

# ON THE HILL

SPRING 2018 • VOL. 57:2

**Day of Service:  
Largest event so far aids 14 projects**

**Four monks celebrate  
priesthood jubilees**

**16 parishes selected  
for Young Adult Initiative**

Cover: The January 31 super moon rises over the Archabbey Church.



*Saint Meinrad*



# ON THE HILL

SPRING 2018 • VOL. 57:2

## FEATURES

- 3 ..... Monastery News
- 5 ..... Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein Obituary
- 6 ..... Abbey Caskets Moves Production on Site
- 7 ..... 16 Parishes Chosen for Young Adult Initiative

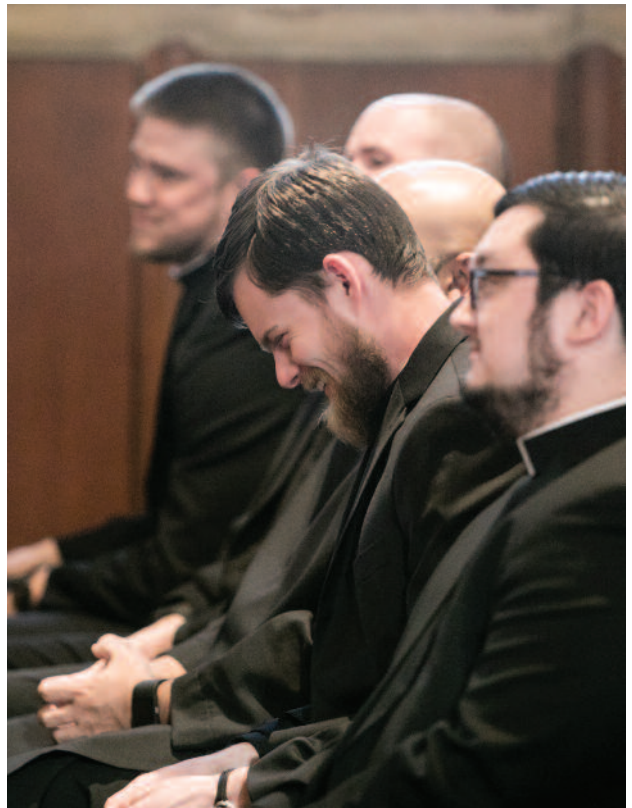
## ALUMNI

- 9 ..... Alumni Reunion
- 10 ..... Alumni Board Slate
- 12 ..... Student Profile
- 13 ..... Day of Service Photos
- 14-15 ..... Alumni Eternal and News
- 16 ..... Distinguished Alumnus

*On the Hill* is published four times a year by Saint Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary and School of Theology. The newsletter is also available online at: [www.saintmeinrad.edu/onthehill](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/onthehill)

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Deacon David Farrell reacts to Fr. Denis Robinson's homily during the priesthood promises ceremony on March 15.

Find more photos at <http://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com>.

## Monks' Personals

**Archabbot Kurt Stasiak** and **Br. John Mark Falkenhain** attended the annual North American Abbot's and Prior's Workshop at St. Joseph's Abbey in Covington, LA, on February 2-3. Br. John Mark was the main presenter on the topic of "Defining and Fostering an Internal Culture of Vocations."

**Fr. Julian Peters** continues work on his writing project, *Order of Service: A Handbook for Liturgical Masters of Ceremony*, in addition to teaching Latin and the Liturgical Practicum courses in the Seminary and School of Theology.

**Br. John Mark Falkenhain** was the invited speaker for the South Asian Formators Workshop on "Affective and Sexual Maturity in Formation and Beyond" held at the Divine Word Seminary in Quezon City, Philippines, February 22-24.

**Br. Stanley Rother Wagner** was appointed Liturgical Master of Ceremonies III. He will assist Fr. Thomas Gricoski and Br. Nathaniel Szidik.

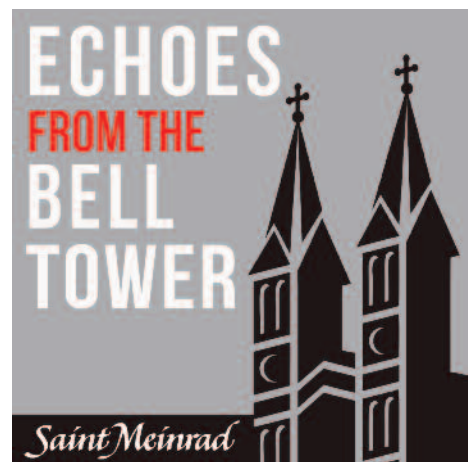
**Br. Dominic Warnecke** has started working for Abbey Caskets, in addition to his work as assistant custos of the monastery.

**Archabbot Kurt Stasiak** led the regular visitation of Mount Michael Abbey in Elkhorn, NE, in mid-March.

The monastic community recently celebrated the 90th birthday of **Fr. Louis Mulcahy** and the 93rd birthday of **Fr. Mel Patton**. ✚



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## Four monks celebrate priesthood jubilees



▲ *Fr. Denis Robinson, from left, Fr. Columba Kelly, Fr. Noël Mueller and Fr. Bonaventure Knaebel pose for a portrait in the Archabbey Church.*

The Benedictine monks at Saint Meinrad Archabbey will celebrate the priesthood ordination jubilees of four of their confreres on May 27, 2018. Honored will be Fr. Bonaventure Knaebel, 75 years; Fr. Columba Kelly, 60 years; Fr. Noël Mueller, 50 years; and Fr. Denis Robinson, 25 years.

**Fr. Bonaventure** was born in New Albany, IN, on September 6, 1918. He professed his monastic vows on August 6, 1938, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 1943. This year also marks the 80th anniversary of his monastic profession and his 100th birthday.

He attended minor and major seminary at Saint Meinrad, and then earned a Master of Science degree in 1946 from The Catholic University of America. He served as archabbot of the Saint Meinrad community from 1955 to 1966. He was the first Hoosier native to lead the monastery and, at 36, one of the youngest Benedictine abbots.

