

ON THE HILL

FALL 2022 • VOL. 61:4



Saint Meinrad

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"One Bread, One Cup" participants process into the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel at the start of the conference closing Mass on July 1, 2022. Find more photos at <http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com>

Monks' Personals

Br. John Mark Falkenhain presented a week-long workshop on human formation for the international Monastic Formator's Program in Assisi, Italy, in May. He also presented to the General Chapter of the American-Cassinense Congregation of Benedictines on the topics of building communities of support and accountability in Atchison, KS, in June.

Br. Mateo Zamora directed the annual retreat for the seminarians of the Diocese of Memphis at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Retreat Center in Stanton, TN, on June 6-8. The title of the retreat was: "Fed by the Word: The Liturgy of the Hours as our Daily Diet of the Divine."

Fr. Anthony Vinson offered the welcome and invocation for the Spencer County Regional Chamber of Commerce's annual luncheon at Lincoln Amphitheatre on June 16.

Fr. Colman Grabert began an assignment as monastery house prefect on September 1.

Br. Basil Lumsden began an assignment as monastery refectorian on September 10.

Fr. Subprior Joseph Cox began an assignment as assistant refectorian on September 15.

Br. Maurus Zoeller and **Fr. Pius Klein** are assigned as the monastery's in-house guestmasters.

Fr. Simon Herrmann joined the Vocations Committee at the Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, IN.

Br. Martin Erspamer was awarded the commission for the stained-glass windows in the new Newman Center Chapel and offices at the University of Rochester, NY.

Fr. Adrian Burke facilitated the annual retreat for residents at the Little Sisters of the Poor in Cincinnati, OH, in August. He also directed a retreat for the permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and their wives at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in September.

Fr. Christian Raab had a book review of *Piercing the Clouds: Lectio Divina and Preparation for Ministry*, edited by Kevin Zilverberg and Scott Carl, published in the September issue of the *American Benedictine Review*. He also delivered the priest retreat for the Archdiocese of Mobile. The title was "The Spousal Imagination of the Priesthood." ✝



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Monastery News

Br. Basil Lumsden professes solemn vows



Br. Basil Lumsden

Br. Basil Lumsden, OSB, professed solemn vows as a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in a ceremony on August 15, 2022, in the Archabbey Church.

Br. Basil, 48, is a native of Trinidad. He earned degrees in music from Trinity College of Music in London and

Canterbury Christ Church University in the United Kingdom.

He also studied liturgy in the graduate program at The Liturgical Institute in Mundelein, IL, and canonical monastic studies at the University of Oxford.

Previously, he served as director of music for the deanery of Kent in the United Kingdom and as director of music and liturgy for the Diocese of Hamilton, Bermuda, where he also served as cathedral organist and master of the choristers.

Before joining the Saint Meinrad community, he was a junior monk at the Benedictine monastery of Quarr Abbey on the Isle of Wight, UK.

Since joining the community in 2018, Br. Basil has been serving as an organist, monastery guest master, and dining room assistant.

In professing solemn vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life, and stability in the community at Saint Meinrad, he becomes a full and permanent member of the Benedictine community. ✚

Novice joins Benedictine community



Novice José Angel Romero-Olivas

In a brief ceremony, Novice José Angel Romero-Olivas was clothed in the Benedictine habit at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on August 5, 2022. He now begins a year of monastic

formation, including study of the *Rule of St. Benedict* and monastic history.

Novice Angel, 38, is a native of Chihuahua, Mexico, where he was a member of Santa Rosalia Parish. He attended the Autonomous University of Chihuahua Law School.

Before entering the monastery, he worked at the Mexican consulate and in law.

Novices take a year off from formal studies and trades. The novitiate is a time of prayer and learning intended to help a novice discern his vocation as a monk.

At the end of this year, a novice may be permitted to profess temporary vows of obedience, fidelity to the monastic way of life, and stability in the community of Saint Meinrad. ✚

Br. Raban Bivins dies on September 6



Br. Raban Bivins

Br. Raban Bivins, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, died in the monastery infirmary on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. He was 81 and a jubilarian of monastic profession.

children of Lester and Sophie (Bittel) Bivins. He was given the name William Joseph at his baptism.

Surviving is a brother, Bob Bivins of Owensboro; and a sister, Jane Payne of Cincinnati, OH.

After completing his elementary education at Saints Joseph and Paul Grade School in Owensboro, he attended Owensboro Catholic High for three years and then entered Saint Meinrad's St. Placid Hall in 1957 to complete his high school education. Br. Raban was invested

as a novice on April 9, 1959. He professed simple vows on May 7, 1960, and perpetual vows on June 9, 1963.

Br. Raban's first assignments in the monastery included work in the shoe shop, in the Physical Facilities Department, and as assistant house prefect. In 1965 he volunteered for assignment at Saint Meinrad's mission in Peru, and he spent the next 14 years there, serving variously as procurator, as superintendent of employees, and in general maintenance.

Br. Raban was born in Owensboro, KY, on December 11, 1940, one of eight

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Returning to the monastery in 1979, Br. Raban served for 11 years on the volunteer fire department, six of which he also served as an emergency medical technician on the Rescue Squad. He also worked in the Physical Facilities Department and in 1984 became a certified locksmith.

In 1996 Br. Raban was appointed subprior, the first brother in Saint Meinrad's history to be appointed to this leadership position. He served in this capacity for 11 years. During this time, he also assisted in the infirmary and health services.

