

"I will go unto the altar of God, the God who gives joy to my youth."

ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY PREPARES TO CELEBRATE 125 YEARS OF FORMING PRIESTS



The Magazine of St. Patrick's Seminary & University

PATRICIAN

MENLO PARK, CA

SPRING 2023



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St. Patrick's Seminary & University

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THE PATRICIAN MAGAZINE

The Patrician is published by the Very Rev. Mark Doherty, President-Rector of St. Patrick's Seminary & University.

This publication is written, edited, photographed, and designed by the students, faculty, and staff of STPSU.

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SAVE THE DATE



15th ANNUAL GALA

Saturday, September 16th, 2023
Vespers at 4:30 pm
Dinner and program to follow



PRIEST DAY

Tuesday, November 21st, 2023
Talk at 2:00 pm, Mass at 4:00 pm
with dinner to follow

Front Cover: Rev. Mr. Jose Maria Carrillo, '23, and Msgr. John Coleman, '50. Deacon Jose Maria is a member of St. Patrick's newest graduating class, and Msgr. Coleman is St. Patrick's oldest alumnus.



The Very Rev. Mark Doherty, Rector of St. Patrick's Seminary, preaches at the Church Music Association of America's Sacred Music Workshop, held at STPSU.

*"We will build
a new community
in the shell
of the old."
-Servant of God
Dorothy Day*

As St. Patrick's draws closer to its 125th anniversary, I am happy to report that we have clearly entered an era of renewed vitality and fruitfulness. The signs of this renewed vitality are many, but surely the significant uptick in enrollment, nearly doubling in just three years, stands as a lead indicator. A closer look at the numbers reveals that the increase in enrollment is attributable to increased appeal across a varied range of ecclesial contexts. This constitutes strong and broad appeal, yet we never cease to continue to work on developing new enrollment streams.

A significant reason for the appeal that draws bishops, vocation directors, and seminarians to St. Patrick's is the balanced formation program directed by high-quality faculty members. We have second-to-none faculty – both priests and laity – with a wide variety of experiences and backgrounds that give our seminarians a truly Catholic formation. The positive synergy between the faculty and seminarians takes on a tangible feel for anyone who visits the campus.

We have witnessed several developments on the faculty front that will further enhance the formation we provide, including the hiring of Dr. Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka, one of the world's leading experts in the field of sacred music. Dr. Donelson's position will be funded in part by a multi-million-dollar endowment. As you know, besides serving as a Professor of Sacred Music and the Director of Sacred Music for the seminary, Dr. Donelson will start up a program open to non-seminarians that we hope in time will be able to confer a Master's in Sacred Music degree. We have also brought on board Dr. Russell Hittinger, the world's leading specialist in natural law theory and Catholic social teaching.

Moving to the facilities front, I am happy to report that many renovation projects have been completed and a slew of unanticipated maintenance is-

sues have been resolved with the goal of making St. Patrick's physical plant sustainable for another 125 years. Phase one of the chapel renovation project is completely all wrapped up. We have begun raising funds for phase two.

At this time, the major project underway is the recently begun renovation of E-wing, which is the space behind Sancta Maria Hall. As those of you in attendance at the Gala will have learned, we have struck a long-term agreement with the Western Association of the Order of Malta wherein Malta will move into the office space recently vacated by the Catholic Telemedia Network. Malta leadership has committed to renovating the E-wing space at their own cost and being our main partner in raising the necessary funds to renovate the D-wing convent. The needed renovations will be very costly, but Malta leadership is confident that they can help us raise the millions needed to do the job. Lastly, there will be smaller but important spill-over advantages. For example, Malta will pay for the installation of an HVAC system for Sancta Maria Hall. I have noted on several occasions that St. Patrick's owes a great debt to the many Knights and Dames who have contributed so much of their time, talent, and treasure over the years to help this institution survive and thrive.

These high points illustrate the excitement we have at St. Patrick's as we inaugurate our 125th anniversary. I invite all of you to come to campus for a visit to see how our Catholic faith and St. Patrick's Seminary are both "always ancient" and "new."

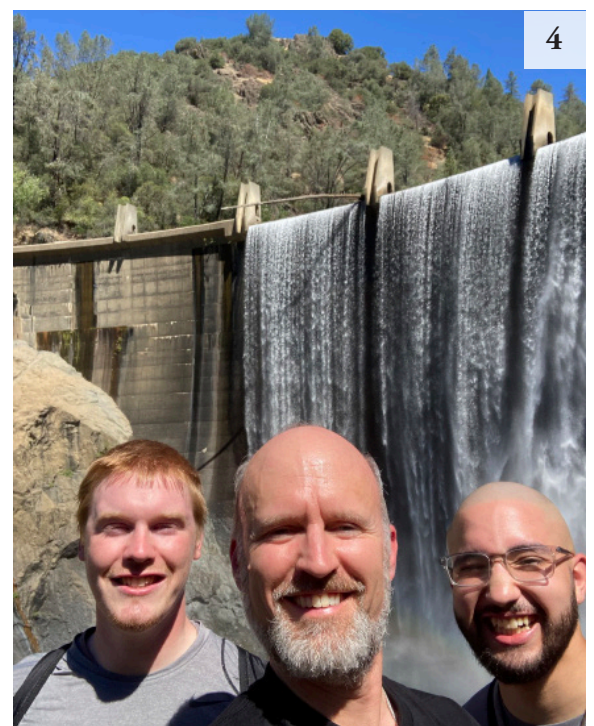
Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Mark Doherty
President-Rector
St. Patrick's Seminary & University

Formation and Fraternity

AN INSIGHT INTO
LIFE AT
ST. PATRICK'S

1) The Pre-Theology 2 class gathers for the Fall Community Day games. 2) Scott Vincent Borba (T2, Fresno) and Zach Muñoz (T2, Portland) ride their way to victory in the Community Day bicycle jousting competition. 3) Each Wednesday afternoon, seminarians, faculty, and staff play soccer on the seminary fields. 4) Ben Condon (Pastoral, Sacramento), Scott Whittaker (T1, Sacramento), and friend Elijah Miller take advantage of California's natural beauty and spend the day hiking. 5 & 6) Psychologist Paul Ruff and Rev. Sean Kilcawley are two of the guest speakers who presented to seminarians at Human Formation symposia during the school year. 7) Seminarians meet regularly in small groups for formation sessions. Here Br. Mikhael Mihic, COSJ (T2) and Maurice Tokay (T2) pray before a formation meeting. 8) Seminarian Andrew Kelley (T1, Spokane) helps seminarians learn Mass settings in liturgical formation sessions. 9) Seminarians and formation directors regularly utilize our basketball or tennis courts for friendly competition.