Other assignments have included teaching in Saint Meinrad's high school and college, assistant spiritual director at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, assistant manager at Abbey Press, and

eight years as a missionary at Saint Meinrad's mission in Huaraz, Peru.

Fr. Bonaventure has served as pastor at Sacred Heart Parish, Jeffersonville, IN, and St. Michael Parish, Charlestown, IN. He has been administrator of the Benedictine monastery in Morelia, Mexico; Corpus Christi Abbey in Sandia, TX; and St. Michael Parish in Bradford, IN. He also served as a chaplain at St. Paul Hermitage, Beech Grove, IN.

**Fr. Columba** is a native of Williamsburg, IA. He professed vows on July 31, 1953, and was ordained to the priesthood July 5, 1958. He graduated from Saint Meinrad College and then earned a licentiate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in 1959. He studied at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome, earning a doctorate in 1963.

Fr. Columba was the monastery choirmaster for many years, beginning in 1964. During that time, he began composing English-language chants based on the principles used to create the original Gregorian chant repertory. That same year, he began teaching in the Saint Meinrad schools. Fr. Columba served as prior (second in leadership) of the monastery from 1978-84.

He taught summer sessions in the St. Joseph College Liturgical Music Program in Rensselaer, IN, from 1964-72. He has led numerous workshops on chant throughout the United States, at the Abbey of Solesmes in France and for Benedictine communities in Australia. In 2015 he was named only the second recipient of the Spiritus Liturgiae Award, given by the Liturgical Institute.

In addition to composing, he gives workshops and publishes extensively in scholarly journals. He also has written two books on chant. He is an adjunct faculty member at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

**Fr. Noël** is a native of Louisville, KY, and he professed his monastic vows on August 15, 1963. He was ordained a priest on September 22, 1968.

From 1969 to 1980, he served at Saint Meinrad's mission in Huaraz, Peru, teaching English and religion and serving as coordinator of both the Office of Liturgy and Marriage Encounter in the Diocese of Huaraz, as well as other duties.

He earned a master's degree in English literature from the University of Louisville in 1985 and taught for 13 years at Saint Meinrad College. He also has served as monastery guest master, as associate director of continuing education and associate dean for housing and food services for the School of Theology, and as the secretary to the archabbot.

Currently, he serves as a formation dean in the seminary and as a spiritual director and retreat director.

**Fr. Denis** is a native of Iuka, MS. He attended Saint Meinrad College and School of Theology, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1989 and a Master of Divinity in 1993. From 1993-97, he was parochial vicar for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Memphis, TN.

*Continued on Page 6*

# EVENTS ON THE HILL

## May

Rosary pilgrimage at Monte Cassino Shrine each Sunday at 2 p.m. Central.

### May 4-6

Guest House Retreat: “Beauty as a Pathway to God: Religious Art and Symbol in the Spiritual Life” by Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB.

### May 8-10

Guest House Retreat: “On Becoming the Publican in the Temple: St. Benedict’s Degrees of Humility” by Fr. Colman Grabert, OSB.

### May 12

Graduation for Seminary and School of Theology.

### May 18-20

Guest House Retreat: “Your Faith Has Saved You – Or Has It?” by Fr. Vincent Tobin, OSB.

### May 27

Celebration of priesthood jubilees.

### June 10

Einsiedeln Society Dinner.

### June 15-21

Guest House Retreat: “The Image as a Window to the Spiritual: An Artist’s Six-Day Hands-on Workshop and Retreat” by Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB and Br. Michael Moran, CP.

### July 6-8

Guest House Retreat: “Gates of Paradise: An Art Retreat” by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB.

### July 13-15

Guest House Retreat: “A Step 11 Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics and Alanons” by Dave Maloney.

### July 16-20

Guest House Retreat: “Bringing to Life the Word of God in Song” by Fr. Columba Kelly, OSB.

### July 29

Celebration of monastic jubilees.

For more information, call (812) 357-6611 or visit our website [www.saintmeinrad.org](http://www.saintmeinrad.org)

# Monk professes first vows



▲ Holding his vow chart, Novice Joseph Wagner kneels before Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB, to profess his temporary vows as a Benedictine monk. Assisting is Fr. Meinrad Brune, OSB. Novice Noel Zamora, OSB, holds the book.

Novice Joseph Wagner professed his temporary vows as a Benedictine monk in a ceremony on January 20, 2018, at Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

He has completed his novitiate, a year of prayer and study of the Benedictine way of life. As is the custom during the profession of vows, he chose a religious name. Novice Joseph is now Br. Stanley.

He is most likely the first religious to take Blessed Fr. Stanley Rother as his patron. Fr. Rother was an Oklahoma City priest who was martyred in 1981 in Guatemala. On December 2, 2016, Pope Francis officially recognized Fr. Rother as a martyr for the faith. He is the first American-born martyr and the first U.S. priest to be beatified. Cardinal Angelo Amato celebrated the Rite of Beatification on September 23, 2017, in Oklahoma City.

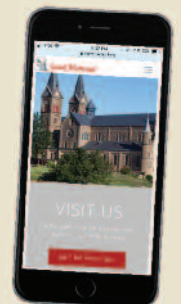
Br. Stanley, 30, of Quincy, IL, attended high school at Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago. He earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Quincy University and a master’s degree in liturgical studies from University of St. Mary of the Lake. He was a member of St. Aloysius Parish in Springfield, IL.

Before joining the monastery, he was a high school teacher at St. Anthony High School in Effingham, IL, and an archivist for the Illinois Secretary of State.

