



The Servant Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTER FOR VOCATION AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Volume 7, Issue 1

December 2009

The Long Black Line

In 1853, the newly established Roman Catholic Diocese of Newark, with a total of 28 priests, comprised the entire State of New Jersey. When the young James Roosevelt Bayley was appointed as the first bishop, he committed four of his priests, a significant portion of his clergy, to staff the newly founded Seton Hall College.

The priests served as both administration and faculty for the new school, along with three additional staff. From the very beginning, Seton Hall's survival depended on the generosity, talent, and energy of her priests. In the particularly lean years of the 1880's, Bishop Bayley's

bold endeavor would certainly have failed except for their generous monetary gifts as well.

For almost a century, the priests continued to be the major component of Seton Hall's faculty and staff, until the huge influx of students after World War II. This demographic change meant that the priests gradually became a minority of the faculty. For example, in 1928 there were 27 faculty members, of whom 18 were priests. With the rapid growth of the college after World War II, the priest faculty grew as well, though naturally in smaller numbers than the lay faculty. In 1956, out of a total of 342

faculty members, 58 were priests. Five years later in 1961, out of a total of 446 faculty members, 70 were priests.

Then, as now, the number consisted mostly of Newark archdiocesan

priests, with some important contributions from religious communities.

A walk across campus provides concrete reminders of the priests who served here: from McQuaid

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Priest Community at the dedication of the Chapel's new altar.

From the Director's Desk: Their Blood is in the Stone

Research for this newsletter suggests we are fortunate to have as many priests active on campus as we do. Unfortunately, it has been easy to take them for granted because, like the poor, they have been with us always.

As a remedy we might consider their contributions in terms of teaching, praying, and bleeding.

Teaching: the priest community does what the University does, they teach.

The faculty has always been the heart of the University, and the priest community has been the heart of the faculty. In fact, for 90 years, priests taught most of the courses. Even today, with fewer priests, many alums remark on the memorable course taught by "Father So & So."

Praying: the priests enliven Catholic life on campus; be it on the sidewalks, in the classrooms, or

in the chapel. The Fathers have long provided sidewalk counseling to students and faculty alike. By benefit of the priest community, we celebrate Mass, confess our sins, celebrate marriages, and baptize our children.

Bleeding: four priests of the Newark diocese began Seton Hall over a century and a half ago. Since then over 550 priests have lived, died, and worked at

just about every job on campus; their blood is in the stone. It is important for a school to have a group of people who take long-term responsibility, and the priests above all, have taken responsibility for staying faithful to Seton Hall's mission.

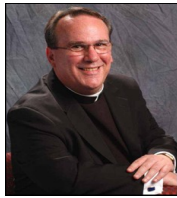
There is no price or substitute for this commitment. In sum, without the priest community, Seton Hall would not exist.