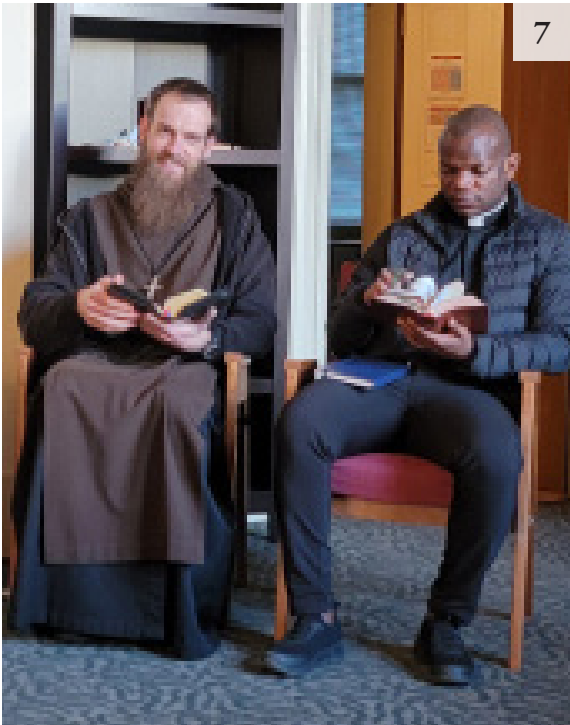


SEMINARIAN SUPPORT FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

STPSU Seminarians participate in pro-life work

Seminarians participate in pro-life work as part of their pastoral and volunteer experience during the year. From participating in 40 Days for Life vigils, personal advocacy, and the annual Walk for Life-West Coast (as seen below), seminarians make life and its protection a priority.

Every year the seminarians choose a specific charity to support with their Lenten alms-giving. This year they have selected the Archdiocese of San Francisco's Stand with Moms in Need effort in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision. Go to <https://sfarchdiocese.org/standwithmoms/> for more information.





A FAMILIAR FRIEND IN A NEW ROLE

Dr. Margaret Turek steps into the role of Academic Dean

This year marks a significant transition in the academic life of the seminary. After four years of service to St. Patrick's as Academic Dean, Dr. Anthony Lilles returned to full-time classroom teaching, and Dr. Margaret Turek, the longest-serving member of the St. Patrick's Faculty, assumed the position of Academic Dean on July 1st, 2022. In the words of President-Rector Fr. Doherty, "She brings a wealth of institutional memory to her new task, as well as a slew of ideas for the new era upon which we have embarked." Dr. Turek continues to spend time in the classroom, teaching a course on the Holy Trinity during the spring semester.

NEW PHILOSOPHY FACULTY



Caitlin Jolly, PhD
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Upon receiving a job offer from St. Patrick's, I immediately sensed I was being given a great gift. Central to its appeal was the fact that I would be working at a seminary, serving the

intrinsically worthwhile mission of forming future priests. The invitation to contribute to this work was humbling, given the great responsibility it entails, but, for the same reason, also incredibly motivating. It was wonderful to be invited to teach in a place where my work will depend so clearly on God and on other people, and where sanctity is the integrating goal of everyone's efforts. I was also very drawn by the prospect of working with Dr. Adrian Walker as my department chair in philosophy and with Dr. Margaret Turek as my academic dean. I knew not only that both of them are excellent scholars but also that under their examples and leadership my formation at the John Paul II Institute (Washington, DC) would be welcomed and developed in new ways. Finally, the possibility of working at St. Patrick's came at an ideal time for my family, as my husband was offered a job teaching humanities at the new Chesterton Academy of St. James, a classical, Catholic high school currently located on the seminary grounds. My job at St. Patrick's is exactly what I was looking for, and I'm in-

credibly grateful to be here.

The seminarians I work with are impressive. There is among them an abundance of sincere good will. They work hard and with good humor, too—not only in the classroom but also in serving Mass and praying the Divine Office, doing dishes in the refectory, hosting liturgical celebrations for the broader community, and much more. It is beautiful to see men worshipping our Lord.

I've been impressed by the collegiality and general excellence of the faculty and the real investment and belonging of all the staff in the STPSU community. It seems God is doing something very good now at the seminary, and the hopeful momentum he is generating appears in many ways, like the recent increase in enrollment, the careful attention being given to improving the academic curriculum and human formation, the care for cultivating beauty in the liturgy, and the efforts to strengthen the seminary's relationships with other institutions in the Church. It's been a privilege to be here witnessing it all unfold. ❁

Priestly formation at St. Patrick's Seminary & University is essentially a journey of discipleship that aims at conforming the heart of our seminarians to the heart of Christ, "so that they are ready for consecration as shepherds for God's People, sharing in the authority of Christ the Redeemer, who sent the Apostles to preach and heal" (*Program of Priestly Formation*, no. 14). A distinguishing mark of this journey is its integrated character: all four dimensions of priestly formation – human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral – are to interpenetrate and enrich each other.

Our emphatic commitment to fostering the integrated character of priestly formation governs the content of our courses as well as the

recruitment of our teaching faculty. Seminarians at St. Patrick's explore the whole of the Catholic tradition, with all its depth and richness. For its part, our faculty is masterful at situating this prodigious tradition in explicit and vital connection with the life and practice of discipleship today. In this way, we bridge the gap between high quality intellectual formation and practical contemporary concerns. We lead the seminarians to appreciate first-hand that theology is both confirmed and enhanced in being applied to their own human, spiritual, and pastoral formation. With Pope St. John Paul II, we are convinced that "[t]o be pastorally effective, intellectual formation must be integrated with a spirituality marked by a personal experience

of God. In this way a purely abstract approach to knowledge is overcome in favor of that intelligence of heart which knows how 'to look beyond,' and then is in a position to communicate the mystery of God to the people" (*Pastores Dabo Vobis*, no. 51). As a seminary faculty, we know we have taught effectively when our graduates become pastors who can lead others to an intimate knowledge of God and his ways, preach the Gospel with clarity and conviction, and are themselves sustained in their vocations long-term by the pastoral charity of Christ that animates their lives.

Margaret Turek, STD
Academic Dean



St. Patrick's Seminary welcomes two new philosophy professors



Brendan Palla, PhD
Associate Professor of Philosophy

I come to Saint Patrick's from a small Catholic liberal arts university that struggled in some ways to fully live its Catholic identity. One of the reasons that I admire Saint Pat-

rick's is that it manifests a visible and deep unity of purpose in forming men to fulfill their office as Catholic priests. The priesthood plays many roles in the life of the Church; these roles ultimately help the faithful to find happiness in life with God. It is a bracing and a satisfying task to help men discern and undertake this noble role.

By vocation, I am a philosopher; we philosophers seek with natural reason to understand the world around us and to ask what is the good for humans. I view the practice of a philosophical life as an indispensable aid to living a life of faith: a philosophical spirit can help us to dialogue within ourselves and with others about how best to receive and to live the life of Catholic faith. Coming to Saint Patrick's enables me to learn and teach with a community that shares this vital hope about the value of reason in the service of faith. As someone born and reared in the Bay Area, I am also grateful to serve here amidst California's great beauty and help send forth men to serve a place near to my heart.

When I visited St. Patrick's even be-

fore joining the faculty, my wife and I were struck by its vibrancy. Here is an atmosphere of prayer and contemplation, as well as robust intellectual exchange and a rich sense of community.

We humans are deeply social creatures. It can be challenging in contemporary life to resist fragmentation and find communities that care deeply about living the faith in the context of a full human life. St. Patrick's is a truly uncommon institution in manifesting such deep care for the good of its community in service to the Church.

I am gratified to teach the men in the Pre-Theology program. Their intellectual curiosity and firmness of purpose exceeds what I have seen in other classrooms. Aristotle has this technical phrase: "the activity of the agent is fulfilled in the patient." For us teachers, that means we only succeed as teachers when our students can grasp and share what we have taught. I'm hopeful that in my own small way I am more effective with men so eager to learn.



FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Matthew Dal Santo, Dogmatics

Publications:

“Hagia Sophia, the Ukraine War and Liberal Empire”. Submission to *Telos: Journal of the Theory of the Contemporary*. Under Review.

Academic Presentations:

“Hagia Sophia, the Ukraine War and Liberal Empire”. Conference paper, Telos Paul Piccone Institute, NY.

Dr. Jeffrey Froula, Moral Theology, Department Chair

Publications:

“Christ’s Unity of Being and the Sapiential Integrity of Aquinas’s Christology,” *Heythrop*, vol. 62 (Nov. ’21)

Academic Presentations:

“‘And From His Fullness Have We All Received’: The Grace of Christ as Font of All Grace,” accepted for: Grace and Sanctification: Divine Causality, Human Action, and Supernatural Glory, Northfield, Massachusetts, Sponsored by the Sacra Doctrina Project and Thomas Aquinas College, NE.

“The Coherence of the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching as Developed by the Magisterium,” Development of Doctrine: Revelation, Magisterium, and Human Reason, Rochester, New York, sponsored by the Sacra Doctrina Project and St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry.

Rev. Kevin Joyce, Pastoral Studies

Presentations:

Presenter, Chrism Day of Recollection for the presbyterate of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, ’22

Rev. Anthony Stoeppel, Vice-Rector

Publications:

“Confession 101: A Glimpse into How Seminarians Are Trained for the Sacrament of Penance”. *Adoremus Bulletin*, XXVII, No. 5, March ’22

Dr. Margaret Turek, Academic Dean, Dogmatic Theology

Publications:

Atonement: Soundings in Biblical, Trinitarian, and Spiritual Theology, San Francisco: Ignatius Press, ’22

Academic Presentations:

“The Theology of Atonement,” panel discussion, *Gaudium et Spes* YouTube Channel, ’22.

“How the Mystery of the Trinity Illumines the Mystery of Atonement,” Interview, Catholic World Report, ’22

Dr. Adrian Walker, Philosophy Department Chair, Dogmatics

Publications:

“Godlike Instruments: Notes Towards the Regeneration of Science,” in *Nova et Vetera*, 19.4 (Fall ’21)

A revised version of “*Nexus Indissolubilis*. A Balthasarian-Augustinian Meditation on the Spousal Embrace” to be printed in a forthcoming issue of *Communio. International Catholic Review* (article).

Academic Presentations:

“Can We Really Master Nature?” Academic seminar, May 2022, Valor Institute.

“Political Psychology in the Modern State: Thumos Beyond the Politics of Recognition.” Panelist. Institute for Human Ecology. March ’22.





Seminarians and Discerners for the Diocese of Oakland gather in Gellert Memorial Library during a “come and see” visit. The Library serves as a source of knowledge and a gathering place for the seminary community.



Scan the QR
code to access
our Amazon
Wishlist:



In my last *Patrician* update, I noted that the staff of Gellert Memorial Library has as one of its goals “maintaining, to the extent possible, an up-to-date collection of scholarly works of philosophy, biblical studies, and theology.” In what follows, I would like to elaborate briefly on the nature of our collection and suggest some ways in which our benefactors can aid us in its continued improvement.

At present, the library’s holdings include over 170,000 printed books. The previous fiscal year witnessed notable growth in this area, with over 3,000 volumes added. More is not necessarily better. But having worked at the library for over six years now, I can attest to the difference that ready access to good books makes to our faculty, staff, and seminarians.

Maintaining our collection is not an objective that we can accomplish on our own, however. Of the aforementioned 3,000 volumes, more than half were gifts to the library. While most of these items were castoffs from private collections, a number of them were purchased for us by individuals who had been made aware of some need on our part.

One way in which benefactors can help us, then, is simply by procuring individual books for us. We have set up an Amazon wishlist for this purpose. Another way is by sponsoring direct orders from publishers, which can be a great way of filling gaps in the collection. Please email me at matthew.horwitz@stpsu.edu if you would like to help us out!



STUDENT BODY COUNCIL



Kurt Meyer, center right, along with other members of the Theology 3 class, look on as their champion competes in the Community Day games.

At the beginning of each year, the seminarians vote for their representatives on the Student Council. Theologian Kurt Meyer, studying for Honolulu, was elected President for this academic year. He wrote the following reflection upon his election.

As my classmates and I return to St. Patrick from our Pastoral Year experiences, we each look back and realize how beneficial our year in our home dioceses was for our growth as future good and holy priests. Pastoral year was a time where we each grew in all four pillars of priestly formation – where we took the things we learned at seminary and put them into practice. It was a time for us to experience being amongst the sheep we one day hope to lead as future shepherds.

So, as we return to St. Patrick's, we do so with increased fervor and dedication to our vocation, with a better understanding of ourselves and the importance of our ministry. And we find a seminary that has significantly changed - changed for the better. We return to facilities that have been restored to enhance the beauty of our home: a chapel that is more beautiful than it was when

we left, with renovations that promote an increased sense of sacredness and holiness. We return to a staff of priests, sisters, administrators, professors, and support crew who are dedicated to our development and success as future clergy. Most importantly, we return to a fraternal bond that is stronger than ever, a bond that is prayerful, energetic, and supportive. On behalf of myself and my classmates, let me say that we cannot be more pleased and more blessed.

As Student Council President, I am honored to work with the new Student Council members to continue to build upon the foundations already laid for us by the staff, donors, alumni, and my seminarian brothers. Together we will support one another so we can continue to grow and serve our God and His Church.

*Na ke akua e ho'opōmaika'i aku.
May God bless us all.*



STUDENT BODY COUNCIL OFFICERS

Organize Student Council meetings and facilitate the communication of pertinent information from the Rector to the rest of the seminary and vice versa.

'22-'23 Officers

Kurt Meyer, Student Body President
John Paul Rabago, Vice President
Francis Hai Pham, Treasurer
Joshua Lesan, Secretary

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Each serves as the voice of their respective classes on the Student Council.

'22-'23 Representatives

Eric Patrick, Theology IV
Preston Castro, Theology III
Jimmy Velasco, Theology II
Patrick Germann, Theology I
Antonio Espinoza, Pre-Theology

**COMMUNITY LIFE AND
GROWTH COMMITTEE**

Tasked with overseeing the social functions throughout the year, including Community Day.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Maintains oversight over the décor in student areas (per Rector's approval) and ensures the overall cleanliness and aesthetic beauty of the campus.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Attends to the spiritual and devotional needs of the student community outside of liturgical functions.



Student Body Council Officers: Seated: Kurt Meyer; Standing: Preston Castro, Patrick Germann, Francis Hai Pham, John Paul Rabago, Joshua Lesan, Jimmy Velasco, Deacon Eric Patrick; Not Pictured: Antonio Espinoza.



1



2



3



4



5



1. Lloyd Rebuldela (T3, Fresno) venerates the relics of St. Simon in Zagreb. The relics are housed in a famous reliquary made in the middle ages. The reliquary is made available for public veneration only a few times a year.

2. Pilgrims from St. Patrick's gather together for Holy Mass at the Cathedral in Krakow, Poland.

3. Budapest Seminary hosts St. Patrick's Seminary Pilgrims. The pilgrims spoke with Bishop Peter Erdó and the seminary leadership team. Here the assembled group gathers in the enclosed seminary garden.