Temporary vows are typically for three years. This period offers a continuing opportunity for the monk and the monastic community to determine whether monastic life is, indeed, the right vocation for this individual. ✚

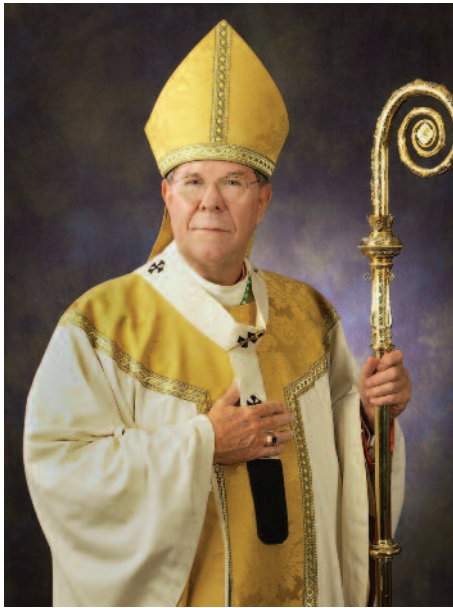
## [www.saintmeinrad.org](http://www.saintmeinrad.org)

Check out the newly designed and mobile-friendly monastery website for the latest news and photos.



# Archbishop Emeritus

## Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, dies January 25



*Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB*

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, 79, monk and priest of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and archbishop emeritus of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, died at 12:20 a.m. on January 25, 2018, in the monastery infirmary.

He is survived by his brother, Charles, of Jasper, IN; and nieces and nephews.

He was born in Jasper, IN, on April 20, 1938, to Carl and Rose (Blessinger) Buechlein and given the name Marcus George.

He joined the monastery on August 14, 1958, and professed his simple vows on August 15, 1959, taking the name Daniel. He made his solemn vows on August 15, 1962. He was ordained to the priesthood by the Most Rev. Paul Schulte on May 3, 1964, and celebrated his first Mass on May 24 at Holy Family Parish, Jasper.

After his ordination, Fr. Daniel spent two years in Rome, where he obtained a licentiate in sacred theology with a specialization in liturgy at the International Benedictine University of Sant' Anselmo.

Returning to Saint Meinrad in 1966, he served as assistant dean of students and

chairman of the Division of Religion at Saint Meinrad College. In 1971 he was director of the first national conference for seminary spiritual directors, and coordinated the founding of the Midwest Association of Seminary Spiritual Directors.

That same year, he began 16 years of service as president-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology, the last five of which he also served as president-rector of the college. In addition to serving many elected terms on the Archabbot's Council during this time, he taught courses on priestly ministry and spirituality.

On January 20, 1987, Pope St. John Paul II announced the appointment of Fr. Daniel as the third bishop of the Diocese of Memphis, TN. His ordination and installation took place on March 2, 1987.

On July 13, 1992, Pope St. John Paul announced that Bishop Daniel would succeed the Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara, who had died that January, as the 11th bishop and fifth archbishop of Indianapolis. On September 9, he was installed as archbishop in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. He was invested with the pallium by the Holy Father at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on June 29, 1993.

During his 19 years as shepherd of Indianapolis, Archbishop Daniel worked to strengthen the archdiocese's pastoral, spiritual and financial health. He was especially interested in promoting Catholic education, young adult ministry, and vocations to priesthood and the religious life.

Under his leadership, enrollment in the archdiocese's Catholic schools increased 30 percent to more than 25,000 students, reversing a 25-year decline. Innovative partnerships with Lilly Endowment Inc., campaigns to help fund new education initiatives, and the support of the business community led to improved student performance, which the U.S. Department of Education recognized by awarding 26 archdiocesan schools with Blue Ribbon awards for excellence.

Archbishop Daniel garnered support to keep Catholic schools in the Indianapolis center-city open to serve students from low-income families and the growing immigrant population. He also led the effort to build two new grade schools in the center-city. Archbishop Daniel expanded the archdiocese's ministry to young adults by starting a Theology on Tap program, adding new college campus ministry programs, and creating new archdiocesan staff positions to provide outreach to young adults.

In 2003, Archbishop Daniel established the ministry of permanent diaconate in the archdiocese. The first class of 25 deacons was ordained in 2008, and the ministry continues to flourish.

Archbishop Daniel founded the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis in 2004, to prepare college seminarians for major seminary. The seminary quickly attracted young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood and today has nearly 50 seminarians from 10 dioceses.

Archbishop Daniel also expanded the services of Catholic Charities and social outreach ministries of the archdiocese. The archdiocese in 2009 opened a 30,000-square-foot shelter for homeless families, the Holy Family Shelter, located on the west side of Indianapolis.

The financial health of the archdiocese also improved under Archbishop Daniel's management. During his tenure, the archdiocese raised \$300 million through the annual stewardship appeal and separate capital campaigns to pay for building projects and ministry needs throughout the archdiocese.

After a series of significant budget deficits, Archbishop Daniel guided the archdiocese back to firm financial footing and break-even budgets. He also oversaw the dramatic growth of the Catholic

*Continued on Page 6*

## Jubilees *Continued from Page 3*

He joined the monastery at Saint Meinrad in August 1996 and made his solemn profession on August 15, 2000. Fr. Denis also 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.

Since 2008, Fr. Denis has served as president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is also associate professor of systematic theology. Other assignments have included director of continuing education, director of the permanent deacon formation program and subprior (third in leadership) of the monastery. ✚

## Obituary *Continued from Page 5*

Community Foundation, which oversees the archdiocese's endowments. During his tenure, 337 endowment funds with a value of more than \$100 million were established.

He suffered a mild stroke on March 18, 2011, and was admitted to St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. On August 1 he sent a letter to the Holy Father asking, for reasons of health, to resign from his responsibilities as archbishop and to return to Saint Meinrad. Pope Benedict XVI granted his request, and the Archbishop took up residence in the monastery infirmary in October.

He continued his office of teaching as his health permitted, publishing in 2013 the book, *Surprised by Grace: Memories and Reflections After 25 Years of Episcopal Ministry*.

The funeral Mass was held on January 31 at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis. Burial was in the Archabbey Cemetery on February 1. ✚

## Mass Intentions

*You can now request Mass Intentions online*

[www.saintmeinrad.org/mass-intentions](http://www.saintmeinrad.org/mass-intentions)

# Abbey Caskets opens new workshop

Abbey Caskets has opened a new production facility on the campus of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, IN.

The new workshop, which builds wooden caskets and cremation urns, is open for public tours.