He was appointed Archabbey almoner and director of community outreach in June of 2007, positions he held until

failing health necessitated his moving into the infirmary in 2022. It was not unusual that his confreres would encounter individuals and families in our area who spoke gratefully, both of Br. Raban's discretion and his gentleness in assuring they had food and other necessities throughout the year.

The phrase "Gentle Giant" is a cliché, but one that certainly describes Br. Raban. He was an imposing figure, physically, and he possessed considerable strength. He loved kidding around and especially enjoyed reminding the younger members of the community of the danger they were in should they get in his way.

But all his confreres were confident – and grateful – that his aggressions took the

form of playful swipes and good-natured verbal threats, rather than well-aimed and full-fledged punches.

Br. Raban was one who preferred living his monasticism rather than talking about it. He was extremely faithful to the Divine Office. He was also one in whom St. Benedict's injunction to "keep death daily before your eyes" clearly took root. His long-standing policy – posted on the door of his cell – was that if he suffered a heart attack, no resuscitation was to be attempted but, rather, he would await the resurrection.

The funeral liturgy was celebrated on Saturday, September 10, with burial in the Archabbey Cemetery.✠

Five Saint Meinrad monks observe jubilees



The jubilarians are, from left, Fr. Harry Hagan, Br. Benjamin Brown, Br. Zachary Wilberding, Br. Martin Erspamer and Fr. Denis Robinson.

Five Benedictine monks at Saint Meinrad Archabbey observed anniversaries of monastic profession in July. Br. Benjamin Brown, Fr. Harry Hagan and Br. Martin Erspamer reached their 50th anniversaries, while Fr. Denis Robinson and Br. Zachary Wilberding marked their 25th anniversaries. They were honored during Mass on Sunday, July 31.

Br. Benjamin, born in Dubuque, IA, professed his vows on August 24, 1972. He attended the Latin School in

Indianapolis, IN, and graduated from Saint Meinrad College in 1971. He also studied theology at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

His monastic assignments have included working on the abbey farm, plumbing, grounds crew, vestry, transportation, house prefect, lab technician, infirmary, and physical facilities, as well as in the winery. He has served on the St. Meinrad Volunteer Fire Department for more than 50 years, including as Abbey fire chief.

He has also served on the Spencer County Fire Chief Association and the Spencer County Board of Health.

Fr. Harry is a native of Bardstown, KY. He made his profession of vows on August 24, 1972, and was ordained a deacon in 1976 and a priest on September 20, 1986. Fr. Harry has a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Meinrad College, a Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology, a Master of Arts in religious studies from Indiana University, and a Doctorate in Sacred Scripture from Pontifical Biblical Institute.

Fr. Harry joined the faculty of Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1979, where he has served as associate dean of students, dean of students and provost-vice rector. He also served as novice and junior master in the monastery. He is an associate professor of Scripture in the Seminary and School of Theology and serves as a spiritual director. He has also written a number of hymns.

Br. Martin, a native of Iron Mountain, MI, joined the Saint Meinrad community in 2005. Before transferring to Saint Meinrad, he was a member of the Marianists, where he professed his vows on August 15, 1972. He earned a

bachelor's degree in fine arts from St. Mary's University in 1976 and a master's degree in fine arts from Boston University in 1986. He received a liturgical consultant certification from Catholic Theological Union in 1995.

He is a well-known liturgical artist, working in painting, illustration, ceramics, stained glass, and worship space design. His work has included the design and renovation of various churches, as well as stained-glass windows, processional crosses, murals, banners and various other appointments. In 2019, he completed a large tapestry of Christ seated in glory for the renovation of The Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, CA.

Fr. Denis is a native of Iuka, MS. He attended Saint Meinrad College and the School of Theology, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1989 and a Master of Divinity in 1993. He was ordained for the Diocese of Memphis in 1993. From 1993-96, he served as parochial vicar for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Memphis.

He then joined the Saint Meinrad monastery and professed his vows on August 6, 1997. From 1997-2001, Fr. Denis was director of continuing

education and permanent deacon formation and an adjunct instructor in systematic theology for the School. He also served as executive assistant to the president-rector at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. In 2007, he was named subprior (third in leadership) of the monastic community.

He attended the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, where he received a master's degree in theology in 2002, a licentiate in sacred theology in 2003, and doctorates in sacred theology and philosophy in 2007. He is an associate professor of systematic theology in the Seminary and School of Theology. Since 2008, he has served as the president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

He is the author of numerous articles and has contributed to several theological texts. He is the editor of *Sacerdos in Aeternum: Prayers and Blessings for Priests* and co-editor of *Theology and Religious Pluralism*. In 2020, he co-authored the book, *We Will Serve the Lord: Prayers and Blessings for the Domestic Church*. In 2021, he wrote the book, *Father Manners: A Guide to Etiquette for Catholic Clergy*.

Br. Zachary was born in Dubuque, IA, and attended Loras College for two years before transferring to the University of Iowa, where he earned a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1975 and a master's degree in nursing in 1984.

From 1975-77, he worked as a staff nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and then worked for two years as a staff nurse at the University of Iowa. From 1979-96, he held positions as a staff nurse, staff development educator, head nurse and clinical nurse specialist in Veterans Affairs hospitals in Iowa City and Seattle, WA.