4. Fr Cesar Martinez, from the Diocese of Stockton, celebrates Holy Mass for the pilgrims at the "Wadowice Basilica" in Krakow. The Basilica is also known as the Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

5. Scott Vincent Borba (T2, Fresno) at the Pope John Paul II Institute in front of gold panel artwork of the Stations of the Cross.

6. Lunch after Mass at St. James Church in Medjugorje.



Summer Pilgrimage TO MEDJUGORJE AND POLAND

Thanks to a generous benefactor, seminarians from St. Patrick's Seminary were able to travel to Eastern Europe for a pilgrimage after the end of the Spring 2022 semester.

The excitement of departing for the pilgrimage to Medjugorje and Poland quickly faded with detainments in the airport. We then passed through a darker valley as we learned of the passing of our seminarian brother, Stephen Unachukwu. Amidst the multiple emotions we all felt, the pilgrimage suddenly took on a new intensity and purpose as we prayed for the eternal rest of Stephen's soul and the sanctification of ourselves.

The darkness subsided, and light began to shine on us, though, the morning we climbed the mountain of Medjugorje Blue Cross. For many that light of Jesus and Mary was like no other light. It marked a Transfiguration-like experience of witnessing God and His Mother in the elements of His Creation. Not a few wept and said, "It is good for us to be here," never wanting to leave. From that point forward, the whole pilgrimage transformed our eyes such that we saw God in everything, most especially the creation.

We did descend the mountain to meet with and stay at the homes of two of the Medjugorje visionaries. Conversing with them led all of us to a heightening understanding of the

necessity of fasting and deep preparation for Holy Mass.

After those spiritual consolations we proceeded to a different type of low point at Auschwitz. All the pilgrims now know suffering like never before. We left sad but thankful and prayerful for those who experienced suffering and laid down their lives so that we might live in freedom.

From the horror of Auschwitz we went to Shrine of Divine Mercy, the one place on earth that stands as a testament that nothing is stronger than God's Infinite Mercy. Learning more about St. Faustina, St. John Paul II, and the history of the Catholic Faith in Poland bolstered our faith like never before.

Those places of pilgrimage along with concrete, miraculous experiences with the sun, the clouds, and the Eastern European landscapes brought everyone to certainty that God is real, God is alive, and God speaks to us through His creation. By the end of our pilgrimage, anyone who started it with any doubts in the Catholicism now professed with firm faith and absolute conviction, "I believe now." ❀

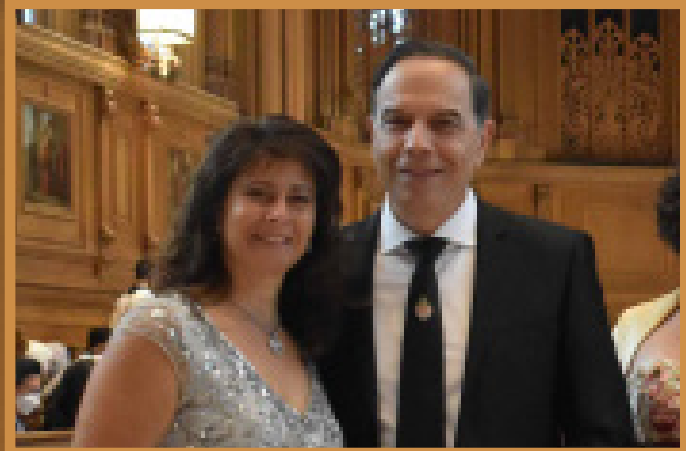
Scott Borba
Diocese of Fresno





Renovation &

REBUILDING OUR FOUNDATION



I don't know if I can find the words to express my interior joy in witnessing the St. Patrick's Seminary Chapel renewed for the glory of God. I can say that I had prayed for this for over 20 years, that is, from the first time I came to the seminary. That day I had a simple but noble vision of the sanctuary, and God blessed me to be a part of the project to bring it about and then witness that truly beautiful image take shape in the material reality.

Dostoevsky said, Beauty will save the world! I believe that Truth, Beauty, and Love will inspire hearts and minds: the Truth of our Faith, the Beauty in our churches that allows us to transcend the ordinary and encounter God, who is the source of all good, and the Love that is the Holy Spirit acting and present amongst us. Love is what we experience in serving Jesus Christ, our Lord. In the Chapel Tabernacle our Eucharistic Lord is present. Our Eucharistic Lord is indeed the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the living Christ. He is the ultimate gift of Truth, Beauty, and Love. I am grateful, blessed and humbled by the work at St Patrick's Seminary, a place where Truth, Beauty, and Love are encountered every day in our seminarians, faculty, staff, and administration. Thank you Archbishop Cordileone Fr. Doherty, for allowing the many projects for our seminarians and the Glory of God.



Architect and STPSU Trustee Sal Caruso, pictured above with his wife Josephine Caruso, discusses recent renovations of the St. Patrick's Chapel. The baldachino was returned to the chapel from the courtyard, and a matching altar and ambo and new furnishings were installed.

Restoration

AT SAINT PATRICK'S SEMINARY

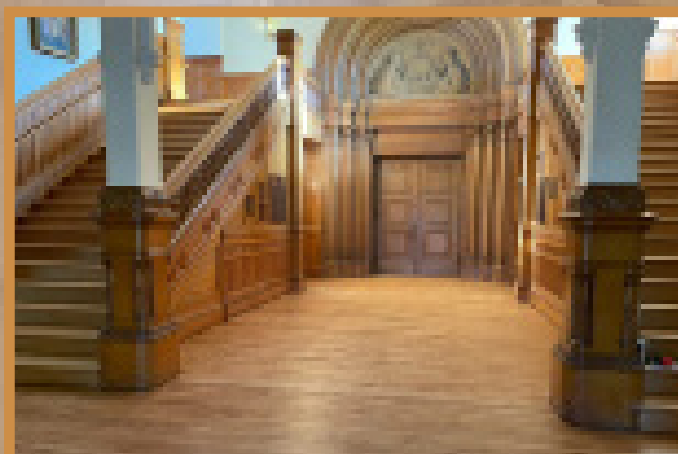


The carpet on the first floor in B Wing desperately needed to be replaced. Charlotte Kiesel (pictured above speaking with Rev. Marc Valadão, SJ) accepted the task of leading the collaborative effort by taking the first step of ordering carpet samples. While a committee deliberated over which sample would work best, Charlotte asked Fr. Doherty, "Have you ever looked under the carpet to see what is underneath?" "Yes," Fr. Doherty replied, "It's old and gray and worn out paint on the wood."

After taking a look at a portion of the floor where the carpet had been pulled up, Charlotte suggested that a section of the floor be sanded down to see what was underneath all the paint. Underneath, of course, they found a masterpiece of wood floors unlike anything that anyone could have imagined.

Choosing to sand and re-finish the floors to their original luster as opposed to laying down new carpet has the added benefit of substantial savings on cost. Therefore, with the budget given to put down new carpet for B-wing, the money saved allowed for the main entrance, A-wing, A-wing offices, parts of C-wing, and the stairs at the main chapel to be revitalized for the same price.