Abbey Caskets was established in 1999 to sell wooden caskets and cremation urns directly to the public. The simple caskets include a design based on the casket used to bury the Benedictine monks.

Last fall, a building previously used by Abbey Press was emptied, cleaned and painted. A sprinkler system and sanding and finishing booths were installed and a dust wall was built to separate the finishing station from the cutting and sanding stations.

In addition, Abbey Caskets hired two people for the casket production and another for customer service. Saint Meinrad monk Fr. Dominic Warnecke, OSB, also is working several days a week. The workshop began production earlier this year.

Having the casket workshop on site gives Abbey Caskets more control over the quality of the products and helps keep costs down, according to Jenny Keller, director of Abbey Caskets. In addition, customers who want to see how the caskets are made can do so.

To tour the workshop and see the finished products, call Abbey Caskets at (800) 987-7380. ✚



▲ Top: Eric Boeglin assembles a casket lid. Below: Ross Tempel sprays the top coat onto the lid of an Abbey Casket.

# 16 parishes chosen to participate in the Young Adult Initiative

Sixteen parishes have been chosen to participate in the Young Adult Initiative of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

The program is funded by a \$1.38 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to improve parish outreach to young adults and better engage them with the Catholic Church. Parishes were invited to apply for the program, and Saint Meinrad received 96 applications.

*“We went through a lengthy but thorough selection process and prayerful discernment to find a wide variety of parish settings and situations.”*

The parishes that will participate in the program for the next four years are:

Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Knoxville, TN; Christ the King Parish, Ferdinand, IN; Church of the Holy Angels Parish, Indianapolis, IN; Holy Family Parish, Brentwood, TN;

Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green, KY; Immaculate Conception Parish, La Grange, KY; Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Lexington, KY; Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Jeffersonville, IN;

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, New Albany, IN; St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, Zionsville, IN; St. Augustine Parish, Lebanon, KY; St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus, IN; St. Cecilia Parish, Cincinnati, OH;

St. Clare of Assisi Parish, O’Fallon, IL; St. John the Evangelist Parish, St. John, IN; and St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, IN.

The parishes represent five states and 13 dioceses. Parishes range in size from 259 households to 2,578 households. Twelve of the parishes operate elementary schools.

“We went through a lengthy but thorough selection process and prayerful discernment to find a wide variety of parish settings and situations,” said Michal Horace, director of the Young Adult Initiative. “The partner parishes

include small, mid-size and large parishes, as well as rural, urban and suburban parishes. Many of the partner parishes have multicultural congregations.” In partnership with Saint

Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, parishes will explore the demographics of their communities, learn more about today’s young adults (ages 23-29), and develop innovative strategies to better meet the spiritual needs of the young adults in their parish.

“Improving our ministry to young adults is crucial for today’s Catholic Church,” according to Horace. “How can we build relationships with young adults and strengthen the domestic Church in young adult households? How can each parish examine its structures and processes in order to be more welcoming to young adults? This initiative will focus on innovation in how our Church engages with young adults and meets their spiritual needs.” ✝

## Sign up for the e-newsletter

If you’d like to receive brief updates on what’s happening at Saint Meinrad, you can sign up for a free e-newsletter. Every few weeks, you will receive a newsletter in your email’s inbox.

To sign up, go to the “Newsletters” link on the front page of the website: [www.saintmeinrad.edu](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu). Or, send an email to [news@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:news@saintmeinrad.edu)



▲ The Young Adult Initiative aims to improve parish outreach to young adults and better engage them in the Catholic Church.



*Photos, beginning at top left: Fr. Julian Peters, OSB, left, witnesses the deacon promises of seminarian Patrick Gilbreath on February 22.*

*Br. Justin Ayanou, OSB, goes sledding with monks and seminarians on January 13.*

*Br. Kolbe Wolniakowski, OSB, removes the mitre from Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, OSB, at the beginning of a Mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Meinrad on January 21.*

*Dr. Gregory Ellison II presents the annual Black History Lecture in the St. Bede Theater on February 27.*

*Seminarians Marc Bentley, from left, and John Herrera joke as they make a sauce for pasta during a January Interterm class on healthy food preparation taught by Fr. Julian Peters, OSB.*

*Fr. John Praveen Itukulapati, left, and Fr. Manoj Mammen learn about American speech patterns during the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates World Priest Program on March 2.*





## 90th Annual Alumni Reunion offers spiritual, personal enrichment

The 90th annual Alumni Reunion is planned for July 22-25 at Saint Meinrad. This year's event offers ample time to catch up with classmates and friends as well as excellent opportunities for spiritual and intellectual growth.

The reunion kicks off Monday, July 23, with a golf scramble at Christmas Lake Golf Course in Santa Claus and a workshop presented by Fr. Dave Dwyer, CSP, a Paulist priest and executive director of Busted Halo Ministries.



Fr. Dave Dwyer, CSP

Fr. Dwyer is the publisher of BustedHalo.com, which has been honored with top awards from the Catholic Press Association and the Associated Church Press. He also hosts "The Busted Halo

Show with Father Dave," a call-in radio talk show airing five nights a week on SiriusXM radio, where he answers questions of faith for over 30 million subscribers.

His two-part workshop is titled "Leaving the Upper Room: How the Church Needs to Reach Out to the Millennial

Generation." At Pentecost, the first disciples were propelled forth by the Spirit, leaving the comfort and tight-knit community of the Upper Room to go into the world to evangelize.

The Church never would have grown past those first few had the disciples stayed inside praying. Do our parishes and campus ministries embrace what Pope Francis says is the missionary spirit demanded of all believers, when he reminds us that, "Jesus is the Lord of risk, of the eternal 'more,' not the Lord of comfort, security and ease" (World Youth Day, Krakow 2016)?

How can we as Church leave our comfortable Upper Rooms (even virtually!) to connect with a generation that has shown it will not come and knock on our door? In this interactive workshop, Fr. Dave will facilitate a conversation about how parishes and other ministries can be more proactive in reaching young adults.

