corporal works of mercy and a greater understanding of Catholic social teaching, and eventually resulting in personal, familial, communal, and societal conversion.

Our works for this semester include:

- Coordinated days of prayer, fasting, and feeding the hungry, led by Auguste Horner (1-Pre-T, Rockville Centre).
- Working with Lighthouse DC to deliver furniture to those in need, led by Deacon Michael Kieler (4-T, St. Augustine).
- Putting together personal care kits that can be easily distributed to the members of our local community who are experiencing homelessness.
- Gathering at a local abortion clinic on Saturdays to pray for conversion and healing, led by Jack Kristensen (1-B, New York).
- Reaching out to a few speakers to inform us about the struggles of immigrants around the world while learning to live the principles laid out in Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* and the call to "care for our common home."
- Fundraising at the Fall House Party for the benefit of a young family in Louisiana (who just welcomed their third child into the world) who lost their home to a recent hurricane and subsequently lost all of their possessions to a fire. The Sulpician Province has pledged to match all donations received up to \$700. Luke Kirk (3-B, Lafayette) brought the needs of this family to our attention and helped to facilitate the planned gift.

## Friday Fasting

**Auguste Horner**  
*First Pre-Theology,  
Rockville Centre*

SJC sponsors a Friday fast once per month. Seminarians first sign up to fast from lunch that day, and our food service providers from Sodexo use those numbers to decide how many lunches are

being donated so they can prepare sandwiches and other bag-lunch items. The seminarians meet at lunch time to assemble and box the lunches, which we then deliver to Catholic Charities for distribution to the needy. In the past, seminarians have distributed lunches directly to the homeless on the streets, engaging in conversations and getting to know them, but this is not currently possible under COVID-19 protocols. For the two fasting days we have had to date, we delivered 40 lunches each time.

While the lunches are being delivered by Jack Kristensen (1-B, New York) and me, other seminarians meet in the chapel to pray and offer up their fasting for a specific intention. The first fasting day, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) had called for a day of prayer and fasting for an end to racism and for peace in the nation. An additional 18 seminarians fasted from breakfast that day as well. The Prayer and Worship Committee drafted some prayers according to USCCB. The second fasting day was a day of prayer and fasting for the United States as it heads into election season. The seminarians met in the chapel to pray the rosary for the nation while Jack and I prayed on the road to Catholic Charities.

Participating in the TC community's monthly fasting and prayer initiative, Jack Kristensen, left, and Auguste Horner deliver meals to Catholic Charities.



## Community Life Committee

### Outdoor Recreation

**Jonathan Pham**

*First Theology,  
Diocese of Rockville Centre*

Theological College continued to provide pastoral formation by navigating through this challenging semester. However, for our safety, one of the restriction protocols included not taking public transportation to our pastoral assignments. We were therefore directed to bike or drive to our ministry settings. Since most men in the house did not have personal cars, the Outdoor Recreation Committee (a sub-committee of the Community Life Committee), came up with the idea of cleaning up the dozen or so old bikes left in the student storage rooms to accommodate the seminarians.

The committee did maintenance on the bikes, bought several bike helmets, and placed the bikes on the racks provided by Theological College. The committee also displayed posters of the District to highlight a multitude of bike trails in the area. The bikes have not only been used by seminarians for their pastoral assignments, but they have also been used by both the seminarians and the faculty for leisurely exploration of the metropolitan area.

In October, TC seminarians joined the Archdiocese of Washington's Century Ride, "Biking for Vocations" on a 100-mile ride as a way to promote vocations through prayer, sacrifice, and raising financial support.



Jonathan Pham, chairman of the Outdoor Rec Committee, tests out one of the bikes he serviced.



## The Student Government Association

**Top row, from left:** Scott Bahrke, Treasurer; Kyle Vance, Prayer and Worship Committee Chairman; David LaPointe, Community Life Committee Chairman; Deacon Jason Allan, President; Patrick O'Brien, Secretary; Justin Damask, Social Justice Committee Chairman; André Sicard, Hispanic Affairs Committee Chairman.

**Bottom row, from left:** Lam Vo, ESL/Pre-Theology Representative; Daniel Roberts, First Theology Representative; Gabe Bouck, Third Theology Representative; Deacon Tom Lawrence, Fourth Theology Representative; Andrew Heidelberg, Second Basselin Representative; and David Birkdale, Second Theology Representative.



## Hispanic Affairs Committee

### Spanish Night Prayer

**André Sicard**  
*Second Theology,*  
*Diocese of Salt Lake City*

Every Tuesday night, the Hispanic Affairs Committee (HAC) at Theological College sponsors Spanish Night Prayer in Viéban Hall. Initiated several years ago, this is a weekly opportunity for the seminary community to practice their Spanish with prayer, but also to learn more about the foods of different Latin American countries.

After Night Prayer, there is a social with traditional foods and drinks from these countries, with each week highlighting a different country's cuisine. Ranging from Salvadoran pupusas to Chilean empanadas and Colombian arepas, this social allows people to try foods they may have never heard of or ever thought about trying. Foods from other non-Spanish speaking countries



At the first Hispanic Affairs Committee meeting, André Sicard (2-T, Salt Lake City), right, this year's HAC chairman, meets with last year's chairman, Deacon Michael Kieler (4-T, St. Augustine).

have also been introduced, to allow for seminarians from other cultures to share their own foods and traditions. In addition to the biweekly community Spanish Evening Prayer and Spanish Mass, this initiative invites people to come together not only to practice their Spanish and socialize, but also to learn more about the different cultures that make up the ever-growing Latinx communities in archdioceses and dioceses all over the U.S. It has become a staple weekly event at Theological College and a great mini-immersion opportunity to experience the foods and traditions of the cultures of the people seminarians will one day serve in their own local churches.

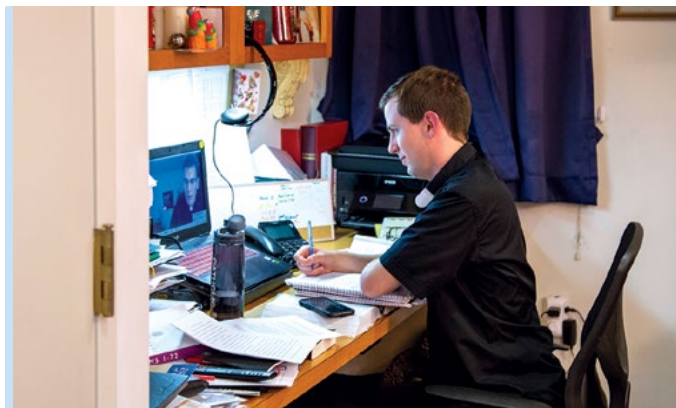
## Ad Hoc COVID-19 Committee

For months before the return of TC seminarians in August, the rector and faculty worked to develop protocols to prevent the outbreak and spread of the corona virus at TC. Closely following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and the local

government and archdiocese and consulting with rectors of other seminaries resulted in a safe and infection-free transition into the fall semester for the entire house population of nearly 75 men, who were returning to campus but would be taking mostly online classes.

During the first two weeks, the men are asked to keep strict social distancing practices, including on the upper floors. When in public spaces, masks are always required. The refectory area was expanded to Olier Hall to be able to spread out the seating, and refectory hours are limited to allow for disinfection between meals. Usually known for its active hospitality for visitors, TC had to suspend such welcoming of guests from outside for the semester.

In addition, Father Ciriaco formed a COVID-19 Advisory Committee. The Committee was made up of eight seminarians representing the four floors of students, the rector, the vice-rector, Father Chris Arockiaraj, and the dean of men, Father Andrew Szyblewski. As a team, the seminarians offered input regarding the status of their living situation under safety protocols and they provided suggestions on ways to best address the evolving needs of the time.



Justin Motes (1-T, St. Augustine) attends an online class from his room on TC's second floor.