Br. Zachary joined the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, MN, in 1996 and professed his solemn vows in 2000. While at St. John's, he was director of field education, director of lay spiritual formation and involved in prison ministry.

He transferred to Saint Meinrad Archabbey in 2008. Currently, he is director of monastery vocations and director of public reading, and he continues his work in prison ministry. ✝

Noteworthy:

Newsworthy items about Saint Meinrad people and events



Fr. Damian Dietlein, OSB, emeritus professor at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, celebrated **three milestones** this summer. On July 11, he reached his 70th year of profession as a Benedictine monk. He celebrated 65 years as a priest

on July 25, after his 90th birthday on June 16. He retired from Saint Meinrad in 2015 after 46 years of teaching Scripture. He is a monk of Assumption Abbey.

An article, "Happy to be a Priest!" by Fr. Harry Hagan, OSB, was published in the August 2022 issue of *The Priest* magazine. The **magazine cover** featured some of Fr. Harry's artwork. ✝



Fall semester opens with full house, new formation year



Seminarians David Neumaier, from left, Isaac Siefker and Neil Blatchford help new students move into the seminary on August 19.

Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology has a packed house this fall with new seminarian enrollment at its highest in almost 10 years.

Forty-three new seminarians began studies on August 29, bringing the seminary's enrollment to 121 students. Last fall the school year opened with 100 students. (At this writing, four other students have yet to arrive, waiting on visas or a military discharge, which would bring the total to 125.)

"Our enrollment this year is very strong, representing a 25% increase over last year's enrollment," says Fr. Denis

Robinson, president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. "They are very bright and enthusiastic men. The spirit in the house is very strong and very prayerful."

The seminary community represents 24 dioceses and eight religious communities. New dioceses this year include Fort Wayne-South Bend, Birmingham, Shreveport, St. Augustine, and Little Rock.

Of the 121 students, 35 were born in countries outside the United States. The seminary community represents 15 countries of origin, compared to last

year's 30 international seminarians representing 12 countries of origin.

"We are a very diverse group of people in the seminary," says Fr. Denis. "This makes for a wonderful interaction in which all have something to learn about their brothers."

This fall, the seminary put into place some new elements from the sixth edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation*, the U.S. bishops' document that guides priesthood formation. One of the most significant changes was the addition of a propaedeutic year; this fall 10 seminarians are enrolled in the new program.

The propaedeutic year is a year of spiritual and human formation for seminarians who did not attend college seminary. It provides the opportunity for the students to learn the habits of prayer and other essential components of formation before beginning philosophy studies.

Traditionally, students who did not attend college seminary would begin with two years of philosophical studies. Now, that will be preceded by the propaedeutic year.

"In my estimation, this year only has benefits," says Fr. Denis. "Spending a year in prayer, discernment and reflection enriches not only their lives, but also that of the whole seminary community. I believe their presence has made us more prayerful this year."

"Our enrollment this year is very strong, representing a 25% increase over last year's enrollment. They are very bright and enthusiastic men. The spirit in the house is very strong and very prayerful."

—Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB

The new school year also brings a couple of new appointments. **Fr. Luke Waugh, OSB**, is serving as the dean of the propaedeutic year. He will continue his work at St. Isidore Parish in Bristow, IN, as custodian of Monte Cassino Shrine, and in the Office of Pastoral Formation.

Fr. Kolbe Wolniakowski, OSB, is the spiritual director for the propaedeutic year seminarians. He will also continue his work as parochial vicar at St. Paul Parish in Tell City, IN.

In August, **Nolan Snyder** joined the Seminary and School of Theology's music department as the music director. As music director, he will serve the seminary community as organist, accompanist and conductor during liturgies.

Snyder will graduate from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance from the Jacobs School of Music in 2023. He has been involved with the "One Bread, One Cup" youth conferences for eight years. He was a participant for four years, an intern for three, and served as a catechist this past summer.

The Graduate Theology Program opened the fall semester with 72 students. There is one full-time student, 62 part-time, seven non-degree, and two audit students. Enrollment is down from last fall's 85 students.

The Continuing Formation Program is expanding the Parish Catechetical

Leadership Institute to include a track tailored to Spanish speakers. The staff is collaborating with the dioceses of Evansville and Owensboro and hopes to expand to the archdioceses of Indianapolis and Louisville.

The Continuing Formation Program will also welcome a new cohort next spring for a certificate in spiritual direction.

In the Permanent Deacon Formation Program, 10 dioceses are enrolled in the program with 157 students. Saint Meinrad is also providing ongoing formation to 10 dioceses.

The program is being updated to meet the requirements for the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States of America, 2nd Edition*. Changes are being made to existing courses to add new content that is now required by the updated *Directory*. A course that will be a comprehensive seminar is being added at the end of the program to enhance the deacon candidate's integration of formation dimensions and to assess their readiness for ordination.