Alumni and friends are invited to take part in this special workshop. For those wishing to attend only the workshop and lunch, the cost is \$20. If you plan to bring a group, please contact the Alumni Office. Registration is required to attend this event.

That evening, the anniversary classes of O'68 (50 years), O'78 (40 years), T'93 (25 years), T'08 (10 years); college classes of 1968 (50 years), 1973 (45 years), 1978 (40 years), and 1993 (25 years); and the high school class of 1968 (50 years) will be honored at a banquet.

On Tuesday morning of the reunion, Fr. Mark O'Keefe, OSB, will give a talk on "Confronting the Challenges of Life and Ministry: The Virtues of Courage and Hope." An author and a moral theologian, Fr. Mark served as president-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 1996 to 2008.

On Tuesday afternoon, alumni can attend a workshop given by Br. Francis de Sales Wagner, OSB, the author of several Abbey Press publications on Benedictine and Catholic spirituality, including *Grace in the Wilderness: Reflections on God's Sustaining Word Along Life's Journey* (2013).

Archbishop Peter Wells C'87, apostolic nuncio to South Africa and Botswana, will preside and preach at Tuesday afternoon's Reunion Mass in the Archabbey Church. Originally from the Diocese of Tulsa, Archbishop Wells entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See in 1999.

Wells most recently served as the Assessor for the General Affairs of the Secretariat of State, a position equivalent to deputy chief of staff, which handles most Church affairs apart from relations with states.

At the banquet on Tuesday evening, Archbishop Wells will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award in recognition of his extraordinary service to the worldwide Church.

To attend any event at the Alumni Reunion, registration is required. Register by July 1 to receive a \$10-per-day discount. To attend only Fr. Dave Dwyer's workshop and lunch on Monday, the cost is \$20.

Reunion details are available on the website at <http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu> and the alumni Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/SaintMeinradAlumni](http://www.facebook.com/SaintMeinradAlumni). ✚

# Alumni Board Slate

## Seven alumni seeking approval for second term

Seven alumni are seeking approval for their second term as members of the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Candidates are presented as a slate for approval. Alumni can submit their approval or disapproval by email to [alumni@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:alumni@saintmeinrad.edu), by calling the Alumni Office at (800) 682-0988 or by voting on the alumni website at <http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu>. Voting ends July 25, 2018.

### PRE-1983



*Rev. Msgr. Christopher P. Vasko*

**Rev. Msgr. Christopher P. Vasko O'83 ('79-83)** serves as the judicial vicar of the Diocese of Toledo, OH. He is also the pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish and St. Patrick's Historic Parish in Toledo.

He received his licentiate in canon law at The Catholic University of America and his doctorate in canon law from St. Paul University in Ottawa, Ontario. He is a member of the Canon Law Society of America. He was named a monsignor in 2010.



*Mr. Frederick L. Chandler*

**Mr. Frederick L. Chandler O'72 ('64-68)** of Indianapolis, IN, is a retired counselor from Carmel High School. He is a lifetime member of the American Counseling Association and

the Indiana Counseling Association, where he served terms as both president and executive director. He is also a

member of the American and Indiana School Counselor Association and the American and Indiana Mental Health Counselor Association.

He has received a special recognition award from the Indiana Counseling Association and the Saint Meinrad Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Through his home parish in Indianapolis, St. Thomas Aquinas, Chandler became involved with a sister parish in Belle-Rivière, Haiti, where he has participated in missions to address schools, clean water and medical facilities.

He serves as treasurer of St. Thomas Aquinas Haiti Committee, co-coordinator of the school lunch program in Belle-Rivière, co-coordinator of Eucharistic ministers at his parish and a member of the parish's stewardship commission.

### 1984-1998



*Fr. J. Randall Hubbard*

**Fr. J. Randall Hubbard T'90 ('78-83; '88-90; '97-98; '00)** is pastor of Epiphany Parish in the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY. Previously, he was pastor of St. Stephen Martyr

Catholic Church.

He served on the board of the International Catholic Deaf Association from 1999-2009 and is currently chaplain for the Louisville Catholic Deaf Society.

From Saint Meinrad, he earned a bachelor's degree in biology, a master's degree in theology and his Master of Divinity.



*Deacon Greg Clodi*

**Deacon Greg Clodi C'86 ('82-86)**, of Kankakee, IL, is a produce clerk in South Chicago Heights.

He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Meinrad College in 1986.

He was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Joliet, IL, in 1999 and currently serves at St. John Paul II Parish in Kankakee, where he is chair of the Worship Committee and a member of the parish council.

He was appointed to the Alumni Board in 2015 to complete the term vacated by Msgr. James Ramer.

### 1999-PRESENT



*Fr. Jerry Byrd*

**Fr. Jerry Byrd T'12 ('06-12)** is the pastoral administrator of St. Mary's, St. Joseph and St. Ann's parishes in Jennings County, IN. Previously, he served as associate pastor of St. Barnabas

Parish and as chaplain for the University of Indianapolis.

His hobbies include designing and making liturgical vestments. He enjoys liturgical music and composed the music for his Mass of Thanksgiving.

Fr. Jerry also has served as a catechist for the Saint Meinrad "One Bread, One Cup" conferences.



**Deacon Richard Cooper MTS'16 ('05-08; '14-16); PD'12 ('08-12)** is executive director of Harrison County Community Services in Corydon, IN. He holds a bachelor's degree in

counseling and guidance and was ordained a deacon in 2012.

He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and is a Benedictine Oblate of Saint Meinrad.

He serves on the Board of Directors for Retired Seniors Volunteer Program.



**Dr. Mary Diane Valentine MTS '13 ('10-13)** works as director of administration at All Saints Parish in St. Peters, MO.

She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution,

serves on the Heritage Committee at All Saints Parish, coordinates the cemetery walk production for the parish and is a member of the parish leadership team.