## Witness on Pastoral Ministry

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

Last year, I had the opportunity to serve at St. James Catholic Church in Mount Rainer, Md. My responsibilities included serving at the Spanish Masses and teaching the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) to fifth and sixth graders. The challenge, however, was the fact that I do not know any Spanish! Well, you might be wondering, why then did I choose to serve at St. James? My reasoning is pretty simple: I chose to serve at this particular parish because I wanted to embrace the catholicity or universality of the Catholic Church by experiencing the culture of another.

I am a first-generation Vietnamese-American, and I grew up attending a Vietnamese Catholic Church in the Northeast. Since I had little exposure to other ethnic cultures, my understanding of the Catholic Church was often limited to my own cultural experiences. However, the role of the priest is to be of service to everyone regardless of their race or ethnicity. With this in mind, I decided that serving at St. James Catholic Church would be most beneficial for my formation journey at Theological College.

My first day at St. James was a wonderful experience. The church was beautifully decorated with Catholic devotionals and statues of Jesus and Mother Mary. It did not take long before I learned that the Spanish-speaking community has a special devotion to the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague because, before and after Mass,



many of the faithful would offer prayers and thanksgiving to the infant Jesus. However, the Church truly came alive during the celebration of the Mass as people actively participated by uniting their voices in song, worship, and prayer. Although I do not know Spanish, I can still recall the lyrics of “*Alabare A Mi Señor.*”

In addition to serving the Spanish Masses, I taught RCIC in English to students who came to class with an openness to learn and to love God. I taught them basic catechesis and the importance of the sacraments in the life of Catholics. I noticed that the students enjoyed learning most when they had the opportunity to have fun. So, one of my strategies was to create Bible trivia games for them. I also tried learning some Spanish phrases and prayers such as the “Our Father” to connect with them on a deeper level.

I learned so much about the Hispanic culture by serving at St. James Catholic Church. The pastoral experiences I had there continue to shape and inform my priestly formation as I discern and respond to the call to the priesthood. St. Paul effectively captures the importance of the universal presence of Christ in the priest when he says, “I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the Gospel, so that I too may have a share in it” (1 *Cor* 9:22-23). His motto is a motto that I strive to make my own.

Seminarian pastoral ministry assignments include teaching the Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (RCIA) for D.C.-based university students. Vincent Castaldi (2-T, Pittsburgh), above, was provided accommodations for on-campus RCIA while Stephen Wong (2-Pre-T, Washington), below, leads his RCIA instruction for university students via Zoom.







In September, the TC community was pleased to welcome guest celebrant Rev. Ignacio De Ribera-Martín, Catholic University School of Philosophy's Assistant Professor and faculty advisor for Pre-Theology students. Father Ignacio's inspiring homily focused on what it means to be a disciple: responding to the undeserved gift of Christ's loving call requires that we leave everything behind, but leave no one behind.

## Prayer and Reflection at TC

In addition to the scheduled communal Masses and morning and evening prayer commitments, and the many proposals of the Social Justice and Prayer & Worship Committees, some TC seminarians have

taken initiative in inviting their brothers to other opportunities to grow together in prayerful abandonment, as true disciples. There are Jesu Caritas support groups, a weekly group rosary, and a spirituality group focused on the *Lectio Divina* (led by Vincent Castaldi, 2-T, Archdiocese of New York). The Basselin scholars continue to host their weekly “Caldwell Holy Hour,”

even though, due to COVID-19 precautions, Caldwell Hall is no longer available. Instead, the Holy Hour has been moved to TC’s main chapel every Thursday night at 9 p.m., this year managed by Anthony May (2-B, Raleigh). And new since last year, Patrick O’Brien (2-Pre-T, Rockville Centre) has led a weekly Praise and Worship gathering centered around music.

## Veteran’s Day Seminarian Profile

**Nicholas Rapkoch**  
*Pastoral Year,  
Diocese of Raleigh*



I spent nine unbelievable years in the United States Marine Corps. It had been the heroism of the countless men and women in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C., on September 11, 2001, that served as my inspiration. As a sophomore in college during the attacks, I remember being in humbled awe of the extraordinary bravery exhibited by ordinary men and women whose everyday lives suddenly demanded greatness from them. Being a bystander to so many answering that call stirred in me a desire to do the same. I was rather listless at that time, the faith not serving as my daily guide, and yet, our abundantly generous God, I am convinced, used this stirring to lead me down beautiful and strange paths that would eventually land me in the seminary, being formed as one of his priests for the Diocese of Raleigh.

The nine years I spent in the Marines took me on a ship around the world, sailing across the Pacific to Southeast Asia, the Persian Gulf, Africa, and back. Those years also brought me to Afghanistan twice. Among all the experiences, it is the friendships that I will carry with me to my dying day. I think this is probably the most common sentiment among veterans. Those friendships extend to our comrades from other countries as well. I will never forget my Afghan friend, Iqbal; when together under fire, he turned to me and said in Dari (a phrase I knew well), “It’s a job.” I hope he is still well.

It was after my third deployment, however — my second to Afghanistan — when, despite everything positive I could ever say about my time in, I was struggling with something else: a persistent and mysterious longing for something I could not name. After leaving the Corps in 2014, I started a business with some buddies from the Marines. As any entrepreneur will tell you, in the early days of the project you would work furiously for days, then wait weeks for something to happen. During this period, I found myself spending most of my free time at Mass. I did not want to be anywhere else. The Diocese of Raleigh’s director of vocations, Father Philip Tighe of happy memory (see obituary, p. 32), took notice and we developed a friendship. In 2018, he invited me to the program of priestly formation and while it was difficult to detach from my life at the time, I knew immediately that I had to explore this call.

One thing was clear: everything that had inspired me, that had driven me in the Marines, was being offered to in me in a super-abundant manner through service at the Altar of the Lord. There are as many ways to serve God as there are his children. Some find their way at the altar, so others may come through it. The very desire to put my whole body on the line, the building of relationships through shared hardship, the unconditional love for the guy who’s sleeping in the hole next to you while you pull mid-night watch over the line — all that is being offered in formation and later as a priest, but in a supernatural way.

Being only a year shy of 40 now, it is humbling to consider the previously unknown paths down which the Lord has led me. Yet of this I am sure — and I make a special appeal to the veterans out there because this they know well — that even after you leave the service, the fight for what is good continues. I want to thank all of you for letting me serve with you, whether we were in together or you were one who passed the torch to us, or one to whom we passed the torch. Our work is now and always will be in the vineyard of the Lord as we await the Master’s return.

I will conclude with this. Two summers ago, I met a retired priest at a retirement home in Omaha, Nebraska: Monsignor Richard Wolbach — now also of happy memory. I just happened to be wearing a polo shirt with the Eagle Globe and Anchor on it when we were introduced. His ailing eyes watered as he looked at it. Monsignor Wolbach, I came to find out, was a Marine as well and had landed on Iwo Jima with my paternal grandfather. We spent a blessed hour together and the old Marine-turned-priest was fully himself as we reveled in the sharing of our common paths, something I am sure was as much a surprise and delight for him as it was for me. He ministered for more than 40 years as the chaplain to the VA Hospital in Omaha. Here he was, wheelchair-bound with his ability to articulate hindered by age, able to be a Marine with a Marine once again, and a priest to an aspirant for perhaps the final time. That night I wept, pondering the only words that could sum up all the circumstances: “I will go unto the Altar of God, to God, who gives joy to my youth.”

“I will lead the blind by a way they did not know:  
I will guide them on unfamiliar paths. I will turn  
darkness into light before them and rough places  
into level ground. These things I will do for them,  
and I will not forsake them.

**Isaiah 42:16**





Peter Bui meeting with his external forum advisor, Father Chris Arockiaraj. (See Peter's pastoral ministry witness on p. 15.)