Saint Meinrad provides the intellectual formation for permanent deacon candidates. The spiritual, human and pastoral dimensions of formation are typically provided by the diocese, but some dioceses lack the resources to do so. The Permanent Deacon Formation Program is exploring ways to provide the spiritual, human, and pastoral dimensions of formation through recorded courses, live webinars or on-site instruction. †

EVENTS ON THE HILL

October 24-28

Guest House Retreat: "Great Stories from the Gospel of Luke: Challenges for Preaching and Spiritual Growth" (priests retreat) by Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB

October 29

Abbot Martin Marty Guild and Einsiedeln Society Day of Recollection

November 4-6

Guest House Retreat: "Mozart's Main Masses" by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB

November 9

Guest House Workshop: "Growing in Friendship with God" by Dr. Kimberly Baker

November 18-20

Guest House Retreat: "Lectio Divina: Praying with the Bible" by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB

December 7

Guest House Workshop: "Soul Collage: Imaging Our Inner Life" by Sr. Jeana Visel, OSB

December 16-18

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

January 9-13

Guest House Retreat: "Winter Chant Workshop: Singing and Conducting Chant" by Br. John Glasenapp, OSB

February 9

Fr. Cyprian Davis Lecture, 7 p.m., speaker to be announced

February 10-12 and March 24-26

Guest House Retreat: "Welcoming In-Laws" (married couples only) by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB

February 28-March 2

Guest House Retreat: "Freedom Through Forgiveness" by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB

March 23

Thomas Lecture, 7 p.m., speaker to be announced

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

New School Appointments



Fr. Luke Waugh



Fr. Kolbe Wolniakowski



Nolan Snyder

Three join Saint Meinrad Board of Overseers

Three new members have been added to the Board of Overseers, the advisory board for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. In addition, a former board member has been named an emeritus member.

The board advises President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, on matters related to the school's programs and performance and addresses strategic questions regarding the future of the school.

New to the board are Nathan Gabhart of Loogootee, IN; Sr. Rose Mary Rexing, OSB, of the Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand, IN; and Fr. Zach Samples of the Diocese of Springfield, IL. Bonnie Graham of Washington, IN, has been named an emeritus member.

New Board Members



Nathan Gabhart is the chairman and founder of TrueScripts in Washington, IN, and a member of the Daviess County Board of Commissioners.

Nathan Gabhart

He is a member of the Indiana

Pharmacies Alliance, where he was president in 2014, and the Community Pharmacies of Indiana, where he served as president from 2010-2014. He is a past member of Our Lady of Hope Parish Council and the Finance and Gala Committee.

He attended Washington High School, graduating in 1991. He graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy in 1998.

Nathan and his wife, Beth, live in Loogootee, IN. They have three children, Kaitlyn, Ashley and Ethan, and a foster nephew, Thaniel. They are members of Our Lady of Hope Parish in Washington.

Sr. Rose Mary Rexing, OSB, is a member of Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand. She made her



Sr. Rose Mary Rexing, OSB

of mission integration at Memorial Hospital in Jasper, IN.

Other assignments have included serving as director of mission advancement from 1999-2008 and director of vocation ministry from 1988-1999 for the Sisters of St. Benedict. From 1972-1980, she taught math and chemistry at Forest Park High School, and from 1981-1988 she was pastoral associate at St. Ferdinand Parish.

Sr. Rose Mary is a volunteer for the Dubois County Habitat for Humanity. She also has been an active member of Benedictine Development Directors, National Religious Vocation Conference, Benedictine Vocation Directors, Kiwanis of Ferdinand, and a board member of the Tri-County YMCA.

Sr. Rose Mary earned a degree in mathematics, with a minor in science, at Indiana State University, Evansville campus. She earned a Master of Arts in systematic theology in 1978 from St. John's University. She also earned a Certificate in Fund Raising Management from the Center for Philanthropy.



Fr. Zach Samples

chaplain at Quincy Notre Dame High School, both in Quincy, IL.

perpetual profession in 1975 and currently serves as director of spirituality and hospitality for the Sisters of St. Benedict. In addition, since 2009 she has been the director

Fr. Zach graduated from Eastern Illinois University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in 2014 and a Master of Science in 2017. He earned a Master of Arts in 2018 and a Master of Divinity in 2022, both from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

He also earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree from The Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant' Anselmo in Rome in 2022. During his time at Saint Meinrad, he worked in the President-Rector's Office and assisted with several projects with the Board of Overseers.

Emeritus Board Member



Bonnie Graham

Bonnie Graham of Washington, IN, has been named an emeritus member of the Board of Overseers. She has served on the board for 24 years, including as board chair from 2006-2008.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Newton College in Newton, MA, and dedicates her time to volunteer work. Her charitable activities include past chair of the Saint Meinrad Campaign Cabinet, past chair of the Catholic Education Endowment Board (Washington, IN), past member of the Diocese of Evansville Review Board, member of the special fund-raising committee for the Washington (IN) Catholic Schools, as well as several other boards and committees.

She and her husband, Robert C. Graham III ("Beeb"), are the parents of four grown children and live in Washington, IN, where they are members of Our Lady of Hope Parish. ✝

Smugmug

For more photos of Saint Meinrad events, visit:

saint-meinrad.smugmug.com

[Meet the Student]

Hung Van Tran

Diocese: Archdiocese of Hanoi

Hometown: Dong My Church, An Tien, My Duc, Hanoi

Q. *What attracted you to the priesthood?*

I witnessed some heroic priests in my life. They suffered both mentally and physically for God and God's people. But they were very joyful priests, although they sometimes appeared to be not so easy to approach. People loved them and they changed the lives of many people. I first thought of being a priest when I was 13. At that time, I wanted to be like them.