Over the Christmas break, work began on the restoration of the floors on the second stories of A- and B-wing.



Sacred Music

AT SAINT PATRICK'S SEMINARY

Dr. Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka joins the choir of voices that make up the beautiful music that is life at St. Patrick's Seminary.



B I O G R A P H Y

Jennifer Donelson-Nowicka is an Associate Professor and the Director of Sacred Music at St. Patrick's Seminary, where she holds the William P. Mahrt Chair in Sacred Music. Having studied Gregorian chant at the Catholic University of America and the Abbey of St. Peter in Solesmes, for six years Donelson-Nowicka has given chant workshops in dioceses, parishes, and monasteries

across the U.S. and Europe. Before coming to St. Patrick's, Dr. Donelson-Nowicka served on the faculty at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in the diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska; at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, where she taught music theory, music history, piano, and directed the university chorale; and at St. Joseph's Seminary (Dunwoodie, New York), where she developed an extensive musical formation program

for seminarians and lay students. As a choral conductor, Dr. Donelson-Nowicka has directed seminary, collegiate, semi-professional, amateur, monastic, and children's choirs. She serves on the board of the Church Music Association of America (CMAA), is the managing editor of the CMAA's journal *Sacred Music*, and is a regular member of the faculty for the CMAA's annual Sacred Music Colloquium. She remains a

Cantare amantis est—"Singing is for the one who loves."


For the seminarian called to love Christ and offer the gift of his very self, configured to Jesus in the priesthood, singing calls forth that gift.

Singing requires a generosity of spirit—a turning of the mind and heart towards the Scriptures and texts of the liturgy that the Church places on the lips of the singer. It also demands an activation of the body—of the breath, muscles, and posture—an activation which is energetic and constantly renewed. The intimate relation between body and soul means that singing is particularly effective in forming men to love God, to delight in His words, and to express their love for Him in a tangible way.

The sacred music program at St. Patrick's Seminary integrates training in music into a program of formation oriented towards the conformity of all a seminarian has and is to Christ. Through musical instruction he will acquire competency and confidence in singing the sacred liturgy, glorifying God through this loving gift of self, serving and building up the people entrusted to his fatherly care in the act of a liturgy well celebrated. In classroom work, he will develop his appreciation for beauty and the role that beauty plays in the spiritual life. He will

also learn to think with the mind of the Church about music, and how to serve as an effective leader in a parish music program by building up the talents of his community. In learning to listen well to the beauty of music in the sacred liturgy, he will develop the capacity for his fatherly heart to really hear and empathize with the concerns of his people.

Accompanying the development of this program for seminarians is the expansion of the impact of the seminary in service to the whole Church. Beginning in the summer of 2023, St. Patrick's will offer an extensive slate of courses for lay musicians. Topics ranging from the history and theology of sacred music to practical skills like leading excellent choral rehearsals will meet the needs that Catholics have for understanding and enacting the Church's vision for sacred music. Stay tuned for announcements about these offerings!

I am grateful to have become a part of the community here at St. Patrick's. In my short time here, I've been edified by the vocational stories and faith of the seminarians. I've also enjoyed the camaraderie of colleagues and been inspired by their zeal for the salvation of souls and for serving the Church through the seminary's mission. I look forward to offering my voice in St. Patrick's chorus of dedicated service! 

board member of the Society for Catholic Liturgy. Dr. Donelson-Nowicka serves as a Consultant to the USCCB's Committee on Divine Worship. She is currently working on a project to adapt the Gregorian chants of the Mass proper for the Spanish language. She also hosts a weekly podcast entitled "Square Notes: The Sacred Music Podcast."





Pastoral Year

SEMINARIANS EXPERIENCE LIFE IN THE “REAL WORLD”

Seminary can sometimes feel like it is a world of its own. So much of the work, study, and prayer of seminarians takes place in the confines of the seminary, but, since the end goal for most seminarians is parochial work, many of them spend a year working in a parish during their theology studies. Some of our ST-PSU seminarians share what their pastoral experiences have been like. Emmanuel Gutierrez (San Francisco), describes the benefits of the pastoral year: “[It] provides me a chance to discern this call, in a new context, and test my fidelity to my duties and tasks to see if I can bear the fruit God wills me to bear in this life for His greater glory.”

Leandro Calingasan (San Francisco), pictured above, is assigned to the Church of the Visitacion in San Francisco for his pastoral year. He describes parish life as “wonderful and inspiring,” and credits the witness of the every-day faith of the parishioners as a source of inspiration. He finds fulfillment in his work with the school, and describes pastoral ministry ultimately as a ministry of presence: “The pastoral year assignment really made me immersed in the people. Engagement with people and having normal conversations with them will help me to be a better priest. And these engagements with the people, in both the parish and the school, help me to enhance my listening skill which is an important skill for a priest. A lot of people just need someone who can listen and talk with them. There are even times that I am invited to certain events or meetings, despite not being needed, but simply being present is significant for them.”



PASTORAL YEAR SEMINARIAN PROFILES



Emmanuel Gutierrez
St. Mark's,
San Francisco

“By exposing me to the daily life of a priest, and by having access and insight into a priest's public ministerial work, and his private and daily duties, the pastoral year assignment gives me the unique opportunity to discern, first hand, my ability and suitability to commit to the priestly life, in a more tangible way. I always heard the priesthood was a busy life. I knew this, but I had never truly seen it.”



Jerick Rea
St. Dominic's,
San Francisco

“[Pastoral Year] exposes me to a new set of priests, living with them in a rectory, understanding how their lives go as they carry on with their priestly work, and seeing how everyone on staff at parish and at the elementary school interact and work together to promote the salvation that the Lord has to offer the faithful.”



Ivan Franco-Martin
Spanish Immersion
Sacramento

Ivan Franco spent the fall semester doing Spanish Immersion in Mexico. He is looking forward to parish work during the spring semester.

Clinical Pastoral Education

IN THE DIOCESE OF FRESNO

An integral part of the formation for seminarians is formation in specialized ministries. One of these specialized ministries is Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), where seminarians learn about the ministry of hospital chaplaincy. The Dioceses of Oakland and Fresno have begun to work together on a summer CPE experience. Below, the vocations directors from each diocese explain the importance of CPE in the formation process.

Fr. Carl Acosta, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Oakland, writes that “the [CPE] experience helps a seminarian deal with suffering, death, and sickness. It is a real experience to journey with the people who suffer. It helps them get to know more also of their struggles and their responses when facing uncertainties in life and also to connect with their inner selves. Bishop Barber wants a true and authentic Catholic CPE for our seminarians, and the Diocese of Fresno has been so generous and open through the help of their Vocations Director and Vicar General. We plan to send those preparing for their pastoral year to the Fresno CPE program for many years to come.”

Fr. Dan Ávila, Vocations Director of the Diocese of Fresno, says that “the CPE program run through a partnership with St. Agnes Medical Center and Community Medical Centers has served as an excellent opportunity for our seminarians to hone their pastoral skills in ministering to the sick and those who care for them. It has been an added bonus for our diocese to work with the Diocese of Oakland, allowing them to reside in our parishes as they participate in the summer CPE program. I thank God for the spirit of cooperation that fosters this most important goal of equipping well-trained men for priestly ministry.” ❀



Top: Seminarian Alvaro Santamaria (T3, Oakland), with coworkers and fellow chaplains from his CPE work over the summer.