# Focus on External Forum

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

The first version of the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis* was promulgated on January 6, 1970. The latest version, made public on December 8, 2016, re-emphasized the need for initial and ongoing seminary formation in four key dimensions: human, spiritual, pastoral, and intellectual. In June 2017, the Congregation for the Clergy called a meeting in Rome to discuss the future of *Ratio Fundamentalis* and two years later the document was voted on during the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Baltimore, Md., in the fall of 2019. Notably, for the first time, all seminaries would be required to have the external forum in place for seminarians; a standard procedure that has been practiced here at Theological College since 1972.

The external forum relationship is a relationship between a formation advisor and a candidate to the priesthood. The purpose of the relationship is to help the candidate foster personalized goals and develop strategies for achieving those goals. The duty of the formation advisor is to hold the candidate accountable for achieving the goals that are set and to report the growth and challenges experienced by the candidate to the formation faculty and the candidate's bishop and vocation director.

To illustrate the import of this unique forum, a TC student from each of the theologate classes was asked to share his insights on how the external forum has helped him in answering his call to the priesthood.



The external forum has helped me to discern a priestly vocation precisely because it is how the Church communicates to me my strengths, weaknesses, and means to grow toward priestly maturity. Through conversations with my formation advisor and faculty, I am exposed to blind spots in my formation that, otherwise, I wouldn't necessarily be aware of and they provide me with a voice in shaping my own formation toward priestly maturity. With greater awareness of my weaknesses, I can work on them throughout the year and include them in my prayer life. The Lord has specifically called me to his priesthood, with my strengths and weaknesses, as he has called others with their own too — no two seminarians are identical.

**Justin Notes**  
 (1-T, St. Augustine)



My external formation advisor is a permanent deacon who knows the pressures of ministry, academia, and family life. I greatly appreciate his perspective as it keeps me grounded in the four primary dimensions of formation — human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral. Through our regular conversations every couple of weeks, we discuss ways that I can grow to be able to more effectively minister to and with others. Our conversations generally move toward the topic of evangelization, which is a great passion of mine. We also discuss the various ministry assignments that I have had the opportunity to be a part of. These diverse interactions between myself and the formation faculty and people at the ministry sites have affirmed many elements of my calling and given me a greater zeal to encounter people with the saving love of Jesus Christ.

**Seth Seaman**  
 (2-T, Richmond)



My relationship with my external formation advisor has deepened my appreciation of the relationship between the priest and the Church. My formation advisor is someone who serves and represents the Church. Therefore, when I share my successes and struggles with my formator and seek his guidance, it is the Church who walks with me throughout the formation process and helps to guide me toward priestly ministry. All this is done through the person of my formator, who truly is acting *in persona ecclesiae*.

**Ryan Braam**  
 (3-T, Washington)



The external forum has been an important part of my priestly formation. Throughout seminary, I have found it relatively easy to bring up sensitive issues with my spiritual director, knowing that he cannot discuss them with anyone. On the other hand, it has been important to be transparent and honest with my formation advisor and other external formators. Doing so requires both discernment and courage to talk about those things which are most pertinent to priestly formation. My formation advisor has always provided valuable insights and wisdom for the topics and questions I have brought to him. And, most importantly, these honest dialogues with my external formators have helped us to establish a relationship of trust, rooted in a common commitment to serve Christ's Church.

**Deacon Michael Kieler**  
 (4-T, St. Augustine)



The aspect of receiving guidance is crucial for the heart of a priest. It allows seminarians to be grounded and to practice humility by being held accountable. From an external formator we receive the gift of "Christ the Formator" as he preached and taught the Apostles. Even among the Apostles, the Gospel was difficult to understand but those who learned to abide in him completed the mission he gave them. In a similar way, we are also invited to accountability in order to proclaim the Gospel, not only by our words but also by our discipline and actions. The external formator is a witness to our overall maturity in a way that affirms a genuine synthesis of our spiritual growth and human development. When they consider that all the pieces fit, they can vote on behalf of our Mother Church so that we continue (or pause) our seminary discernment. In many ways, they represent the blessing of the Church on our gift of vocation to the priesthood of Christ.

**Rev. Elmer Herrera-Guzmán,**  
 (2019 graduate, Dallas)



# HEALTHY LIVING FOR PRIESTS

## Facing Unhealthy Internet Use

**Rev. Andrew Szablewski, P.S.S., B.Th. Psy.L., S.T.L.**  
*Coordinator of Human Formation and Dean of Men*



It has been said many times and in many ways that rapid technological shifts have been influencing and changing identity development of the various American generations. Information technologies continue to change our very selves and how we relate with others and with God; they change our beliefs in what is true, beautiful, and good. More than the generations before them, Catholic “millennials” (and those of “Generation Z” even more so) willingly or unwillingly, knowingly or unknowingly enter into relationships with millennial technological artifacts. Let’s be honest: we are often naïve and ignorant about technological saturation, to the detriment of our ethical and moral personality development and maturity. With COVID-19 social distancing and the fully online courses implemented, information technology is ever more present in our lives. We do not often know what is healthy and what is unhealthy internet use. It is very easy to get caught up in the compulsion of its use, and to feel more comfortable online than in real life, sometimes spending multiple internet hours unchecked.

In their “Synopsis of Psychiatry” (2015), Kaplan and Sadock<sup>1</sup> proposed that “internet compulsion” can also be called “internet addiction.” Internet addicts may gravitate to certain sites that meet specific needs (shopping, sex, and interactive games, among others). In the American Psychiatric Association’s *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)*, there is a condition proposed for further study called “internet gaming disorder,” which refers to persons who continually use the internet to play games to the extent that it interferes with social relations, work, and study performance. But, as mentioned above, the disorder need not be limited to gaming.

So, if our internet use leads to a neglect of real, true, and good relationships and study, prayer or work, we might say that we are dealing with an unhealthy lifestyle dynamic. We might be frustrated and defensive about reading this column without knowing why. But it is important to cultivate the self-awareness and accountability that goes hand in hand with healthy internet use.

If our internet use is unhealthy, we truly waste time — more than we might be willing to admit. A few minutes surfing the net or social media could turn into a few hours or even an entire night. This can cause procrastination, tardiness, and guilty feelings. There could be attempts to self-impose time limits that prove to be unsuccessful. What to do? Consider keeping an “Accountability Diary.” With honesty and transparency with yourself (and perhaps with your spiritual director), note all the time you spend online. You might also differentiate the various reasons for it — school research, leisure, communication, etc.

If internet use is unhealthy, we neglect relationships. If we stay on Facebook or Twitter, for example, giving too much time and attention to pseudo-relationships, we ignore the responsibility and commitment necessary to cultivate real relationships with one’s family and friends. There could be feelings of isolation because none of your real relationships provide for your real needs. What to do? Write all of this down in your Accountability Diary. Openly acknowledge your unanswered needs. What are they? What are you looking for? Is there another way, more consistent with your vocation, to answer those needs?

If internet use is unhealthy, we neglect prayer and academics. We would rather keep jumping from one page to another, from one link to another, pretending to be doing research, but in the end no real data is collected, and the academic objective is neglected or all together abandoned. There is a sense of being busy but wasteful and unproductive. There is a concentration problem. More and more time is being spent with no good results. What to do? Again, go to your Accountability Diary and candidly write down the time you spend in prayer and academics. What are your priorities? After clarifying them, work on a day planner, a week planner, and a month planner, putting down your priorities first and then adding your online time.

If internet use is unhealthy, other habits and addictions will worsen, such as gambling, alcohol, and sex. Because the internet provides anonymity and accessibility, it will exacerbate compulsive behaviors. If you go against your underlying values and beliefs and spend more time and energy than you feel you should, your internet use is unhealthy, to say the least. What to do? Use your Accountability Diary to examine your most important values and ideals, needs, and frustrations. With the help of your spiritual director, explore if and how they are connected.

<sup>[1]</sup> Sadock, Benjamin J., et al., Kaplan & Sadock’s “Synopsis of Psychiatry: Behavioral Sciences,” *Clinical Psychiatry*, 11th ed., Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, 2015, p. 614.