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

When I was about 14, Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Huu opened a class for young people, both boys and girls, to discern religious vocations. Peter Dinh Xuan Long – who was a close friend of mine – invited me to join the class with him, and I agreed. For one year, each weekend we rode bicycles to the parish where Fr. Huu lived (he lived in a different parish but was in charge of my parish as well). We were taught by him, his associate pastor Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Lien, and some religious sisters.

We stayed in the rectory with some other boys in the class each weekend after the class time. The next day, we had Sunday Mass in the parish and returned to our parish after Mass. When Fr. Huu moved to a different parish, I did not think of being a priest much. But then when I was in the second year of university, Fr. Joseph Do Huu Thoa heard of my story and encouraged me to continue to discern the priesthood vocation. I entered a school of discernment in my diocese that year and found peace.

Besides these people, my grandmothers and mother were great examples of prayer life for me. My grandfather was also very

supportive of my intention of discerning the priesthood. He said, "If you believe that God has called you in this vocation, live it out until death."

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

I studied electronic engineering in Hanoi, Vietnam. After I finished the first year of university, I decided to join the class for young men discerning the diocesan priesthood in my diocese in 2012. When I graduated from university in 2016, I took a test to enter seminary and was sent to study abroad, together with seven other diocesan brothers in my diocese.

Q. *Favorite saint and why?*

Mary, Mother of God. Besides praying with God, I prayed with her often, especially when I first discerned my vocation. I believe that God called me through the intercession of Mary. I often prayed with her when my family faced challenges and difficulties, and she never let me down.

When I was a little boy, I remember that whenever somebody was sick or any trouble occurred in the family, my grandmothers and mother would come to Mary and pray. I believe that I prayed with her often because of their examples.

Q. *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

My favorite Scripture has changed throughout the years of my life. Right now it is, "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that



whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you" (John 15:16 NAB).

Q. *Hobbies?*

Playing soccer, ping-pong and bamboo flute; learning languages; singing (especially church hymns); listening to instrumental music; and watching Wuxia movies (adventure films of sword-wielding chivalrous heroes).

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

God has been very gracious to me, and I have received more than I asked of Him. I enjoy being in the seminary. And the Saint Meinrad community itself is the best gift that God has given me.

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

Differences between the Vietnamese and American cultures. I also really miss my family at home, and when I finish the seminary training in the U.S., I will have been away from home for 6 ½ years. That is not a short time.

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

"God provides. Pray hard, do your best and leave the rest to God." Sometimes I prayed, "Lord, you brought me here, you should do more. I am tired and I am going to sleep." This was especially true in the first years at Saint Meinrad.

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REORGANIZING HISTORY:

Library renovation will update Archabbey Archives

By Br. Stanley Rother Wagner, OSB

As part of the “Forward Together” fundraising campaign that was completed this summer, the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Archives will receive more space and a much-needed overhaul to its repository in the Archabbey Library.

Since May of this year, Archivist Fr. Meinrad Brune, OSB, and I – along with our crack squad of volunteers – have relocated our daily operations to the Archives Annex on the lower level of St. Gregory Hall. We will soon move out of the space in Gregory Hall and combine the records from both repositories into the renovated and expanded spaces on the lower level of the Archabbey Library (see floor plan, this page).

Fr. Meinrad and I have been working closely with Saint Meinrad’s Director of Physical Facilities, Director of the Library, and the architects to develop the spaces to accommodate all of the records we possess currently, while also planning for the ongoing expansion of the Archabbey’s numerous historic, and priceless, records.

The room that houses most of our records (the area in blue) will still have shelving

and will contain oversized documents, records that researchers are more likely to request, and our voluminous collection of photographs.

In addition, there will be an enclosed office to ensure privacy when fulfilling patron requests, and more worktables to accommodate multiple patrons when they visit. Fr. Meinrad and I are always ready to offer a cup of coffee to our guests, but not in the vicinity of our documents.

The expanded space (the area in orange) will be the main storage area for the majority of our records. The shelving along the walls will be able to store single rows of archival boxes, and the shelving in the

middle of the room will accommodate double rows of these boxes. An additional research space with desktop computers will be adjacent to the main storage room for our researchers. If needed, that space can be modified in the future to store more records.



As part of my internship for my master's in American history at the University of Louisville, I spent time this summer developing a new organizational scheme for our repository. The new version follows most of our current system of organization, but updated according to best archival practices (see chart, this page).

The Archabbey Archives will contain six new color-coded collections: Monastery (yellow), School (red), Oblate (purple), Press (green), Photographs (orange), and Congregation (blue). These new collections are essentially the same as our previous collections, except the Photograph Collection has grown enormously in the past four years to warrant its own collection. The same is true for the Press Collection, the records

we have appraised and accessioned from the Abbey Press, one of our apostolates, which we closed in 2017.

Several records from our various schools – notably, the graduate-level seminary – have been added to the archives in the past two years, enough that the school records will no longer be considered “Departmental Records” of the Monastery Collection, but will be in their own collection.

The collection that is expanding the fastest is the Photograph Collection, with the Monastery Collection growing the second fastest. The Oblate Collection is growing, though not at the same pace as the other collections. The same is true for the Congregation Collection. These series

and subseries are subject to change as the Archabbey Archives continues to grow and expand.

It is a privilege for Fr. Meinrad and me to serve as Saint Meinrad Archabbey's archivists. For us, this is a ministry to our confreres, coworkers, students, benefactors, oblates, alumni, and researchers who want to know more about the history of our community and its role in forming leaders – priests, deacons, and laymen and laywomen – for service to the Church in the United States and the world.