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Priests in the Community



Msgr. Robert Sheeran



Rev. Paul Holmes



Msgr. Anthony Ziccardi



Rev. John Dennehy



Rev. James Speara



Msgr. Robert Coleman



Msgr. Joe Chapel



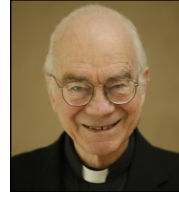
Msgr. Dick Liddy



Msgr. Joseph Reilly



Rev. Ian Boyd



Rev. Lawrence Frizzell



Rev. Jerome Bracken



Rev. Nicholas Gengaro



Rev. Antonio Bico



Rev. Stanley Gomes



Msgr. Kevin Hanbury



Msgr. Tom Nydegger



Rev. Lawrence Porter



Rev. Pablo Gadenz



Msgr. Robert Wister



Rev. Nick Figurelli



Msgr. James Cafone



Msgr. Gerard McCarren



Rev. Gabriel Costa



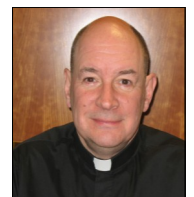
Rev. Douglas Milewski



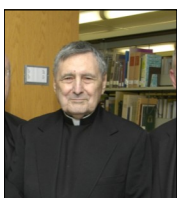
Rev. John Grimm



Rev. Chris Ciccarino



Rev. John Ranieri



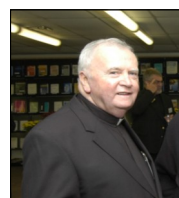
Msgr. James Turro



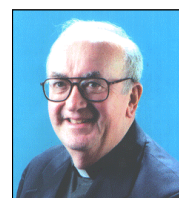
Rev. Don Blumenfeld



Msgr. Anthony Kulig



Rev. Walter Lucey



Rev. John Russell



Rev. Peter Lennon



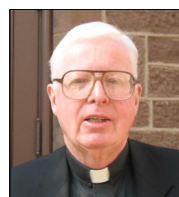
Msgr. Dennis Mahon



Rev. Thomas Guarino



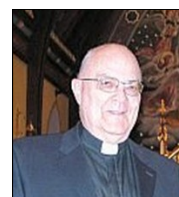
Msgr. Robert Meyer



Rev. John Morley



Msgr. John Radano



Rev. Joe Wortmann



Rev. Richard Nardon



Msgr. Chris Hynes

The Long Black Line

(Continued from page 1)

Hall to Corrigan, from Stafford to Mooney, from McLaughlin to McNulty, from Dougherty past Duffy to Fahy.

The priest community's dedication is evident in the typical class load of a teacher in the 1950's: full-time meant teaching 21 hours a week, often while working on one's doctorate during the summer.

As has been widely reported, the number of priests has declined in the United States and Europe over the last 40 years. This has been reflected on the Seton Hall campus along with the increase in the median age. But when one compares Seton Hall to other schools with close diocesan connections, one becomes aware of how fortunate we are to have as many priests at the University as we do.

Today, there are 48 priests, mostly from the Archdiocese of Newark, serving Seton Hall in various ways.

In comparison, St. Thomas University in St. Paul, Minnesota, which is comparable in size and also includes a college seminary and a major seminary, has a priest community of 20. The University of San Diego, with 4,900 under-

graduates and also a diocesan institution, has only a few priests working there. The University of Dallas, with 1,300 undergraduates and 1,600 graduate students, has six priests on staff. In order to find universities with priest communities of a similar size, you have to look at the schools of large religious communities, such as Boston College where 54 Jesuits are active on the faculty and administration, or Notre Dame where 78 Holy Cross Fathers and Brothers serve the University and Moreau seminary.

The following is a guide to the ministries of the 48 priests currently living and working at Seton Hall. Note that there is some overlap, because many priests are assigned to more than one position.

Eleven priests serve chiefly in administration but also do some teaching. These include: University President, Msgr. Robert Sheeran; Msgr. Jim Cafone, Minister to the Priests Community; Fr. Paul Holmes, Executive Vice President; Msgr. Tony Ziccardi, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry; Msgr. Dick Liddy, Director of the Center for Catholic Studies; Msgr. Frank Seymour, Archdiocesan Archi-

vist; Fr. Ian Boyd, Director of the Chesterton Institute; Fr. Nick Gengaro, Law School chaplain; Msgr. Kevin Hanbury, Director of Schools for the Archdiocese; Msgr. Chris Hynes, educational outreach to the NJ State Police; and Msgr. Bob Meyer, Student Affairs.

Seven priests work as professors in the undergraduate area, including: Fr. Gabe Costa, a mathematics professor who has recently been appointed as Minister to the priests of the Archdiocese; Fr. Larry Frizzell, Jewish-Christian Studies; Msgr. Dick Liddy, Religious Studies; Msgr. Dennis Mahon, Communication; Fr. Brian Muzas, Diplomacy; Msgr. John Radano, Religious Studies; Fr. John Ranieri, Philosophy; and Msgr. Jim Cafone, Religious Studies.

Three priests are assigned by Archbishop Myers to pastoral work on campus: Fr. Jim Spera, Fr. John Dennehy, and Fr. Nick Figurelli.

