

Graduation.

41 earn master's degrees from Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Graduates of Saint Meinrad School of Theology were awarded master's degrees on May 9. They accepted their diplomas from the Rt. Rev. Justin DuVall, OSB, archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and chairman of the School of Theology's Board of Trustees.

The convocation address was given by the Most Rev. George Lucas, bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, IL. "I congratulate our graduates," he said in learn, to internalize and to articulate the truths of our faith."

Receiving Master of Divinity degrees:

Daniel Dillard and Josh McCarty, Diocese of Owensboro: Ieremy Gries, John Hollowell, Peter Marshall and Chris Wadelton, Archdiocese of

his talk. "Thank you for your desire to



Indianapolis; Steven Laflamme and Joe

Palayamkottai, India; and Br. Christian

Raab, OSB, Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Receiving Master of Arts

Sobolik, Archdiocese of Duluth; Matthew Long, Diocese of Shreveport; Bede Marcy, OSB, St. Bernard Abbey; Gary Mayer, Diocese of Dubuque; Eric Mueller, Diocese of Toledo; Jegan Peter

and Anto Peterraj, Diocese of

degrees in Catholic

Philosophical Studies:

Alan Carter, Diocese of Lexington;

Enrique Castro and Daniel Ketcher,

Diocese of Little Rock; Joseph

Des Moines; Stuart Priddy,

Archdiocese of Louisville; and Nicholas Seib, Diocese of Evansville.

Groepper, Diocese of Davenport; Michael Judkins, Diocese of Tulsa;

Douglas Marcotte, Archdiocese of

Indianapolis; Ross Parker, Diocese of

Michael Hollcraft, Greenwood, IN; Michael Johnson, Edgewood, KY; Glory Kramer, Radcliff, KY; Christopher Luken, Louisville, KY;

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The 2009 graduates process down the main walkway before the graduation ceremony on May 9.



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Monks' personals.

Fr. Anthony Vinson was appointed in April to the Board of Directors for Lincoln Hills Development Corp. He is the representative of the low-income sector of Spencer County. He attended the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry membership meeting in Newport, RI, from January 27-February 1.

Br. Benjamin Brown participated in a course on Rural Firefighting Techniques for Instructors at the National Fire Academy in Indianapolis in March.

Br. Christian Raab, Fr. Anthony Vinson and **Br. Matthew Mattingly**attended the Evansville Diocese's
Source and Summit Retreat for young adults at Memorial High School in February.

Fr. Damian Schmelz was featured in the May/June issue of *Outdoor Indiana* magazine.

Fr. Denis Robinson attended the regional National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors meeting in Knoxville, TN, in May and addressed the vocation directors on the use of psychology in seminaries.

Fr. Gabriel Hodges received the Bronze Pelican award from the Diocese of Evansville Catholic Committee on Scouting in March in recognition of his service with the Boy Scouts.

Fr. Subprior Guerric DeBona, Br. Jacob Grisley and Br. John Mark Falkenhain were at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN, in January to attend the annual workshop for those working in monastic formation.

Abbot Martin Marty Guild Day of Recollection.

October 17, 2009

Fr. Guy Mansini has written The Word Has Dwelt Among Us: Explorations in Theology published by Sapientia Press. He was awarded the Charles Cardinal Journet Prize from Ave Maria University in April. The Journet Prize honors the scholarly monograph that best exemplifies the task of drawing upon the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas to engage in contemporary theology, philosophy or biblical studies.

Fr. Harry Hagan had an article, "Caedmon's Hymn and Translations for Singing," published in the January issue of the *Downside Review*.

Br. Jacob Grisley and **Br. John Mark Falkenhain** attended a workshop for monastic formation at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN, in April.

Archabbot Justin DuVall concelebrated at the Jubilee Mass for the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on May 3. He attended the Abbots' Workshop held at St. Bernard Abbey, Cullman, AL, from February 12-17.