Middle: A hospital chaplain's “everyday carry:” Identification, a mask and protective eye wear, and the ritual book “Pastoral Care of the Sick.”

Below: Oakland seminarians Juan Carlos Ponce (T3), John Paul Rabago (T3), and Garrett McGowan (Pastoral Year) at their CPE placement.





Cultural Celebrations

SAN LORENZO RUIZ, VIETNAMESE MARTYRS,
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, LUNAR NEW YEAR, AND MORE!

Each year, scattered among the classes and liturgies and meetings and sporting events that make up a year at the seminary, we find many and varied celebrations precious to the different cultural communities that comprise the student body of the seminary. These large-scale celebrations, with liturgical and festal components, are a favorite of seminarians, because it gives an opportunity for a variation in our usual means of prayer and fellowship. Seminarian Kyle Laluces (PT1, San Francisco), speaks of the joy he felt planning the San Lorenzo Ruiz feast: “We are always very excited during this time of the year, for not only are we celebrating the sainthood of our “elder brother” in the faith but we also have an opportunity to share our culture with the whole seminary community. That’s why it meant the world to us that we got to welcome the larger community. It’s a big family affair once again, as every Filipino fiesta should be!” ❁



Above: Rev. Mr. René Vargas (T4, Fresno), Sr. Manuela Ramirez, OJS, and Josue Montoya (PT1, Stockton), enjoy hot chocolate and pan dulce after Mañanitas.

Top: Seminarians serve the Votive Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

INTERNATIONAL SENDING DIOCESES

The St. Patrick's Seminary Community is home to seminarians from across the West Coast and Hawai'i, as well as seminarians from other countries. This year, Seminarians joined us from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Korea. Learn more about them below.



**Maurice
Tokay**
Theology II

Diocese of Tshumbe,
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Home Parish: Saint Augustine's Church, South SF

Favorite part of life at St. Patrick's:

"I like the beautiful liturgy and social life. The way of celebrating the liturgy is beautiful. The collaboration between formators and seminarians makes the seminary a community of brothers and sisters in Christ."



**Alphonse
Tolenga**
Theology II

Diocese of Tshumbe,
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Home Parish: Lodja St. Désire

Favorite part of life at St. Patrick's:

"I like the spiritual life here most of all. There are many hours of the day that are dedicated to prayer. I also like soccer and the humility of the formators and the way that seminarians are always ready to help."



**Hyeong-Joon
(Andrew) Choi**
Theology II

Diocese of Suwon, South Korea
Home Parish: Jinsa Parish of the Holy Family

Favorite part of life at St. Patrick's:

"If I had to choose just one, it is that I am fully in a spiritual atmosphere formed autonomously among the seminarians. They are always devoted to prayer and strive for holiness in their lives."



**Tae-Young
(Steve) Jeon**
Theology II

Diocese of Suwon, South Korea
Home Parish: Bundang Imae-dong St. Paul Parish

Favorite part of life at St. Patrick's:

"At first, I fell in love with the wonderful chapel and garden, but what captivated me was the deep faith of seminarians and their brotherhood toward each other. Their journey for priests seems to make the school beautiful."



THE INSTALLATION OF

Acolytes & Lectors

BY THE MOST REV. ALEXANDER K. SAMPLE

On October 24th, 2022, St. Patrick's Seminary was blessed to have men from First and Second Theology installed to the ministry of Acolyte and Lector by the Most Reverent Alexander K. Sample

It is a pleasure to be here with all of you today in this step forward in the lives of your formation for the holy priesthood and to take the steps today to be instituted into these two ministries, which are intimately tied to the greatest of all gifts that Jesus has given to the Church: the gift of Himself offering His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. I wish to speak really from the heart to you men who are taking this important step in your formation. Because for those men who are on that path to the priesthood, the institution into these ministries means you take one more step closer to the altar. It is like steps closer to the altar, that place where you one day hope to be able to minister in the person of Christ for His people.

As you take this next step closer to the altar, I want you to hear very clearly what St. Paul says, “Be imitators of God and live in love.” But not just love! St. Paul says, “imitators of God as beloved children and living in love as

Christ loved us and handed Himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma.” That’s the part that I want you to think about today: that you are being called to imitate Christ’s love and love as Christ loved and loves. Jesus Himself says that there is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for his friends. This is what you are called to live. It takes on a special meaning for you men who take this step closer to the altar. Why am I emphasizing this? Because it is at the altar that Christ’s love is poured out for us in the sacrifice of the Holy Eucharist. This is the heart of the Gospel. It is the ministry to which you men aspire, to minister in the person of the One who handed Himself over as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma. This is what your life must be. ✚

An excerpt from the homily given by the
Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon



Theology I Lectors: Scott Whittaker, Sacramento; Jeffrey Yano, San Francisco; Joshua Lesan, Stockton; Patrick Ger-
mann, Stockton; Anthony Poore, Honolulu; Joseph Anaya, Fresno; Andrew Kelley, Spokane; Jesús Zapien, Fresno.



Theology II Acolytes: Br. Mikhael Mihic, COSJ; Zachary Muñoz, Portland; Scott Borba, Fresno; Taylor K. Mitchell,
Honolulu; Hyeong-Joon Choi, Suwon; Huy Nguyen, Oakland; Andy Nguyen, Portland; Steve Jeon, Suwon;
Aidan Cameron-Smith, Oakland; Jimmy Velasco, San Francisco.



Discernment Day

WITH THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

This year, the Diocese of Oakland held a discernment day event with prospective seminarians and their families. This "come-and-see" style event allowed those who were interested in discerning the priesthood to spend time at the seminary, meet current seminarians studying for their diocese, and explore what an environment of formation might feel like.

Oakland Seminarian Aidan Cameron-Smith (T2) said that "it was like the miracle of the loaves and the fishes: we expected a few registrants, and by the time the final numbers came in, we had a huge group of men who were interested in studying for the Diocese." Ronald Edma (PT2) said that the discernment day was "a grace-filled experience that gave the men an opportunity to listen to God's call, make thoughtful decisions, and begin to follow where He leads, in His opportune time." ❁



Seminarian Antonio Espinoza (Pre-Theology 2, Oakland) chats with prospective discerners about day-to-day life in formation as he takes them on a tour of the library.