These renovations and updates will ensure the ongoing effort to hand on what has been given to us, allowing us to keep the institutional memory of Saint Meinrad alive for the next generation. †

“These renovations and updates will ensure the ongoing effort to hand on what has been given to us, allowing us to keep the institutional memory of Saint Meinrad alive for the next generation.”

— Br. Stanley Rother Wagner, OSB

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE SAINT MEINRAD ARCHABBEY ARCHIVES

July 12, 2022

Archabbey Archives

Monastery Collection	Congregation Collection	School Collection	Oblate Collection
<p>Series 1: Abbatial Files Subseries 1a: Martin Marty Subseries 1b: Firmin Mundwiler Subseries 1c: Athanasius Schmitt Subseries 1d: Ignatius Esser Subseries 1e: Bomaventure Knaebel Subseries 1f: Gabriel Verkamp Subseries 1g: Timothy Sweeney Subseries 1h: Lambert Reilly Subseries 1i: Justin DuVall Subseries 1j: Kurt Stasiak</p> <p>Series 2: Monks Personal Records & Papers Subseries 2a: Monks Personal Records & Papers Subseries 2b: Archbishop Daniel Buechlein Papers Subseries 2c: Vow Charts Subseries 2d: Deceased & Former Monks Files Subseries 2e: Abbatial Files on Monks Subseries 2f: Brothers</p> <p>Series 3: Monastery Records Subseries 3a: Abbot's Council Minutes Subseries 3b: Office of the Prior Subseries 3c: Monastery Committees Subseries 3d: Various Monastic Files Subseries 3e: Departmental Records Subseries 3f: Apostolic See Documents</p> <p>Series 4: Historic Documents Subseries 4a: Founding Documents Subseries 4b: Historic Papers Subseries 4c: Saint Meinrad Letters in Einsiedeln Subseries 4d: Daughterhouses Subseries 4e: Dom Gregory de Wit Artwork Subseries 4f: Dom Ermin Vitry Letters & Papers</p>	<p>Series 1: Historic & Legal Records Subseries 1a: Canonical Documents Subseries 1b: Renewal Committee Subseries 1c: Liturgical Items & Directives</p> <p>Series 2: Files of the Abbot President Subseries 2a: Monastic Institute Subseries 2b: American Benedictine Academy</p> <p>Series 3: General Chapters</p> <p>Series 4: Benedictine Abbeys</p> <p>Series 5: Personnel Records</p> <p>Series 6: Closures Subseries 6a: Blue Cloud Subseries 6b: St. Pius X Subseries 6c: Corpus Christi</p>	<p>Series 1: Major Seminary & School of Theology Subseries 1a: Student Publications Subseries 1b: Stewardship Reports Subseries 1c: Catalogs Subseries 1d: Student Organizations Subseries 1e: Administrative Files and Records Subseries 1f: Diocesan Priests & Various Personal Records</p> <p>Series 2: College Subseries 2a: Academic Administration Files Subseries 2b: Faculty Files Subseries 2c: Student Manuals & Handbooks Subseries 2d: Yearbooks Subseries 2e: Student Publications Subseries 2f: Theses Subseries 2g: Bulletin Board Signs Subseries 2h: Strategic Planning</p> <p>Series 3: High Schools Subseries 3a: Jasper Academy/Marmion Military Academy Subseries 3b: St. Placid Hall Subseries 3c: High School Seminary</p> <p>Series 4: Various Records Subseries 4a: Alumni Subseries 4b: Letters of Application & Inquiry Subseries 4c: Seminary Catalogs Subseries 4d: Book Stores Subseries 4e: Grants</p>	<p>Series 1: Capital Campaign</p> <p>Series 2: Oblate Chapters Subseries 2a: Tell City Subseries 2b: New York City Subseries 2c: Other Chapters Subseries 2d: Miscellaneous Printed Material</p> <p>Series 3: Oblate Office Subseries 3a: Draft Essays Subseries 3b: Printed Materials Subseries 3c: Retreats, Statutes, Record Books, & Necrology Subseries 3d: Oblation Charts & Data Sheets Subseries 3e: Various Records from Oblate Office, 2016 Subseries 3f: Various Records from Oblate Office, 2017</p> <p>Series 4: Oblate Office Correspondence Subseries 4a: Directors Correspondence, 1936-1989 Subseries 4b: Normal Directors Correspondence, 1936-1997 Subseries 4c: Newsletters, Retreats, & Artwork Subseries 4d: Correspondence and Varia, 2016-2018</p> <p>Series 5: Oblate Council & Coordinators Meetings * Either not processed or do not yet have the records</p> <p>Series 6: Publications on Benedictine Spirituality Subseries 6a: Major Publications Subseries 6b: Booklets & Older Newsletters</p> <p>Series 7: Edward Shaughnessy Papers Subseries 7a: <i>Benedictine Oblate History</i> & Other Varia Subseries 7b: Construction of the Archabbey Church Subseries 7c: Other Material</p> <p>Series 8: Ruth Clifford Engs Papers Subseries 8a: Finding Aids & Essays Subseries 8b: <i>Conversations in the Abbey, vol. 1</i> Subseries 8c: <i>An Updated History of Benedictine Oblates</i> Subseries 8d: <i>Conversations in the Abbey, vol. 2</i></p> <p>Series 9: Mona L. Rinear Papers Obituary, Printed Material, & copies of <i>Benedictine Miracles</i></p> <p>Series 10: N. Amer. Assoc. of Benedictine Oblate Directors</p>
	<p>Photograph Collection</p> <p>Series 1: Standard Subseries 1a: Current Monks Subseries 1b: Deceased Monks Subseries 1c: Former Monks Subseries 1d: Monastic Grounds & Buildings Subseries 1e: Alumni Subseries 1f: Students Subseries 1g: Priests Subseries 1h: Abbots Subseries 1i: Bishops Subseries 1j: Cardinals Subseries 1k: Swiss-American Congregation Subseries 1l: Daughterhouses Subseries 1m: Miscellaneous</p> <p>Series 2: Oversized</p> <p>Series 3: Postcards</p>	<p>Press Collection</p> <p>Series 1: Catalogs</p> <p>Series 2: Publications Subseries 2a: Pamphlets Subseries 2b: Grail Pamphlets Subseries 2c: <i>The Grail Magazine</i> Subseries 2d: Various Publications</p> <p>Series 3: Greeting Cards</p> <p>Series 4: Administration Subseries 4a: Correspondence Subseries 4b: Liquidation Subseries 4c: Closure</p>	