Fr. Matthias Neuman had an article, "The Benedictine Monastic Tradition in Iceland," published in the December issue of the *American Benedictine Review*.

Fr. Noël Mueller was in Guatemala in April to assist with the canonical visitation at Saint Meinrad's granddaughter house in Esquipulas, the Abadia de Jesucristo Crucificado.



Seminarians make their priesthood promises in the St. Thomas Aguinas Chapel on April 23.

Fr. Christian Raab ordained a priest.

Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest on June 7, by the Most Rev. Daniel Buechlein, OSB, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. The ordination took place in the Archabbey Church.

Fr. Christian, 34, is the son of Edward and Sharon Raab of Michigan City, IN. After attending Marquette High School in Michigan City, he earned a bachelor's degree in religious studies from Indiana University in 1997 and a master's degree in pastoral studies from Loyola University in 2003.

He worked for four years as a high school religion teacher in Chicago before coming to Saint Meinrad. While in formation, he was co-editor of *The Tradition of Catholic Prayer*, published in 2007 by Liturgical Press.

He also worked in the Scholar Shop, Abbey Press and the Office of Group Accommodations. He frequently gives tours of the Saint Meinrad campus and has had ministry placements at St. John Bosco Youth Group, Norton Hospital and Branchville Correctional Facility.

He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Meinrad School of Theology in May and serves as the associate director for monastic vocations at Saint Meinrad.

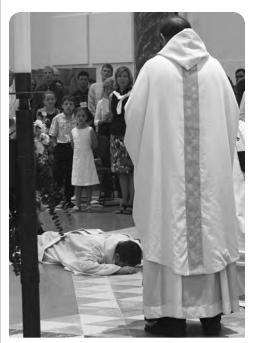
Fr. Christian joined the monastery in 2004. He professed his solemn vows as a Benedictine monk on January 25, 2008. __



Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, gives newly ordained Fr. Christian the kiss of peace.



Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, gives a first blessing to Deacon David and Ginny Cook of Evansville, IN.



Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, lies prostrate while the litany of saints is sung.



Fr. Christian Raab, OSB, kneels before Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB.



Sharon and Edward Raab, parents of Fr. Christian, watch the ordination ceremony. More photos at www.saint-meinrad.smugmug.com.

Five celebrate jubilees of priesthood ordination.

The Benedictine monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey celebrated the 50-year priesthood jubilees of Archabbot Lambert Reilly, Fr. Vincent Tobin, Fr. Boniface Hardin and Fr. Augustine Davis; and the 25-year jubilee of Fr. Cassian Folsom on May 31.

Archabbot Lambert was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on April 18, 1933. He made his profession of vows on August 15, 1956, and was ordained on September 20, 1959. He has a bachelor's degree from St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA, completed his theological training at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, and has a master's degree from Duquesne University.

Archabbot Lambert taught Latin in the seminary at Saint Meinrad following his ordination. He also taught at Penn State University and Mount Sacred Heart College in Connecticut. Then he held a number of positions in the monastery and was assistant pastor at St. Mary Parish, Huntingburg, IN. He was also engaged in retreat work and parish missions for more than 30 years. He was a frequent retreat master for Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity in the United States and India.

Elected archabbot of the monastic community in 1995, he served until his resignation in 2004. Since then, he has resumed his retreat work across the United States and several foreign countries. He did parish work for several years in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He currently resides at the Carmelite monastery in Des Plaines, IL.

Fr. Vincent was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on January 28, 1933. He professed his vows July 31, 1954, and was ordained May 11, 1959. He received a bachelor's degree in history at Saint Meinrad College in 1956, and his Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He also earned a master's degree in Latin from St. Louis University and a Sacred Theology Licentiate from Gregorian University, Rome, in 1979.

From 1960-64, Fr. Vincent taught Latin and English at Saint Meinrad High School. He joined the Saint Meinrad



Jubilarians, from left, are Fr. Cassian Folsom, OSB, Fr. Boniface Hardin, OSB, Fr. Vincent Tobin, OSB, and Fr. Augustine Davis, OSB. Archabbot Lambert Reilly, OSB, was unavailable for the photo.