# FACULTY AND STAFF

## New Acting Provincial Superior for the Society of St. Sulpice, Province of the United States

**Very Rev. Daniel F. Moore, P.S.S., S.T.D.**



Sulpician Father Daniel F. Moore is a native of Memphis, Tenn. He is an alumnus of St. Mary’s Seminary and University, Baltimore (1984) and a priest of the Diocese of Memphis. Father Moore entered the Society of the Priests of Saint Sulpice on July 1, 2000, after serving 16 years as a diocesan priest — notably as a president/principal of a diocesan high school and middle school, a pastor, secretary to presbyteral council, and member of the college of diocesan consultors. He is also an alumnus of the Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome) earning his doctorate at the university in February 2006. Father Moore’s dissertation, *Jesus, An Emerging Jewish Mosaic: Jewish Perspectives, Post-Holocaust*, was well received. Consequently, he was invited (in April 2007) as a presenter at the International Symposium on the Historical Jesus, Second Princeton-Prague Symposium on Jesus, Princeton, N.J., Princeton Theological Seminary. His dissertation was published by T & T Clark (Continuum International) in 2008 as Volume 2 in their series, *Jewish and Christian Texts in Contexts and Related Studies*.

Father Moore served as the Sulpician Director of Discernment & Admission, 2009-2018, and the Director of Communications, 2012-

2016. He also served as the Provincial Secretary of the U.S. Province, 2011-2017. During an earned 2016 sabbatical, he was a visiting fellow at Catholic University of Louvain, Faculty of Theology & Religious Studies and a visiting scholar at Boston College, School of Theology & Ministry. Prior to his appointment to Baltimore, Father Moore served on the formation faculty of Theological College and as an adjunct lecturer at the School of Theology and Religious Studies. He served as the vice-rector of the seminary and chief operations officer, 2007-2011. In the fall of 2017, he rejoined the formation and academic faculty at St. Mary’s, lecturing in systematic theology. In August of 2019, he was appointed Vice-President of Strategic Initiatives. He serves also as one of the Honorary Chairs of the Campaign Executive Committee, St. Mary’s Seminary & University, 21st Century Capital Campaign.

Father Moore was elected to the Provincial Council in 2009 as First Consultor, serving two consecutive terms, 2009-2015; 2015-2020. On May 1, 2020, upon the resignation of the Provincial, Rev. John Kemper, P.S.S., due to terminal illness, Father Moore assumed the office as the Acting Provincial Superior. He currently serves in that capacity.

## New Formation Faculty

**Rev. Jaime E. Robledo, P.S.S, M. Div., S.T.L., S.T.D.**



Rev. Jaime E. Robledo, P.S.S., joined the formation faculty at Theological College in July 2020. A priest of the Diocese of Buga, Colombia, he is a Sulpician Father of the U.S. Province. Father Robledo’s first studies in philosophy and theology were at Seminario Mayor San Pedro Apóstol, which was operated by the Sulpicians in Cali, Colombia.

After his ordination in 1990, he began his pastoral experience in the Diocese of Buga, Colombia, as the diocesan director of the Office of Evangelization and Liturgy and served as pastor of various parishes. He also was a member of the formation faculty at the same seminary where he completed his own studies.

He continued his education in Rome, receiving a licentiate in dogmatic theology, with an emphasis in theological anthropology, from the Pontifical Gregorian University, where he also took courses on spiritual direction and Ignatian spirituality.

In 1997, Father Robledo was the founding vice-rector of the Seminario Los Doce Apóstoles in Buga, Colombia. He was chaplain, and later named principal, of the Gimnasio Central



del Valle diocesan high school, where he redesigned the institutional educative project following a personalistic pedagogical approach. He was rector of the Instituto Julián Mendoza Guerrero for the New Evangelization of Culture, an institute associated with the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia, dedicated to the religious and pastoral formation of laity, consecrated men and women, and ordained ministers. Father Robledo completed the core curriculum on bioethics at the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum School of Bioethics, in Rome, Italy. He then worked and ministered at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, Tex. — first, from 2006 to 2011, as a member of the formation faculty, formation advisor, and director of Liturgy; and later as president-rector, from 2018 to 2019. Before this second assignment, in 2018, Father Robledo obtained a doctorate in Moral Theology from St. Mary’s Seminary & University

in Baltimore, with a dissertation on “Elio Sgreccia and Bioethical Discourse in a Pluralistic Society.” As part of the formation faculty at Assumption Seminary, Father Robledo was an adjunct professor at the Oblate School of Theology and the Mexican American Catholic College, focusing on courses in theology and bioethics. Father Robledo went on to a ministry assignment at St. Patrick’s Seminary & University in Menlo Park, Cal., as a member of the formation faculty, formation advisor, spiritual director, and chair of the Moral and Spiritual Theology Department. At the same time, he served as instructor in the School of Ministries of the Diocese of Oakland and in the Institute for Leadership in Ministry of the Diocese of San Jose. Over many of these years, Father Robledo ministered to people in Florida and California, offering spiritual direction and spiritual retreats in the Ignatian tradition.

## Farewell to Tim Murphy

After serving as facilities manager for more than 10 years, Tim Murphy left TC in mid-September to accept the position of facilities supervisor at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. Tim is now overseeing the work of a team of 28 people on the campus of this multi-building laboratory complex. Father Dominic Ciriaco, rector, gratefully acknowledged Tim’s contribution to TC: “Tim Murphy faithfully served four rectors at this seminary and I think I speak for all of us in praising him for his unwavering fidelity to the mission of TC. He not only managed the facility, he also attended to the needs of faculty and seminarians as well as the McCormick Pavilion tenants, while graciously hosting all our guests, including the hundreds that stayed here over the summers. While he will be missed by all at Theological College, we wish him well!” TC’s new facilities manager, Scott Boyles, has had a smooth transition from his previous job as facilities manager for the Mid Atlantic Community Church (MACC) in Gambrills, Md. After a lengthy career in business logistics, Scott enjoyed the passage to working in a church environment at MACC, where, he says, “Working with people in a Christian setting was so refreshing, and I am finding the same kind of inviting community here at TC!”



Tim Murphy addresses the seminarians for the last time as he introduces the new men to the TC facility in August.

## Faculty Publication



**“Excellence in Supervision: Theories of Supervision”**  
*In Reflective Practice: Formation and Supervision in Ministry, Volume 40 (2020)*  
by Chris Arockiaraj, Sung Hee Chang, and Dorothee Tripodi

“We are what we repeatedly do.  
Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”  
Will Durant  
(often misattributed to Aristotle)

“Excellence in Supervision: Theories of Supervision” explains how pastoral supervision plays an important role in binding the components of pastoral ministry and reflective assessment. Through professional supervision and rigorous reflection on his/her learning

and daily life-experiences, a theological student can make sense of his/her pastoral ministry even in times of darkness such as the COVID-19 era. There are several supervision theories, approaches, and methods of supervision, such as Transformative Learning Theory, Systems Approach, Cross-Cultural Approach, Collaborative Approach, Dialogical Method, Spiritual Inquiry Method, and Wisdom Ways Method. By using these tools and integrating their wisdom and spirituality, supervisors facilitate the interdependent and collaborative relationship with their supervisees and provide them with excellent professional support for effective pastoral ministry.

— Rev. Chris Arockiaraj, P.S.S., Ph.D.

## 2020–2021 Formation Faculty

From left, Fr. Jaime Robledo, formation faculty (see p. 21); Fr. Chris Arockiaraj, vice-rector and coordinator of pastoral formation; Fr. Andrew Szyblewski, coordinator of human formation and dean of men; Fr. Dominic Ciriaco, rector and director of Basselin scholars; Catholic University President John Garvey; Fr. Jim Froehlich, O.F.M. Cap., formation faculty; Fr. Leonardo Gajardo, coordinator of spiritual formation and Liturgy; Deacon Ed McCormack, coordinator of intellectual formation; and Fr. James McKearney, formation faculty and director of music.







Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Archbishop of St. Louis, greeting Pope Francis at the conclusion of an *Ad Limina* visit.

## Distinguished Alumnus

### Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski Class of 1984

*On August 25, 2020, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski was installed for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. The Crossroads took the occasion to congratulate the archbishop and engage him in the following interview.*

#### Do you have any favorite memories to share from your time as a seminarian at Theological College and The Catholic University of America?

Growing up in a predominantly Polish Catholic neighborhood in East Baltimore, I remember how much I felt my experience of the Church was expanded at Catholic University and TC. I am grateful for the strong rooting in Catholicism my upbringing in my family and neighborhood gave to me, but I felt that I was getting a much wider understanding of the Church being on the campus at CUA and at Theological College. I remember remarking to a faculty member that I felt there was so much to absorb, it was almost overwhelming. I do treasure my years at TC and CUA for such a wonderful experience.

#### How did your 20 years in parishes across the Archdiocese of Baltimore prepare you for your life ahead as a bishop?

Until my dying day, I will always cherish those 20 years of parish experience and would go back to parish ministry tomorrow if it were possible. It is a humbling, grace-filled time to be with people in such crucial moments of their lives — weddings, baptisms, funerals, hospital visits — and to be part of their journey of faith. I still miss that experience. Parish ministry taught me the importance of collaborative leadership in working with fellow staff members, parishioners, and other co-workers in the Lord's vineyard, and all this has helped me as a bishop today. I like to think of leading a diocese as shepherding a very large parish!

#### As auxiliary bishop, you served as Vicar for Hispanic Ministries. How do you look back on that experience and its impact on you and your future outreach work?

While in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, it was a joy to work closely with my sisters and brothers of Hispanic origin. One of the main impacts that working with the Hispanic community had on me was the importance of family and gathering together. I truly cherished celebrating Masses in Spanish and seeing the joy on the faces of families being together and loving their faith. A strong family life gives children a solid base to begin their lives knowing

that they are loved by God and their families. I see this as one of the great gifts the Hispanic community brings to the Church in the United States. Keeping their faith strong is so important as they continue to live in this country.

#### Do you think your reputation for being a champion of overcoming divisions may have been informed by your upbringing in a Polish Catholic family?

Certainly, my family has had a great influence upon my life and that of my brothers; I grew up in a strong and devout home. Each one of us has different personalities, likes, and dislikes. But we were united in our family life. It is difficult to witness what is going on in our country today: the COVID-19 virus has kept us apart, heightened racial tensions, a lack of civil dialogue. These things only drive us apart, exasperate isolation and loneliness, and make us turn inward on ourselves. Jesus calls us to look out for one another, to care for our brothers and sisters. It is Jesus' mandate that impels us as Christians to seek the things that unite us, rather than divide us. We see daily the effects of division and hate that bring us great woe rather than the joy to be found in the Gospel.

#### What is your biggest ministerial aspiration as you begin your life with the People of God in St. Louis?

In my homily at the Installation on August 25, I quoted Pope Francis on the role of the bishop as the Holy Father explained in *The Joy of the Gospel: Evangelii Gaudium*. Sometimes the bishop does have to be out in front leading the people entrusted to his care; other times he must be humbly in their midst as a sign of solidarity and encouragement, and other times the bishop must stay behind, urging those who are lagging to move forward. Pope Francis has provided a clear outline of what the bishop must do in serving God's people.

#### What do you believe to be the most serious challenges for those entering the priesthood in the 21st century?

Firstly, in so many areas, our society seems to have grown hostile to the idea of faith and religion. In pursuing freedom of the individual and all that entails, we have forgotten the importance of the common good. Jesus teaches us to seek the common good, as does our Catholic faith. In a time of rugged individualism, the practice of faith can sometimes be viewed as restrictive. Yet, our faith is freeing in allowing us to serve one another. I have spoken with seminarians who have shown great courage in responding to God's call despite opposition from family members. It has to be very difficult for a seminarian to be faithful to God's call when those whom he loves object to it. The clergy sexual abuse crisis still looms as a great hindrance to the credibility of priesthood. Our priests of today, because of these obstacles, have to be rooted in prayer, Scripture, study, and knowledge of theology, and be faithful to their calling to be witnesses of the Lord Jesus at work in His Church. A much different picture than when I entered the seminary 40 years ago!

#### Can you offer some advice or encouragement for the seminarians of Theological College and all those in the process of discernment?

While the world has changed so much over these past 40 years in its approach to faith, there is still that same human longing for God. Our priests need to be solidly grounded in our Catholic faith to give voice to human longing and to be ready to point the way for those who are seeking the presence of God in their lives. I often reflect on the story of a young Joseph Ratzinger, who, as a boy, was asked by a Nazi soldier what he wanted to be when he grew up. He replied, "A priest." The soldier told him that in the new Germany priests would not be needed. But even at that age, the future Pope Benedict XVI knew that it was the time when priests would be most needed. The same is true for our age today. Our Church and society need the example, guidance, and witness of men who are committed to living out the priesthood today, more than ever!

— Suzanne Tanzi



CLASS NOTES

70s

**Monsignor Bruce Miller**, J.C.L., ’77, of the Diocese of Alexandria, retired from active ministry on August 3, 2020. However, he will continue to serve as a judge *ad hoc* in various dioceses and will be available to the Archdiocese of New Orleans for Mass coverage.

80s

**Monsignor Michael Clay**, ’80, of the Diocese of Raleigh, upon the conclusion of his eight-year appointment at The Catholic University of America, was named pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh by Bishop Luis R. Zarama. He will continue to serve as adjunct associate professor at Catholic University, teaching courses in the Doctor of Ministry Program.

**Rev. Mason E. Wiggins**, B ’80, ordained by Bishop Felipe Estévez on June 20, 2020, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine in Augustine, Fl., is serving as parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Palm Coast.

**Rev. Frank J. Murray**, ’81, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), former pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish (St. John Church, Bangor; St. Mary Church, Bangor; St. Joseph Church, Brewer; St. Teresa Church, Brewer; St. Matthew Church, Hampden; St. Gabriel Church, Winterport) and TC’s 2018 Alumnus Lifetime Service Award recipient, retired from active ministry on August 1, 2020, but continues to assist parishes with coverage as needed.

**Most Rev. Mitchell T. Rozanski**, ’84, Bishop of Springfield, Mass., since 2014, was appointed on June 10, 2020, by Pope Francis to lead the Metropolitan Archdiocese of St. Louis, Mo., succeeding Archbishop Robert Carlson who submitted his resignation at the age of 75. A member of the Knights of Columbus and a Knight Commander of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, he was installed as Archbishop of St. Louis on August 25, 2020, overseeing the largest city in Missouri, and a metropolis, namely, the primary city of an ecclesiastical province or regional capital. Theological College prays for and congratulates Archbishop Rozanski on his new assignment and wishes all the best to him and to his new flock! (See interview, p. 24.)

**Monsignor Marc G. Caron**, ’89, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), was appointed vicar general and moderator of the curia for the Diocese of Portland. Monsignor Caron was a professor of theology and a member of the priestly formation faculty at Saint John’s Seminary in Brighton, Mass., where he had served since July of 2016, prior to this new assignment.

90s

**Rev. Timothy Nadeau**, ’91, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of Stella Maris Parish in Bucksport, St. Joseph Parish in Ellsworth, and Parish of the Transfiguration of the Lord in Bar Harbor to serve as pastor of Good Shepherd Parish comprised of six churches: Most Holy Trinity Church, Saco; St. Joseph Church, Biddeford; St. Margaret Church, Old Orchard Beach; St. Philip Church, Lyman; Most Holy Trinity Church, Saco; and St. Brendan Church, Biddeford Pool.