Seventeen priests are either faculty or administrators at the Immaculate Conception Seminary/School of Theology: Msgr. Robert Coleman, Rector; Msgr. Gerry McCarren, Msgr. Tom Nydegger, Msgr. Bob Wister, Fr. Antonio Bico, Fr. Don Blumenfeld, Msgr. Joe

Chapel, Fr. Chris Ciccarino, Fr. Pablo Gadenz, Fr. John Grimm, Fr. Tom Guarino, Msgr. Tony Kulig, Fr. Walter Lucey, Fr. Doug Milewski, Fr. Larry Porter, Fr. John Russell, Fr. Mark O'Malley and Fr. Jerry Bracken.

Three priests administer St. Andrew's College Seminary: Msgr. Joe Reilly, Fr. Jim Spera, and Fr. Stan Gomes.

Eight priests are retired but continue to be active in the life of the campus: Msgr. James Turro, Fr. Al Celiano, Fr. Peter Lennon, Fr. John Morley, Fr. Richard Nardone, Fr. Bob Nestor, Fr. Jack Ballweg, and Fr. Joe Wortmann.

Nine priests have recently died: Msgr. Edward Fleming (December 25, 2008), Fr. Walter Debold (December 10, 2006), Fr. Francis Finn (August 30, 2007), Fr. Eugene Cotter (May 21, 2005), Msgr. William Daly (July 11, 2005), Fr. Donald Smith (July 7, 2005), Msgr. Andrew Cusack (January 19, 2004), Fr. Arnold DeRosa (October 16, 2004), Msgr. Walter Jarvais (February 3, 2003).

Through the years, over 550 priests have served Seton Hall's students. Without them Seton Hall would not have been; nor would it now be without them.



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It's Your Call: Vocation Profile

Dianna Schwegman, Servant Leader Scholar



Senior Dianna Schwegman is a Servant Leader Scholar whose major is diplomacy. She is also a Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellow. Her hometown is Celina, Ohio.

1. What do you feel called to do? I feel called to excellence in all that I do, from schoolwork to friendships, volunteering, and work. This means giving 100 percent and refusing to accept mediocrity. In regard to my future, I feel called to be a part of something meaningful. I think this is why I have always wanted to work for the United States Foreign Service and the

U.S. State Department. That will give me the opportunity to not only serve our truly incredible country, but also to become a part of something historic and larger than myself.

2. A defining moment in your life was . . . Towards the end of my senior year of high school, I was asked to speak at a reception for area valedictorians. When I began to thank my parents for always being there for me, I broke down and began to cry. It was terribly embarrassing, but I think I realized then just how grateful I am to them, and this realization serves as a defining moment in my life.

3. Who is your hero? My parents are my biggest heroes. They are not only the two best people I know but also the two hardest working people I know. My mother is incredibly smart and truly one of the strong-

est women I have ever met. She is retiring this year after teaching high school for 39 years. My father attended a one-room schoolhouse in rural Ohio. He never had the opportunity to attend college because he had to take care of the family farm and his elderly parents. Working second shift as a high school janitor, my father gave up his supper breaks to watch me play volleyball, and he often worked overtime to earn extra money. He sacrificed for all of his children and is a man of great faith. Next May, my dad will see all three of his children graduate from college.

4. If you could spend 24 hours with anyone, living or dead, who would it be? I never got to meet my grandfathers, as both passed away before I was born. So, I think if I could meet anyone, it would be my grandpa Bertke. His real name was Leander, but eve-

ryone called him Charlie. He served in WWII, and his uniform still hangs in our downstairs closet. I think we would have a pretty good time together and probably quite a few laughs.

5. A perfect day would have to include a drive down Highway 127, just south of Celina, Ohio, near the Indiana line. My girlfriends from back home would be packed in the car with me, and Keith Urban would be playing on the radio. The summer sun would be high in the sky, and the car windows would all be down. I would look out and see the most beautiful sight on earth: flat farmland as far as the eye can see, dotted periodically with country farmhouses, red barns, and tall grain silos. One could smell fresh cut grass and, well, the manure too. The corn would be high, and my cheeks would hurt from smiling.



Center for Vocation & Servant Leadership ♦ Dr. David R. Foster, Director

Photo at left: Msgr. Frank Seymour. Priest photos not available at press time: Rev. Jack Ballweg, Rev. Alfred Celiano, Rev. Brian Muzas, Rev. Bob Nestor and Rev. Mark O'Malley