Previously, she served on the city council of Bullhead City, AZ, served as president of the Chamber of Commerce in Bullhead City, chaired the Edison Electric Institute Utility Speakers Committee in Washington, DC, and was named a Paul Harris Fellow. ✚

# Annual Phonathon raises more than \$39,000

This past February and March, students participating in the annual Alumni and Friends Phonathon manned the phones for a few hours of calling on seven evenings.

The result was one of the most successful phonathons in years. Students spoke with more than 600 people and received gifts and pledges totaling \$39,281. Each evening, they talked with alumni and friends from across the country. Phone messages were left with those they couldn't reach and on days following each phonathon, a good number of them returned calls to Saint Meinrad to make a donation.

"The annual phonathon has a three-fold purpose: to reach out to our alumni and friends; to ask for their support; and to provide formation to our students," says

John Huether, O'78 ('71-74), associate director of annual giving, who organizes the event.

"We not only consider it a fund-raising event, but also a ministry opportunity," added Huether. "It's nice to see the excellent results, but it's also gratifying to know so many alumni and friends had a personal conversation with one of our seminarians."

Gifts to the phonathon help fund classroom instruction, financial aid, spiritual formation programs, ministry opportunities, library resources, and upkeep of the buildings and grounds.

Alumni can make gifts to the 2017-2018 Alumni Annual Giving Program until June 30. To give online, visit [donate.saintmeinrad.edu](http://donate.saintmeinrad.edu). ✚

# Alumnus Bishop Konzen serving as auxiliary in Atlanta



*Bishop Joel Konzen, SM*

Pope Francis has appointed Saint Meinrad alumnus Fr. Joel Konzen, SM, to serve as an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. He was ordained to the episcopacy on April 3.

Auxiliary Bishop Konzen is an Ohio native, but has served in the Archdiocese of Atlanta for 28 years. He led the Marist School in Atlanta as its principal since 1999 and previously held administrative positions at Marist from 1980 to 1989.

He is the recipient of the 2015 National Catholic Educational Association's Educational Excellence Award and recently helped to found two new Catholic

schools in Atlanta, Notre Dame Academy and Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School.

He took first vows in the Society of Mary in 1975 and was ordained a priest in 1979. The Marists are a religious order founded in post-Revolution France by Jean-Claude Colin.

Auxiliary Bishop Konzen earned a bachelor of arts in English from Saint Meinrad Seminary in 1972. He then received a Master of Divinity from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, and both a master of arts in systematic theology and a master of arts in educational administration from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

During his time in D.C., he served as vicar provincial of the former Washington Province of the Society of Mary.

*Photo by The Archdiocese of Atlanta ✚*



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## [Meet the Student]

# Jason Winkle

**Hometown:** Unionville, IN

**Degree:** Master of Arts (Theology)

**Q.** *When did you begin your studies?*

Summer of 2017.

**Q.** *What influenced you to begin studying for a master's degree in theology?*

God has been very patient with me as this journey to pursuing a degree in theology has been life-long. I truly believe it started when Fr. Kevin Haines took me, as a high school student, to visit Saint Meinrad. His love of God and his ability to explain the faith was one of the key reasons I began reading theology and, ultimately, received a degree in philosophy.

Looking back now, I am able to see how God continually put people and opportunities in front of me to deepen my faith. A second key individual in my spiritual journey was Major Eric Verzola. Eric was an Army officer teaching at West Point during my tenure as a civilian faculty member. Through the many theological discussions we would have between teaching our classes, I quickly discovered how much I didn't know about my faith.

Eric's faith and knowledge of the Catholic Church inspired me to want to learn more. Years and many prayers later, the calling I faintly heard as a high school student has grown louder and is finally being fulfilled.

**Q.** *What else are you doing besides seeking a master's degree?*

Outside my studies, my life is focused on family, parish and work. My wife and I are expecting a baby girl in May and are busy helping our sixth-grade son adjust to life as a middle schooler. We are blessed to live close to our extended family, so the

cousins get to spend a lot of quality time together.

St. Agnes Parish plays a key role in my life as well. I'm a member of the parish council and faith formation commission, and I teach adult religious education. I'm also a rookie at St. Paul Street Evangelization in Bloomington. I currently serve as the CEO of the YMCAs in Bloomington, Indiana, where I have the opportunity to live my faith as part of my career.

**Q.** *Favorite saint and why?*

I attended St. Ambrose parish and grade school in Anderson, Indiana, and was obviously introduced to St. Ambrose early in my life. I have such wonderful memories of those formative years and I distinctly remember how fascinated I was in the life of St. Ambrose.

I have a deep respect for the discipline he displayed in studying theology and scripture and his commitment to simplicity and penance. He was a courageous defender of the faith. The more I learn about his influence on the Church, the greater my admiration grows.

**Q.** *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

1 Corinthians 10:31: "So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." I find this verse to be a powerful reminder to me to work against my own ego and to focus on glorifying God in all that I do.



**Q.** *Hobbies?*

I have a 12-year-old son so my hobbies currently include Minecraft, Star Wars and swimming. When he happens to visit his grandparents or does an overnight with a friend, my hobbies migrate toward reading, hiking and the martial arts.

**Q.** *What aspect of your coursework has been most rewarding?*

I have found meaning and value in every course – even the very demanding ones. The quality of the instruction and the course content have surpassed my every expectation. I leave each weekend excited about my choice to pursue this degree.

**Q.** *What aspect of your coursework has been most challenging?*

The most challenging aspect is finding the time to complete the preparatory work and assigned papers between professional and family commitments.