**Rev. Michael Renninger**, ’93, pastor of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Richmond, and former classmate Robert Feduccia were presenters for an online master’s class, “The Art of Liturgy,” in September, “designed to give priests, deacons, and lay ministers enhanced tools to improve the experience of Liturgy on the parish level.” The course, sponsored by Catholic event producers from Equipping the Saints (*see eqsaints.com*), focused on spirituality, music ministry, and preaching.

**Rev. Michael Hickin**, ’97, of the Diocese of Fargo, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of St. Mark’s Catholic Church in Bottineau and St. Andrew’s Catholic Church in Westhope to serve as pastor of the cluster parishes of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church and school in Langdon, St. Edward’s Church in Nekoma, and St. Michael’s Church in Wales, for a term of six years.

00s

**Rev. Christopher M. Gober**, ’00, of the Diocese of Charlotte, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of St. Lucien Catholic Church in Spruce Pine, and St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Linville, to serve as pastor of St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Winston-Salem. Father Gober continues to serve as director of vocations for the Diocese of Charlotte.

**Rev. Anthony Lackland**, ’06, of the Diocese of Dallas, has been transferred from his ministry as vice-rector of Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving to serve as pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church in Dallas.

10s

**Rev. Ismael (Mel) N. Ayala**, ’10, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as pastor of St. Nicholas Parish in Laurel, Md., to serve as pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Silver Spring.

**Rev. Aaron M. Qureshi**, ’10, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been appointed pastor of St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish in McConchie, Md., and St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in Port Tobacco, after having served as administrator for these parishes.

**Rev. John Dickinson, J.C.L.**, ’11, of the Diocese of Portland (Maine), has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish in Sanford and St. Matthew Parish in Limerick to serve as pastor of St. John Paul II Parish, comprised of St. Bartholomew Church in Cape Elizabeth, St. John & Holy Cross Church in South Portland, and St. Maximilian Kolbe Church in Scarborough. He continues to serve as judicial vicar for the Diocese of Portland, a responsibility he has held since January of 2018.

**Rev. Robert P. Boxie**, Pre-T ’12, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish in Largo, Md., to serve as chaplain at Howard University in Washington, D.C., with residence at Immaculate Conception Parish in Washington.

**Rev. Lawrence D. Adams**, ’13, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as team member of Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish, Monroeville/Penn Hills, to Moderator

of Team Ministry of Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish, Monroeville/Penn Hills.

**Rev. David B. Gaines**, ’14, of the Diocese of Spokane, has been transferred from his ministry as priest administrator to pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Spokane and St. Patrick Parish, Spokane.

**Rev. Chip Lockett**, ’14, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, Bethesda, Md., and as chaplain at Suburban Hospital to serve as parochial vicar at St. Mary of the Assumption in Upper Marlboro.

**Rev. Kenneth W. Marlovits**, ’14, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as senior parochial vicar of the parishes of Saint Kilian, Adams/Cranberry Townships; and Holy Sepulcher, Glade Mills, as well as chaplain to the students at North Catholic High School, to serve as assistant director of the Office for Priestly Vocations, with residence at Saint Paul Seminary.

**Rev. Levi D. Hartle**, ’15, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of Holy Angels Parish, Hays; Holy Apostles Parish, South Pittsburgh; and Saint Sylvester Parish, Brentwood, to serve as parochial vicar of the newly established Blessed Trinity Parish, South Pittsburgh. Father Hartle maintains his assignment as consultant to the Department of Worship.

**Rev. Matthew A. Kiehl**, ’15, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as 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, Williamsburg, to serve as administrator of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia Beach.

**Rev. David Kruse**, ’15, of the Diocese of Spokane, has been assigned as parochial vicar at St. Augustine Catholic Parish in Spokane; chaplain of Immaculate Heart Retreat Center; priest chaplain at Whitworth University; and associate chaplain at Chesterton Academy. Father Kruse founded The Fatherhood Foundation in June 2020, an initiative led by members of U.S. Special Operations Forces honoring men in their call to fatherhood by creating and supporting programs designed to educate, train, inspire, and strengthen fathers, modeled after the heart of Jesus Christ.

**Rev. Jeremy J. Mohler**, ’15, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of Saint Colman Parish, Turtle Creek; Good Shepherd Parish, Braddock; Saint John Fisher Parish, Churchill; Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, Wilmerding; Madonna del Castello, Swissvale; Saint Maurice Parish, Forest Hills; and Word of God Parish, Swissvale, to serve as parochial vicar of the newly established Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, East Suburban Pittsburgh.

**Rev. William D. Wuenschel**, ’15, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as senior parochial vicar of Saint Alexis Parish and Saint Alphonsus Parish, both in Wexford, to serve as senior parochial vicar of the newly established Saint Aiden Parish, Wexford.

**Rev. William C. Frei**, B ’16, ordained by Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone on July 10, 2020, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Johns Island, S.C., for the Diocese of Charleston, returned to Rome this fall to



complete his licentiate in Ignatian spirituality at the Pontifical Gregorian University.

**Rev. Nathaniel Glenn, B** ’16, ordained by Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted on June 6, 2020, at All Saints Catholic Church in Mesa, Ariz., for the Diocese of Phoenix, is serving as parochial vicar of St. Daniel the Prophet Catholic Church in Scottsdale.

**Rev. Ryan Pineda,** ’16, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Peter’s Parish in Olney, Md., to serve as parochial vicar of St. Peter’s Parish in Waldorf, Md.

**Rev. Benjamin E. Barr,** ’17 (B ’05), of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of Saint Bernard Parish, Mount Lebanon, and Our Lady of Grace Parish, Scott Township, to serve as parochial vicar of the newly established Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Dormont/Mount Lebanon/Scott Township.

**Rev. Michael Baynham,** ’17, of the Diocese of Dallas, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of The Catholic Community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Plano to serve as parochial vicar of St. Rita Catholic Church in Dallas.

**Rev. Andrew T. Wakefield,** ’17, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been appointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Beltsville, Md., after having served as administrator for this parish.

**Rev. Wade Bass,** ’18, of the Diocese of Dallas, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Monica Catholic Church in Dallas to serve as chaplain at SMU in Dallas, with residency at Christ the King Catholic Church.

**Rev. Nicholas E. Redmond,** ’18, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Petersburg, and associate director and promoter of vocations to serve as promoter of vocations and chaplain of the Catholic Campus Ministry serving the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg

**Rev. Rhett Williams,** ’18, of the Diocese of Charleston, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Simpsonville, to serve as administrator of St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Columbia, Catholic chaplain to the University of South Carolina, and chaplain to Cardinal Newman School in Columbia.

**Rev. Matthew Browne,** ’19, of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, received his S.T.L. from Catholic University in Systematic Theology, with a focus in ecclesiology this fall. His thesis was titled, “Priesthood and Mission in a Eucharistic Ecclesiology.” He is serving as associate pastor of the Church of St. Dominic in Oyster Bay and as chaplain and senior-level theology teacher at St. Dominic’s High School, which is attached to the parish.

**Rev. Walter Genito,** ’19, of the Archdiocese of New York, received his S.T.L. from Catholic University in Systematic Theology. He is serving as parochial vicar of St. Martin de Porres Parish in Poughkeepsie and has created several podcasts for his parish, exploring the teachings of the Church, lives of the saints, and various devotions, to name a few topics.

**Rev. Christopher M. Masla,** ’19, of the Diocese of Richmond, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar

of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Harrisonburg, to serve as parochial vicar of Church of the Incarnation in Charlottesville and Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Mission in Crozet.

**Rev. Patrick Mullan,** ’19, of the Archdiocese of Washington, has been transferred from his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Patrick Parish in Rockville, Md., to serve as parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish in Largo.

20s

**Rev. Garrett Bockman,** ’20, ordained by Bishop Edward J. Burns at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Frisco on May 30, 2020, for the Diocese of Dallas, was parochial vicar of San Juan Diego Catholic Church in Dallas for the summer of 2020, and has returned to Theological College for his S.T. L. degree from Catholic University.