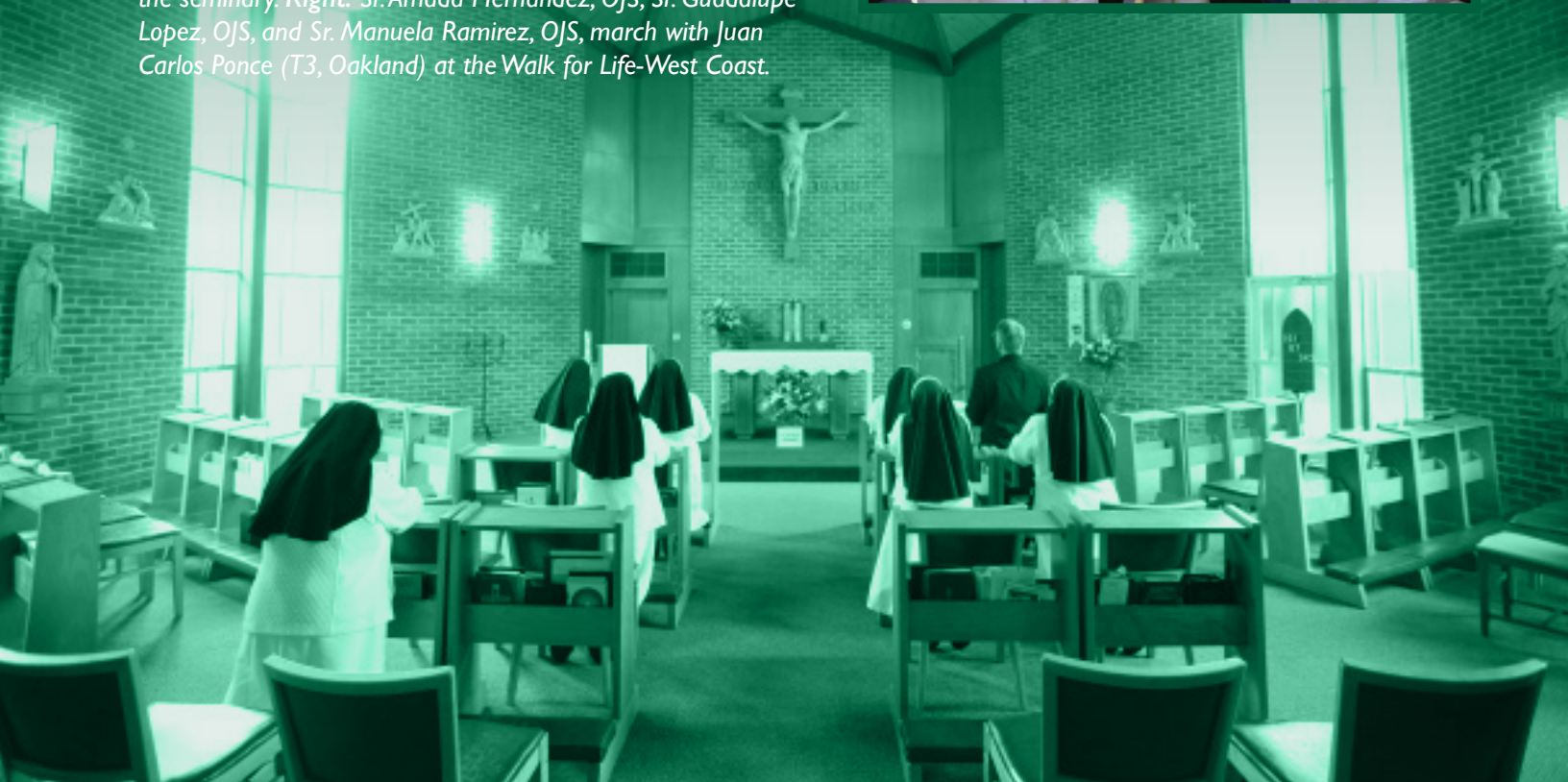
Oblates of Jesus the Priest

CARING FOR BODY AND SOUL

The Oblate Sisters of Jesus the Priest (OJS) are a religious congregation founded in the 1920s by Venerable Félix de Jesús Rougier, M.Sp.S. in Mexico City. They are part of the spiritual family that shares in the Spirituality of the Cross, inspired by Blessed Concepción Cabrera de Armida. The charism of the Oblate Sisters is “to love the priesthood of Christ and make it loved.” The sisters have been a part of the seminary community since 1994.

This charism is carried out in a special way here at St. Patrick’s. The sisters live a life of “Marian mysticism,” after the model of Our Lady taking care of the Child Jesus in Nazareth. There are currently six sisters in the community supporting the priests and seminarians and the greater community of St. Patrick’s. To the seminarians the sisters serve as a living reminder that all our work, both now and in our future priestly ministry, should be offered “in oblation to the Lord.” For the sisters and the seminarians both, each plate served is a prayer offered, and a reminder of the great gift of the priesthood. ✚

Top Right: The original group of Sisters upon their arrival at St. Patrick’s in 1994. Sr. Margarita Garcia, OJS, Sr. Lupita Quintana, OJS, and Sr. Manuela Ramirez, OJS, currently serve at the seminary. *Right:* Sr. Amada Hernandez, OJS, Sr. Guadalupe Lopez, OJS, and Sr. Manuela Ramirez, OJS, march with Juan Carlos Ponce (T3, Oakland) at the Walk for Life-West Coast.





Fr. Kevin Kennedy gathers before the Mass at Priest Day with newly ordained alumni of St. Patrick's. From Left to Right: Rev. Ben Rosado, Rev. Gerardo Vasquez, Very Rev. Kevin Kennedy, Rev. Candelario Jimenez, Rev. Michael Rocha, Rev. Jerald Geronimo.

Alumni Interview

WITH THE VERY REV. KEVIN KENNEDY



Photo Credit: Dennis Callaban, Archdiocese of San Francisco

This year's Priest Day Honoree, the Very Rev. Kevin Kennedy, sat down with the Patrician for an interview about his work in the Archdiocese and his relationship with the Seminary. Fr. Kevin is Rector and Pastor of the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in San Francisco as well as Pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Russian Byzantine Catholic Church in San Francisco.

What years did you attend St. Patrick's Seminary?

I attended St. Patrick's from 1981 until 1983. I then decided to take a hiatus from my studies during which I engaged in social service supervisory and management positions, primarily at the St. Anthony Foundation in San Francisco. I returned to St. Patrick's in 1997.

How was your experience of St. Patrick's Seminary as a seminarian?

I was quite happy at St. Patrick's. I did very well in my studies and was actively engaged in the life of the seminary community. Previously, I had been formed for several years in religious life, but I was able to adjust well to diocesan seminary formation.

Who were some of your favorite formators and professors?

My formators and professors included Fr. Howard Bleichner, Fr. Gerald Coleman, Fr. Frank Norris, Fr. Michael Barre (all of the Society of St. Sulpice), and Dr. Michael Neri. They were all excellent teachers, and I had a close and positive relationship with each of them.

When where you ordained? Who ordained you?

In 1999 I was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of San Francisco by (then) Archbishop William Levada at St. Mary's Cathedral. I was the last person ordained for the Archdiocese in the twentieth century, and the only one ordained for San Francisco in 1999.

Where have you served in the Archdiocese of San Francisco?

For the past 24 years I have served in both parish ministry and hospital chaplaincy. I have served at St. Gregory Church in San Mateo, St. Pius Church in Redwood City, St. Monica-St. Thomas Apostle Church in San Francisco, Our Lady of Fatima Russian Byzantine Catholic Church in San Francisco, and at St. Mary's Cathedral, which is where I am currently as the new pastor/rector.

I have also served as the Catholic chaplain at St. Mary's Medical Center in S.F., at Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City, and at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Redwood City. In addition, I have served on several archdiocesan boards including the Presbyteral Council, the Priest Personnel Board, and the College of Consultors.

How have you stayed connected to St. Patrick's Seminary over the years?

Over the years I have kept in touch with some past professors and, I have often attended the annual seminary gala. Most recently, I served at St. Patrick's as a formator and spiritual director for seminarians and newly ordained priests.

How has St. Patrick's Seminary changed over the years?