**Q.** *What plans, if any, do you have after you receive your degree?*

I'm open to the direction that God leads me. I would love to merge my Ph.D. in education leadership with theology to create a leadership program for parish council members and other lay ministers, focused on evangelization and emotional intelligence. ✝

*Saint Meinrad*

**DAY OF SERVICE**



*Over 170 alumni, oblates and friends of Saint Meinrad participated in service projects in nine cities on March 10 for the Saint Meinrad Day of Service.*

*More photos at: <https://saint-meinrad.smugmug.com/Alumni/Day-of-Service-2018/>*

## ALUMNI ETERNAL

**Deacon Marshall D. Banks PD'03 ('99-03)**, of Richmond, VA, died on March 11, 2018.

**Mr. Joseph E. Barth O'54 ('44-48)**, of New Paris, OH, died on August 13, 2017.

**Mr. Leonard F. Cors O'67 ('59-63)**, of New Berlin, WI, died on February 5, 2018.

**Mr. Ralph C. Day O'73 ('61-67)**, of Gainesville, FL, died on January 24, 2018.

**Deacon Donald Dearman PD'08 ('04-08)**, of Indianapolis, died on February 8, 2018.

**Sr. Raphael Frank, OSB, S'01**, of St. Benedict Monastery, Bakerstown, PA, died on December 20, 2017.

**Mr. Michael E. Fredrick O'74 ('62-63; '76-77)**, of Albuquerque, NM, died on January 10, 2018.

**Fr. Lawrence J. Gelthaus T'88 ('84-88)**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, died on December 22, 2017.

**Dr. Virgil R. Grunkemeyer O'58 ('46-48)**, of Rockford, IL, died on January 19, 2018.

**Sr. Margaret Ann Hagan, OSU, SS'84 ('79-84)**, of Louisville, KY, died on March 9, 2018. She was the first woman alumna of Saint Meinrad to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007).

**Mr. George A. Herold O'54 ('42-49)**, of Santa Barbara, CA, died on May 12, 2016.

**Mr. Michael A. Hertelendi O'70 ('58-62)**, of Downers Grove, IL, died on April 1, 2013.

**Mr. Kenneth H. Holzmeyer O'58 ('46-48)**, of Fort Branch, IN, died on February 23, 2018.

**Rev. Larry Jackson S'01**, of South Parkersburg, WV, died on December 16, 2017.

**Mr. Don L. Johnson SS ('84-85)**, of Aiken, SC, died on October 1, 2017.

**Deacon Frank Kokoczka PD'12 ('08-12)**, of Cheyenne, WY, died on September 22, 2017.

**Fr. Richard Loehrlein, SM, O'57 ('45-46)**, of the Marianist Residence Community in San Antonio, TX, died on January 21, 2018.

**Fr. Thomas Lombardi O'75 ('67-71)**, a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN, died on December 28, 2017.

**Mr. Richard S. McGraw O'57 ('48-51)**, of Lima, OH, died on November 19, 2017.

**Fr. Patrick W. Mundy S'03**, of Plattsburgh, NY, died on September 4, 2017.

**Ms. Kathleen A. Murnane GTP ('03-09)**, of Fishers, IN, died on December 30, 2017.

**Fr. William C. Parker O'64 ('58-60)**, a priest of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, died on December 6, 2017.

**Mr. John E. Perkins O'58 ('49-50)**, of Springfield, OH, died on April 26, 2001.

**Sr. Mary de Porres Polk, OSB, SS ('73)**, a member of the Olivetan Benedictine Sisters of Holy Angels Convent, Jonesboro, AR, died on February 1, 2018.

**Mr. Donald F. Raderstorf O'71 ('59)**, of Logansport, IN, died on February 9, 2018.

**Fr. James V. Ragnoni O'60 ('51-54)**, a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland, OH, died on August 1, 2016.

**Mr. Leonard F. Riley O'55 ('43-45)**, of Spokane, WA, died on March 31, 2017.

**Mr. Dennis A. Schaeffer O'64 ('52-56)**, of Huntingburg, IN, died on January 11, 2018.

**Mr. Thomas Scheidler O'66 ('55-58)**, of Brattleboro, VT, died on March 7, 2018.

**Fr. James Stafford O'61 ('51-52)**, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, died on September 7, 2017.

### 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 ✚

## Archabbey named 2017 Indiana Tree Farmer of the Year

Saint Meinrad Archabbey was recognized as the Indiana Tree Farmer of the Year for 2017 at the annual meeting of the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association on February 7 in Indianapolis.

Michael Gregg, Saint Meinrad's consulting forester, and Fr. Guy Mansini, OSB, were on hand to receive the award on behalf of the Archabbey.

The Archabbey's interest in good stewardship dates back to 1923, when it enrolled in Indiana's Classified Forest Program, established under the

leadership of the distinguished conservationist, Charles Deam. Since then, the Archabbey woods have provided timber for its own building projects and, since 1965, have helped sustain the local timber and woodworking industry with over four million board feet of lumber.

In 2006 and 2007, the Archabbey reforested substantial acreage of old pasture and crop land with the help of the American Electric Power Co. and the Wetlands Reserve Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. ✚

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Mr. Charles Belch O'64 ('52-59)**, of Fort Wayne, IN, delivered a paper on the American power grid to the Quest Club on February 2 at the Fort Wayne Country Club.

**Dr. Jared Bryson C'97 ('94-96)** and his wife, Emily, welcomed their third child, William Joseph, on March 21, 2018. They reside in St. Louis, MO.

**Dr. John Carl T'90 ('85-90)**, of Norman, OK, is assistant professor of sociology at the University of Oklahoma.

**Fr. Clyde Crews O'73 ('71-72)**, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, has published a new book, *In Veritatis Amore*, that chronicles the history of Bellarmine University. He serves as the university's historian and archival coordinator.

**Fr. Jamie Dennis T'16 ('09-16)**, a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, for the second time celebrated a special Mass on the feast of St. Lucy, patron saint of blind people. Mass was held in the Lady Chapel of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on December 13.

**Mr. Cyril De Vlieghe O'58 ('52-57)**, of Mishawaka, IN, is a member of a men's *schola cantorum* that sings Gregorian chant, often singing at weddings and funerals and during Advent and Lent, according to an article in *Today's Catholic*, the diocesan newspaper of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN.

**Ms. Audra Douglas MAT'15 ('11-15)**, of Evansville, IN, has started a family nurse practitioner practice with St. Vincent Medical Group, Newburgh, IN.

**Mrs. Sarah Glennon GTP ('15-18)** and her husband, Patrick, welcomed a son, Patrick John, on March 1, 2018. They reside in Kingsland, GA.