**Rev. Anthony Ferguson,** ’20, ordained by Bishop Barry C. Knestout at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on July 11, 2020, for the Diocese of Richmond, is serving as parochial vicar of St. Andrew Catholic Church in Roanoke.

Rector Ciriaco (left) welcomes guest celebrant Father Anthony Ferguson (Class of 2020) to a recent house Liturgy.



**Rev. Mark Garrett,** ’20, ordained by Bishop Edward J. Burns at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Frisco on May 30, 2020, for the Diocese of Dallas, is serving as parochial vicar of St. Monica Church in Dallas.

**Rev. Elmer Herrera-Guzmán,** ’20, ordained by Bishop Edward J. Burns at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Frisco on May 30, 2020, for the Diocese of Dallas, is serving as parochial vicar of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Dallas.

**Rev. Ryan Hiaeshutter,** ’20, ordained by Bishop Edward J. Burns at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Frisco on May 30, 2020, for the Diocese of Dallas, is serving as parochial vicar of Christ the King Catholic Church in Dallas.

**Rev. Jaime Maldonado-Avilés,** ’20, ordained by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford on June 27, 2020, for the Archdiocese of Hartford, is serving as parochial vicar of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish in Manchester,

and as priest chaplain in the campus ministry program at East Catholic High School in Manchester.

*The Theological College Community offers prayer-filled congratulations to all of its newly ordained alumni!*

In Memoriam



**Rev. Gerard S. Sloyan,** ’44, died on February 22, 2020, at the age of 100. Father Sloyan was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Trenton by Bishop William A. Griffin on June 3, 1944, in St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, Trenton. In his first assignment, he served as parochial

vicar at St. Anthony Parish, Hamilton (now part of Our Lady of Sorrows–St. Anthony Parish). After a summer in Hamilton, he began full-time work in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at The Catholic University of America. A distinguished Biblical scholar, teacher, and author, and former President of the Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA) from 1993-94, Father Sloyan’s dedicated priestly ministry spanned over seven decades, and included service as head of the graduate department of religious education at Catholic University from 1957 to 1967, followed by joining the department of religion at Temple University, Philadelphia, where he taught for 30 years. In the late 1990s, Father Sloyan settled in Washington, D.C., and continued to teach as adjunct professor of theology at Catholic University and Georgetown University.

Throughout his years in academics, Father Sloyan published numerous books on the Catholic faith, focusing primarily on the life of Jesus and the Gospels. Among his popular works are *What Are They Saying About John?* (1991); *Jesus on Trial: A Study of the*

*Gospels* (2006); and *Jesus: Word Made Flesh* (2008). In 2012, he was awarded the Alumnus Lifetime Service Award from Theological College, honoring his lifelong service as an outstanding educator and theologian.

In 2019, Father Sloyan marked two major milestones in his life: On June 3, he celebrated the 75th anniversary of his priestly ordination and on December 13, he turned 100 years old, making him the oldest priest in the Diocese of Trenton who had been ordained the longest! When Father Sloyan turned 100, a festive gathering, complete with a birthday cake, was held at Catholic University with friends and faculty members in attendance. At that time, it was learned that the faculty had planned to commemorate his two milestones with a one-day symposium in the spring. Although Father Sloyan’s death preceded this event by less than two weeks, it was held in his honor posthumously on March 4, 2020, in Caldwell Auditorium, sponsored by Catholic University’s School of Theology and Religious Studies and co-sponsored by the Diocese of Trenton. The event was titled: “Scripture, Liturgy, Catechesis, Dialogue: A Symposium to Celebrate the Legacy of Father Gerard Sloyan at 100.” The panel discussions focused on major issues Father Sloyan worked on throughout his life, with speakers addressing both his contribution to their work and the current state of the disciplines. Topics included homiletics, liturgical catechesis, the Gospel of John, and Jewish-Christian dialogue. A memorial Mass was held on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Potomac, Md., where Father Sloyan had been in residence in an assisted living facility. Because



Father Sloyan donated his body for study for the advancement of the medical sciences at Georgetown University, he will be buried in New Jersey at a later date.



**Rev. John F. Mattingly, P.S.S., '48 (B '45),** died on June 8, 2020, at the age of 97, the oldest Sulpician in the U.S. Province at the time of his death. After receiving his M.A. in philosophy as a Basselin scholar and then completing his S.T.L. at Theological

College, Father Mattingly was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Baltimore on May 22, 1948. Following his ordination, he immediately joined the Sulpicians and was admitted in 1949. Father Mattingly then remained at Catholic University to continue his studies in Theology with a concentration in Sacred Scripture. Next, he went to Rome and obtained his S.S.L. degree from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in 1952.

Upon his return to the United States, Father Mattingly taught Biblical Studies at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif., from 1952 to 1968. From 1968 to 1972, he was assigned as a professor of Biblical Studies and dean of the theologate at St. Thomas Seminary in Kenmore, Wash. In 1972, he returned to Baltimore, where he served as assistant treasurer at St. Mary's Seminary & University until 1976. At this time, he began studies in Library Science at Catholic University and earned an M.S.L.S. degree in 1977. After returning to St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, Father Mattingly faithfully served in their library for the next two decades, first as director until 1990, and then as an assistant to the new director until his retirement in 1997.

His dedicated priestly ministry as a Sulpician educator and formator spanned over seven decades. Upon his retirement to St. Charles Villa in Catonsville, Md., the Sulpician retirement community (now called Villa Olier), he continued to pursue his love of learning by reading the latest works on Theology and Biblical Studies. Remembered fondly by his confreres for his boundless energy, even as he aged, he was also known by all as a gracious and genteel host. Father Mattingly's family requested that he be cremated and that the Mass of Christian Burial with cremains be deferred until restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic were lifted, to allow everyone to attend. Father Mattingly requested that his funeral take place at the Chapel of Our Lady of the Angels in the Charlestown Community, with interment to follow in the Sulpician Cemetery in Catonsville.



**Rev. Joseph M. Mills, '53 (B '49),** died on April 4, 2020, at the age of 92. Father Mills was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Owensboro by Bishop Francis R. Cotton on May 26, 1953, at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro. His dedicated

priestly ministry, spanning over six decades, began when Father Mills served as assistant pastor at St. Agnes Parish in Uniontown before being sent to Rome to pursue his studies in Canon Law. In 1961, after returning to the United States, Father Mills was assigned as a theology instructor at Brescia College, where he taught for the next 12 years. In 1973, he was transferred and made pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green until 1982. Following this assignment, until 2000, Father Mills continued to serve as pastor at three additional parishes: Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro; St. Anthony Parish, Browns Valley; and St. Martin Parish, Rome.

Additionally, he served as judicial vicar, appointed by Bishop John McRaith in 1983, and was a member of the Canon Law Society of America. In 1992, he was appointed vicar general. At the conclusion of his pastorate at St. Martin's in 2000, he became chaplain to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount where he ministered to the Sisters even beyond his retirement on January 1, 2004. Besides his work as pastor and educator, Father Mills served on the priests' council, the priest personnel committee, and the diocesan review board for the Diocese of Owensboro. He also worked with Cursillo, Charismatic Renewal, RENEW, Marriage Encounter, Jesus Caritas, and the Serra Club as chaplain.

A private funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro with interment at Resurrection Cemetery, Owensboro. Father J. Patrick Reynolds, vicar general for the Diocese of Owensboro, who gave the homily at the funeral Mass, shared the following: "The elderly ones respected him, and the young ones knew he was always in their corner. He encouraged our diocesan seminarians through the years, especially in his many years as chaplain for the Serra Club, which promotes vocations and prays for our seminarians." Father Reynolds also called Father Mills a "mentor and a role model to me, and to many others," and said that "Father Joe Mills was not only a good priest; he was, indeed, a priests' priest." A public memorial Mass will be held later. Memorial donations may be made to the Retired Priests Fund, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301.