St. Patrick's now educates and forms a different generation of future priests, many of whom were not even born when I started as a first-year seminarian in 1981. These men did not experience the pre-conciliar, conciliar, and immediate post-conciliar years. Some of them are converts or have returned to the practice of their faith as adults before entering into a serious discernment regarding their vocation. The world in which they have grown up is now so completely secular that they are seeking something different in their formation than the men formed in the late sixties or the seventies. They need and want a more robust expression of Catholicism. They are searching for heightened reverence in liturgical worship, and for unambiguous clarity in matters pertaining to the doctrine of the faith and morals. They know from experience that people their same age who are actually practicing Catholics (and who therefore constitute the future of the Church) are looking for the same things.

What do you like about St. Patrick's Seminary now?

What I like about the seminary now is that it is listening and responding to the needs that I mentioned in my answer to the previous question; namely, the expectations and hopes of young men today - in 2023 - rather than the expectations of 1973!

What hopes do you have for St. Patrick's Seminary in the future?

I am confident that under the outstanding leadership of Archbishop Cordileone, Fr. Mark Doherty and all of the faculty and staff, St. Patrick's will be widely recognized as the finest seminary in the United States and that more bishops will send their men to Menlo Park for a solid and integrated human, intellectual, spiritual, and pastoral formation.

It has been a great joy and honor for me to be able to devote a small part of my ministry to advancing this extremely important project. ✚

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or (650) 289-3355.*

The USCCB has introduced the National Eucharistic Revival, which began in June 2022 and will conclude in June 2024. The goal is to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. We Catholics should take this opportunity to deepen our understanding of one of the Church's greatest gifts to us. God the Father gave us His only Son; in turn, Jesus left us with a most precious gift, the gift of Himself in the Eucharist, to be with and within us.

Here at St. Patrick's Seminary, we welcome a new group of men every year who come to us from diverse backgrounds and with various experiences, talents, and gifts to share. Ultimately, they leave prepared to minister to the Catholic faithful like you and me. They are the future shepherds who will bring all the sacraments, especially Jesus in the Eucharist, to you, your children, and your grandchildren. In the words of St. John Paul II, "There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist."

With your support, St. Patrick's Seminary will be able to educate and form the next generation of priests. Your gifts are why we can welcome new classes of seminarians year after year. Every appeal you respond

to has an impact on the preparation of our seminarians for the priesthood. And every amount given, from the smallest to the greatest, reaffirms your commitment to partner with us in making St. Patrick's the best seminary in the United States.

We hold several recurring campaigns throughout the year. Our newly instituted Annual Day of Giving occurs around St. Patrick's Day in March each year. The second collection weekends at Archdiocesan parishes occur annually in November. In December and January each year, we focus on our annual Year-End Appeal. We also encourage monthly recurring gifts through our 1898 Founder's Club. Of course, general one-time donations are always accepted at any time throughout the year.

At this time, we are particularly in need of support in the preservation and renovation of our campus. The need is greatest in the following areas: our chapel organ restoration, the renovation of various areas of our campus, especially our Blessed Sacrament Chapel, of our priest and seminarian rooms, of our classrooms, and of our upstairs sacristy.

Thank you for the many ways that you support St. Patrick's. I invite you to join us for the many celebrations we are hosting in 2023 as we prepare to mark our 125th Anniversary.



125TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Please join us at one or all of the events celebrating our 125th Anniversary. More information and events will be forthcoming!

St. Patrick's Day of Giving, March 16, 2023
will begin with Vespers followed by a cocktail reception.

Open house weekend, April 21-23, 2023
Open Campus for Tours on Saturday, April 22, 2023

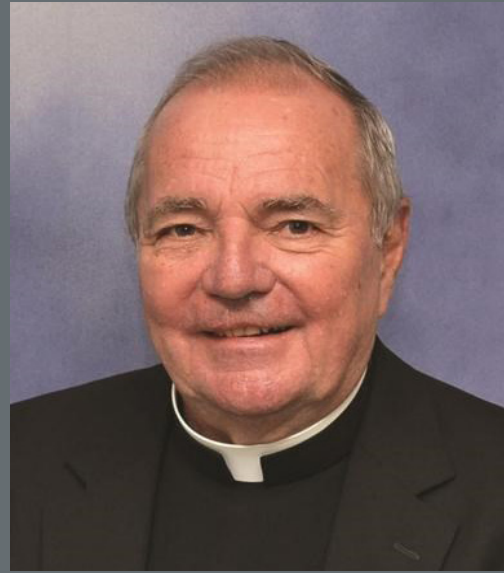
125th Anniversary Gala, September 16, 2023

In Memoriam

*The St. Patrick's Seminary
Community mourns the
passing of the following
members of our community.*

Rev. Msgr. Ludwig Andre '57
Rev. Joseph J. Bonadio, P.S.S.
Rev. Michael J. Burns '58
Mr. Andrew A. Cresci
Mrs. Leonore R. Daschbach
Rev. Patrick Frietas '65
Rev. Piers M. Lahey '82
Rev. William C. Leininger '56
Rev. Paul-Cuong Phan '99
Mrs. Barbara Saitz
Rev. Msgr. John G. Sandersfeld '66
Rev. Msgr. Harry G. Schlitt
Mr. Roger Schulte
Rev. Wilton S. Smith '58
Rev. Angel L. Sotelo '91
Mr. Brian Tickler
Mr. Stephen Unachukwu
Rev. George C. Wolf '63
Rev. Louis H. Yim '57
Mr. William Zappettini

REV. HOWARD P.
BLEICHNER, S.S.



Fr. Howard P. Bleichner, S.S. age 85, died on Wednesday, December 14, 2022. Fr. Bleichner was a priest for the Diocese of Pittsburgh and a member of the the Society of Saint Sulpice. He received his ThD in 1973 from the University of Tübingen. As a Sulpician he traveled throughout Europe and South America, becoming fluent in several languages to meet with seminarians. He was a past rector of Saint Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, CA; a past rector of The Theological College of The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C.; and served on the faculty of St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, MD.

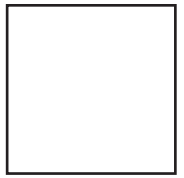
Fr. Bleichner is remembered by current St. Patrick's Rector Fr. Mark Doherty as someone who was a brilliant teacher, a kind man, and a faithful priest. Fr. Doherty is grateful for the privilege of being mentored by Fr. Bleichner, and remembers fondly the independent study he did with Fr. Bleichner on the nature-grace debate in Spring 2012, which was Fr. Bleichner's last semester at St. Patrick's. ❀





PATRICIAN

St. Patrick's Seminary & University
320 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025
stpsu.edu



Support St. Patrick's Seminary during our
2ND ANNUAL DAY OF GIVING
Thursday, March 16, 2023

- **Online** at <https://igfn.us/vf/PRIEST>
- **Text** PRIEST to 71777
- **Scan** our QR Code:



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ORDAINED MEN!

It is a great blessing to the community to see St. Patrick's Seminary's work of priestly formation be realized. This year, we have been privileged to witness two ordinations, one to the transitional diaconate and one to the priesthood.



**REV. FATHER GABRIEL
SANCHEZ NAVARRO**

Ordained Dec. 12th, 2022
Diocese of Santa Rosa



REV. MR. ERIC PATRICK

Ordained Nov. 19th, 2022
Diocese of Sacramento