Alumni Reunion



Alumni Reunion



Photos, opposite page, from top, left to right: The 94th annual Alumni Reunion welcomed 163 alumni and guests back to the Hill on August 1-3. Members of the ordination class of 1967 pose for a portrait by the tree they planted years ago below St. Bede Hall.

Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, gives a presentation titled, "Dear God, Are You Here? Finding God in Troubled Times" on Monday morning of the Alumni Reunion.

Bishop Joel Konzen, SM, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, serves as the presider and homilist at the Alumni Reunion Mass on August 2.

Kevin McNamara, Greg Ernstberger, Deacon Mike Catalano and Homer Lathrop play golf at the Christmas Lake Golf Course on Monday of the Alumni Reunion.

This page, from top, left to right: Fr. Jeremy King, OSB, catches up with classmates and friends during the Alumni Reunion banquet on August 2.

Alumni Board member Fr. John Boeglin greets Alumni Reunion guests as they arrive in the lobby of St. Bede Hall on August 1.

Alumni Board members Dr. Carolyn Berghuis, left, and Angie Greulich talk along with Angie's husband, Josh, and children after the reunion banquet on Tuesday.

Mary Schaffner gives a presentation on "Co-workers in the Vineyard" in St. Bede Hall on Tuesday afternoon of the Alumni Reunion.

ALUMNI ETERNAL

Fr. Richard L. Barclift, O'66 ('62-66), of Moline, IL, died on July 14, 2022. He was a priest of the Diocese of Peoria.

Mr. Daniel E. Beckman, O'70 ('58-60), of Simpsonville, SC, died on May 19, 2022.

Mr. Donald E. Burkhart, O'58 ('46-55), of Avon, IN, died on October 3, 2021.

Fr. Jorge A. Canez, O'79 ('72-79), a priest of the Diocese of Phoenix, AZ, died on August 4, 2022.

Sr. Frances Chirco, IHM, SS'79, a member of the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Monroe, MI, died on September 19, 2021.

Sr. Marie Endres, CSA, SS'79 ('73-79), of St. Francis, WI, died on July 11, 2019.

Mr. Steven M. Froehle, O'75 ('63-66), of Washington, IN, died on February 25, 2022.

Mr. Frederick E. Fugazzi Jr., PD'08 ('04-08), of Lexington, KY, and Venice, FL, died on March 10, 2021.

Mr. John C. Hughes, O'60 ('56-60), of Louisville, KY, died on May 28, 2022.

Mr. John B. Kane, O'69 ('57-65), of Evansville, IN, died on August 2, 2022.

Deacon Marc Kellams, PD'08 ('04-08), of Bargersville, IN, died on July 29, 2022.

Mr. Richard J. Norwood, O'65 ('53-59), of Mt. Lebanon, PA, died on May 12, 2022.

Mr. Richard P. Preske, O'58 ('46-48), of Evansville, IN, died on July 11, 2022.

Mr. Don K. Rowney, O'62 ('56-58), of Bowling Green, OH, died on February 19, 2022.

Mr. Urban C. Rupprecht, O'54 ('42-44), of Vincennes, IN, died August 2, 2022.

A key to the initials behind the names of alumni:

C: College

GTP: Graduate Theology Programs

HS: High School

MAT: Master of Arts (Theology)

MAPT: Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology)

MTS: Master in Theological Studies

O: Ordination

PD: Permanent Deacon Formation Program

S: Sabbaticant

SPH: St. Placid Hall

SS: Summer Session

T: Theology ✝

CareNotes
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NEW CARENOTE

By Diane Pharo, SCN, Director of the Counseling Center at Saint Meinrad.

To learn more call **800.325.2511** or visit **www.carenotes.com**.



Save the Date!

November 10, 2022

Little Rock
Alumni & Friends Dinner

July 31-August 2, 2023

95th Annual Alumni Reunion

Saint Meinrad
DAY OF SERVICE

has been set for
March 11, 2023

Watch for more details!

Alumni Office seeks 2023 Day of Service site leaders

Saint Meinrad held its largest Day of Service in March. Volunteers led 12 service sites in 10 cities across the country for a total of 303 participants. To expand the outreach to more communities and places where service is needed, the Alumni Office is looking for more volunteer site leaders.