**Mr. Keith Fritz C'99 ('95-97)**, of Ferdinand, IN, is expanding his business, Keith Fritz Fine Furniture. The company is adding a new finishing room for the handcrafted, high-end furniture built there.

**Mr. Jerry Harp C'83 ('80-83)**, of Portland, OR, published his fourth book of poems, *Spirit under Construction*

(NeoPoiesis Press). He teaches English and creative writing at Lewis & Clark College.

**Fr. Joshua Janko GTP ('05)**, a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force serving at Yokota Air Base Japan, recently earned a quarterly award for Company Grade Officers for the Wing Staff Agency.

**Mr. Dan Klingler C'94 ('90-92)**, of New York, NY, recently accepted a position working as a hair design team member on the CBS television show, "Elementary."

**Mr. Gary Marvin O'70 ('58-70)**, of Louisville, KY, received the 2017 Jim Flynn Social Responsibility Award on January 20 from Epiphany Catholic Church in Louisville, KY.

**Mr. Andy Miller MTS'16 ('11-16)**, of Indianapolis, IN, is the associate director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

**Deacon James Morgan PD'17 ('13-17)**, of Wingo, KY, was presented certificates of recognition and a commemorative pin on September 24, 2017, from the Department of Defense and the Daughters of the American Revolution, Paducah Chapter, in honor of the 50th anniversary of his service during the Vietnam War.

**Rev. Steven Peay, PhD, O'81 ('76-77)**, of Wauwatosa, WI, was appointed research professor of homiletics and Church history at Nashotah House Theological Seminary (Episcopal). On September 1, he stepped down as the dean-president and was named dean-president emeritus.

**Fr. Thomas Petri, OP, C'00 ('96-97)**, of Washington, D.C., was among the speakers at the Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference, held November 5-7 at Lake Barkley State Resort Park in Cadiz, KY.

**Fr. Alan Phillip, CP, O'67 ('65-67; '69)**, of Sierra Madre, CA, has published a new book, *The Ten Things You Must Do Before You Die*. The book, which offers advice on forgiving, thanking, expressing love, etc., is available from Amazon.

**Dr. Melanie-Prejean Sullivan MTS'03 ('00-03)**, of Louisville, KY, will retire as director of campus ministry at Bellarmine University in May. This spring, she will teach for a month at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge, England.

**Deacon Marco M. Rajkovich PD'12 ('08-12; '14-16)**, of Nicholasville, KY, has been appointed by President Donald Trump to chair the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission through August 30, 2022. A lawyer, he has practiced for more than 30 years in mine safety and health law.

**Mrs. Sonia-Maria Raposo GTP ('17)**, and her husband, Conrad, of Indianapolis, IN, adopted a daughter, Sophia Teresa, on February 2, 2018.

**Fr. Francis S. Tebbe, OFM, O'74 ('62-66)**, recently was appointed director of mission services for Franciscan Health Dyer, Hammond, Munster (three hospital campuses in northwest Indiana). He will celebrate his 50th anniversary of religious investiture as a Franciscan and his 43rd anniversary of priesthood ordination on August 16.

**Mr. Jim Wayne O'74 ('62-66)**, was awarded an honorary doctorate from Spalding University, Louisville, KY, in recognition of his extensive record of public service. He will retire this year after serving 27 years in the Kentucky House of Representatives. ✚

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# Archbishop Peter Wells: DAA nominee serves Church in Africa



*Archbishop Peter Wells*

Archbishop Peter Wells C'87 will become the 27th Saint Meinrad alumnus to receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award when it is conferred on July 24 during the annual Alumni Reunion.

Archbishop Wells currently serves as papal nuncio to South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland. Pope Francis announced the appointment on February 9, 2016, at the same time elevating Wells to the rank of archbishop.

A nuncio is the pope's ambassador to a country. In an interview shortly after he arrived in South Africa, Archbishop Wells described it this way: "My role is to take the hopes, the concerns, the aspirations and the sufferings of the local Church back to the pope and then to bring back to the local Church what the Holy Father has in mind for them: his hopes, his aspirations, his comfort and solidarity."

A native of Tulsa, OK, Archbishop Wells earned a bachelor's degree at Saint Meinrad College in 1987 and then continued his priesthood studies at the

Pontifical North American College at Rome. He was ordained in 1991 for the Diocese of Tulsa.

In the diocese, he served as assistant pastor at Holy Family Cathedral in Tulsa, secretary to the bishop, and vicar for religious education.

He began his diplomatic work with the Holy See on July 1, 1999, after obtaining a licentiate and doctoral degree in canon law from the Pontifical Gregorian University, in 1998 and 1999, respectively. He also earned a baccalaureate in theology in 1990. His first diplomatic assignment was to the nunciature in Nigeria.

Wells served in Nigeria during a difficult time in that country's history, according to an alumnus who nominated him for the award. As part of his work, Wells successfully oversaw the building of the new nunciature there.

In 2002, Wells was called back to Rome to work at the Section for General Affairs of the Secretariat of State. He was appointed to head the English desk in 2006. In addition to English, he is fluent in Italian, French, Spanish and German.

In 2013, Pope Francis named Wells secretary of the five-member Pontifical

Commission responsible for investigating the Institute for Works of Religion. He also served as president of the Holy See's Financial Security Committee.

One nominator, a Saint Meinrad classmate, recalls Wells from their days as college students. "Peter is a man of great character whose sense of humor, wit and devotion are representative of the qualities which I associate with a good priest.

"Saint Meinrad surely nurtured these qualities in Peter during his studies and, undoubtedly, the student community received the benefit of his joyfulness, genuine piety and exceptional ability to lead others."

"The Church is a much richer institution having Peter Wells at Her service," noted another of his nominators. "He is a devoted priest and an outstanding candidate for Saint Meinrad's Distinguished Alumnus Award."

Another alumnus who nominated Wells for the award called him "a bright mind with a tremendous sense of humor. He has worked hard out of love for the Church and has certainly made Saint Meinrad proud in his service." ✝