**Rev. Lyle Schulte, '60 (B '56),** and class representative, died on August 9, 2020, at the age of 86. Father Schulte began his priestly journey when he enrolled in the newly established Holy Cross Collegiate Seminary in La Crosse in 1951. He com-

pleted his college and graduate studies as a Basselin scholar at Theological College. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of La Crosse by Bishop John P. Treacy on May 14, 1960. He initially served one year at the Newman Catholic High School, Wausau, with parish experience at St. Michael Parish, Wausau, and as a chaplain to the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters who staffed Newman.

For the next 19 years, Father Schulte became a full-time college classroom instructor, first at Holy Cross Seminary in La Crosse for 10 years, followed by Viterbo University in La Crosse for nine years. During his academic work, he also served as daily chaplain to the cloistered Sisters of St. Dominic from 1968 to 1979 and as a student chaplain for two years at Viterbo University. In 1979, at the request of Bishop Frederick Freking, Father Schulte accepted his first pastoral assignment at St. Joseph Parish in Stevens Point, where he served joyfully for the next 18 years. In 1996, Bishop Raymond Burke (B '71) requested that Father Schulte serve as pastor at St. Joseph Parish, Menomonie, and at St. Luke Parish, Boyceville, with parishioners spread out over three quarters of the villages and farms of the entire County of Dunn, an assignment that was a new joy and challenge for him. In 2003, at the age of 70, Father Schulte retired from active ministry and took up residence and daily liturgical work at St. Michael Parish in Junction City.

Most Reverend William P. Callahan, O.F.M., presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Father Schulte on August 14, 2020, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stevens Point, with interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Marshfield. As noted at his funeral, Father Schulte "loved his family, his work, and the people he served." Memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph Parish, 1709 Wyatt Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54481, where a new bell in the church tower will be installed in his honor. Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Parish with notation on the memo line for Father Lyle Memorial Fund.



**Rev. Francis G. McCloskey, '63,** died on February 5, 2019, at the age of 79. Father McCloskey was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Albany on May 25, 1963, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate

Conception, Albany. His dedicated priestly ministry, spanning over five decades, included service at St. Patrick's High School in Catskill from 1963 to 1965, Annunciation Church in Ilion, N. Y., the following year, Albany Medical Center Hospital as chaplain from 1966 to 1970, and, following the chaplaincy service, four additional diocesan parish assignments.

Beginning in 1981, Father McCloskey participated in many Charismatic Renewal groups and helped facilitate reconciliation of Catholics, Protestants, and political prisoners during "The Troubles" in Ireland. He founded "Christian Ireland Ministries" and a news service exclusively to promote peace in Ireland. Additionally, since the 1980s, Father McCloskey dedicated his priesthood to public advocacy for the defense of the unborn, as a street witness, organizing prayer vigils and celebrating pro-life Masses regularly.

Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard, D.D, Bishop Emeritus of Albany, presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Father McCloskey on February 8, 2019, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, with interment at St. Bridget's New Cemetery, Copake Falls. Memorial donations may be made to Teresian House, 200 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY 12203, or 40 Days for Life/Schenectady and 40 Days for Life/Albany.



**Monsignor Robert T. McDermott, '69,** died on February 17, 2019, at the age of 76. Monsignor McDermott was ordained to the priesthood in 1969 for the Diocese of Camden. His first assignments included teaching and coaching basketball at both Paul VI High School and Camden

Catholic High School, having graduated from the latter in 1960. In 1985, Monsignor McDermott was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Pro-Cathedral Parish in Camden, where he remained until his retirement from active ministry in 2014. During his 29 years of dedicated service at St. Joseph's, he created the Joseph Fund, an umbrella organization which supports several programs that provide a range of community services, including the St. Joseph's Carpenter Society, LUCY Outreach, Joseph's House of Camden, The Child Development Center, The Romero Center, and St. Joseph's Pro-Cathedral School itself.

Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Monsignor McDermott on February 23, 2019, at St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral, Camden, with interment at New St. Mary Cemetery, Bellmawr. Memorial donations may be made to The Joseph Fund, [www.JosephFundCamden.org](http://www.JosephFundCamden.org).



## IN MEMORIAM



**Rev. Philip M. Tighe**, '00, died on August 31, 2020, at the age of 57. Father Tighe was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Raleigh by Bishop F. Joseph Gossman on June 24, 2000, at Sacred Heart Church, Pinehurst. Before discerning his vocation to the priesthood, Father Tighe earned a B.S. in business administration from The Citadel in Charleston, S.C., in 1985 and an M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1990. He then worked for Merrill Lynch in Charleston and, later, IBM in Raleigh.

Since a vocation to the priesthood had occupied his thoughts for many years, he began formal discernment in 1998 at Theological College where he earned a Master of Divinity degree. In his first priestly assignment, Father Tighe served as parochial vicar at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary from 2000 to 2002 before traveling to Bolivia to participate in a Spanish-language immersion program. He then was assigned to serve at Immaculate Conception Parish and its missions near Clinton from 2003 to 2005, to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Rocky Mount from 2005 to 2007, to St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Wake Forest from 2007 to 2018, and the Doggett Center at N.C. State University in Raleigh. In 2016, he was appointed diocesan vocations director, a role he served until his death. As a priest, Father Tighe was known

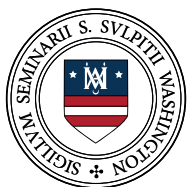
for his devotion to the sacraments, especially the holy sacrifice of Mass which he celebrated daily, and his ability to serve people in need of pastoral care. His presence was particularly important to the seminarians of the Diocese of Raleigh, as he helped many to find their vocation, whether that was the priesthood or not, through prayerful discernment. TC seminarian John De Guzman (3-T, Raleigh) shared on social media: "Father Tighe was a priest of Jesus Christ, truly exemplifying the essence of sharing in Christ's ministry as he constantly opened himself up to the will of God ... Father Tighe was the man who, in my darkest moment as a seminarian, looked upon me with love, care, and compassion as Christ would ... [he] constantly strived to remain with the Lord in his earthly life."

Most Reverend Luis Rafael Zarama, Bishop of Raleigh, presided at the Mass of Christian burial for Father Tighe on September 8, 2020, at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, Raleigh, with interment at St. Anthony of Padua Parish Cemetery, Southern Pines. During his life, Father Tighe founded a fund to provide financial assistance for the training of servers assisting in the celebration of the extraordinary form of the Roman Rite and seminarian training in the Latin Mass. To donate to that fund, visit [www.foundationdor.org/donate/endowments-donate/](http://www.foundationdor.org/donate/endowments-donate/) and select the Diocese: Summorum Pontificum Endowment Fund from the dropdown menu.

Father Philip Tighe, back left, with Raleigh seminarians, including, to his immediate left, TC's John De Guzman and Nicholas Rapkoch.







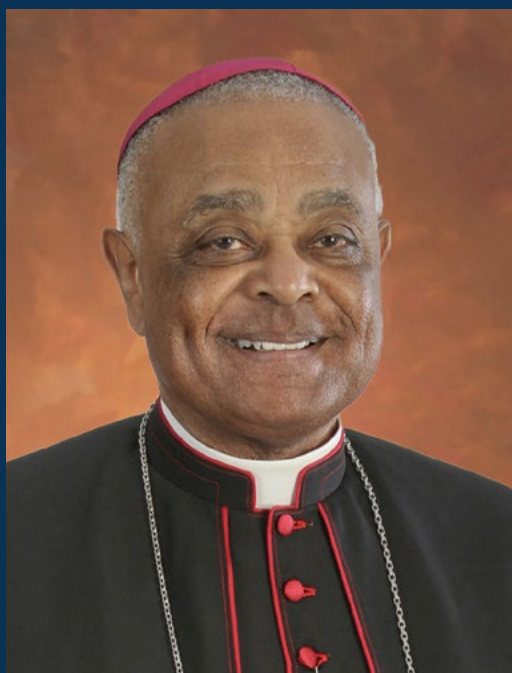
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