Site leader duties include choosing a local nonprofit organization or church, working with site staff on project details, recruiting and organizing a group of volunteers for the day, and developing a plan for snacks or a meal during the project.

The date for the 2023 Day of Service is Saturday, March 11. If you are interested in being a site leader or need more information, please contact Tim Florian or Shaina Weatherholt in the Saint Meinrad Alumni Office at 800-682-0988 or email alumni@saintmeinrad.edu. ✝

ALUMNI NEWS

Fr. Jim Chamberlain, T'86 ('81-86), has published a textbook on water security, *Fundamentals of Water Security: Quantity, Quality, and Equity in a Changing Climate*. He is the pastor of St. Monica Catholic Church in Cameron, TX.

Missionary of Charity Fr. Bob Conroy, C'83 ('80-83), was the keynote speaker at the Life & Hope Banquet in Overland Park, KS, on September 1. The banquet is a fundraiser for the Olathe and Wyandotte pregnancy clinics in Kansas.

Fr. Peter C. Harman, C'95 ('91-95), was appointed pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Effingham, IL. Previously, he was rector of North American College in Rome.

Fr. Doug Hunter, T'16 ('09-16), a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, was featured in the January/February issue of *Columbia* magazine. The feature

was titled "Gridiron Fathers: Three NFL chaplains discuss their faith and ministry both on and off the football field."

Mr. Shawn Massey, C'95 ('91-93), of DePere, WI, has been appointed vice president sales engineering for Americas for Arcserve, a data resilience, data protection company. †

Continued from Page 9

Q. Other comments?

I am and will always be a son of Saint Meinrad's seminary formation. I am always grateful for that, and I believe that God has prepared me for this seminary because I first was chosen to be at St. Vincent in Latrobe, PA.

I am thankful to God for the gift of the Saint Meinrad community and the seminary formation; for Fr. Denis, who is like a father to me; Fr. Tobias, who is like a mother to me; Fr. Peter DiMaria, my former spiritual director; Fr. Jonathan Fassero, my current spiritual director; and

all fathers, professors, brother monks, all brothers and sisters whom I have encountered. You have left important marks in my life. Please pray for me. Please pray for each other. †



Photos, from top, left to right: Br. Basil Lumsden, OSB, receives the sign of peace from Fr. Julian Peters, OSB, during Br. Basil's solemn profession on August 15. Continuing Formation Director Agnes Kovacs offers direction to Jamie Snyder during a studio session on making paschal candles on July 13, during the Parish Catechetical Leadership Institute. Andrew Duggan of the Diocese of St. Augustine prays during the Rite of Candidacy Mass in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel on August 24. Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB, talks with "One Bread, One Cup" college intern Clare Schomogyi while they wait for their ice cream during an outing to the Dairy Barn in Birdseye, IN, on June 25.



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Distinguished Alumnus Award criteria, selection process updated

Saint Meinrad's Distinguished Alumnus Award has been given to 32 alumni since the inception of the award in 1989. The most recent recipient is Fr. Joseph Ziliak, who was honored posthumously with the award in August.

Because it had been years since the award's criteria and selection process had been reviewed, an alumni board subcommittee recently formed to offer recommendations about the award process. After months of work, and approval from the Alumni Board and the school administration, the updated qualifications and new selection process were presented at the Alumni Association Meeting held on August 2 during the Alumni Reunion.

One focus of the process was to clarify the qualifications and rigor of the award to better honor those alumni who have received it and anyone who will receive the award in the future, as seen in this excerpt from the document:

“The intent of the criteria is to acknowledge that the Distinguished Alumnus Award (DAA) is an institutional award, and the highest honor Saint Meinrad bestows on its alumni. Thus, the lifework of the recipient will have been

and continues to be witness to the mission and values of Saint Meinrad, the Roman Catholic Church, and the diocese/ community within which the recipient lives and works.”

Here are the revised criteria for consideration of a nominee for conferral of the Distinguished Alumnus Award:

1. A nominee will have attended Saint Meinrad for a minimum of the equivalent of one academic year and left in good standing.
2. A nominee will be an actively practicing Catholic in good standing within the Roman Catholic Church as documented by a letter from the nominee's bishop, religious superior, or pastor.
3. A nominee has, and continues to, witness to Gospel values in life and work as documented by letters of support from Saint Meinrad alumni who can reference (among other things): their personal and/or professional interactions with the nominee; awards and accolades the nominee has received; church and civic honors bestowed on the nominee; etc.
4. A nominee will have provided an exemplary life of service which also

reflects and upholds the core values and mission of Saint Meinrad.

5. A nominee will have demonstrated ongoing engagement with Saint Meinrad during his or her ministry and/or career.
6. Nominations of individuals must be made on an annual basis. Any nominee for the award will be considered for the award only from that year's pool of nominees. If a nominator so chooses, he or she can again submit the name of a candidate (with supporting materials) to be considered for inclusion in another year's pool of nominees for the award.
7. No “self-nominations” will be considered.
8. The focus of the award is on living alumni but may, from time to time, be conferred posthumously.

To nominate someone for this award, visit the Saint Meinrad alumni website at <https://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu/alumni-association/distinguished-alumnus-award/>.

The Alumni Office will accept nominations through October 31. You can find more information, including the updated criteria, at the same webpage. ✚