College faculty in 1965 and taught Latin and Greek until 1991. He was appointed assistant dean of students in 1964 and became vice-rector and dean of students in 1966. In 1971, he was appointed spiritual director.

He was the first director of the Midwest Association of Spiritual Directors in 1971 and the first president of the National Federation of Spiritual Directors in 1973. From 1996 to 2006, he held various teaching and administrative positions at Sant' Anselmo and the North American College, both in Rome. He is currently the director of Saint Meinrad's Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center.

Fr. Boniface was born in Louisville, KY, on November 18, 1933. He professed his vows July 31, 1954, and was ordained May 11, 1959. He earned his bachelor's degree at Saint Meinrad College in 1955 and his Master of Divinity from Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1959.

From 1959 to 1965, Fr. Boniface served as assistant treasurer at Saint Meinrad Archabbey. In 1965, he was named associate pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis. While there, he became involved in the Civil Rights Movement and founded Martin Center. Later, he co-founded the Indianapolis Sickle Cell Center and Human Relations Consortium.

In 1977, Fr. Boniface founded what is now Martin University in Indianapolis, a liberal arts institution designed to educate older students and minorities. He served as its president until 2007. He resides in Indianapolis, where he continues to serve as president emeritus of Martin University.

He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees in recognition for his contributions to education, community service, public health and global understanding.

Fr. Augustine was born September 21, 1930, in Cedar Rapids, IA. He professed his vows July 31, 1954, and was ordained May 11, 1959. He earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Meinrad College in 1955 and a master's degree in industrial arts from Indiana State University in 1966. He taught religion, mathematics and industrial arts courses while serving as assistant director of St. Placid Hall from 1959-66.

Fr. Augustine served in various capacities at San Benito Priory and Seminary in Huarez, Peru, from 1967-79. Following the Peru earthquake of 1970, he oversaw the construction of the priory's physical plant. From 1979 to 1986, he was physical plant director at Saint Meinrad.

He was pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in South Pittsburgh, TN, 1986-96. The following year, he served at a priory in Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico. From 1997-2005, he was in charge of mail delivery for Saint Meinrad. He currently helps out in the Physical Facilities Department and offers Mass and pastoral assistance for local Hispanic communities.

Fr. Cassian, 50, is a native of Lynn, MA. He professed his vows as a Benedictine monk on August 6, 1980, and was ordained a priest on April 29, 1984.

He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Meinrad College in 1977 and a Master of Divinity degree in 1984 from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. Other degrees include a master's degree in religious studies from Indiana University in 1981 and advanced degrees in sacred liturgy from Sant' Anselmo, Rome, in 1989.

From 1989-93, Fr. Cassian served as choirmaster for the monastery. He taught sacramental theology at Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 1989-92. In 1993, he began teaching at Pontificio Instituto Liturgico in Rome; he served as the institute's acting president from 1997-2000.

In 1999, Fr. Cassian became the prior of a monastic community that, in 2000, was moved to Norcia, Italy, birthplace of St. Benedict. He continues as the leader of that community today. __



Press introduces new booklet series, Notes from a Monastery.

In August, Abbey Press' Publications Division will launch a new series of booklets: "Notes from a Monastery: The Sacred Way Every Day." The 12page booklets introduce the ageless wisdom of the monastery to people of all walks of life.

Each "Notes from a Monastery" booklet will focus on a different aspect of the *Rule of St. Benedict* and will draw on ancient and contemporary wisdom in providing inspirational, practical and accessible guidance for readers.

The booklets are the brainchild of Br. Francis Wagner, OSB. "I think there is a deep yearning in the world today for a simple, sacred, and intentional way of life that connects the every day to the eternal," he says. "And the *Rule of St. Benedict* offers precisely that."

Although written for monastic communities 1,500 years ago, the teachings of Christ found in the *Rule* are adaptable to family, work, social and civil responsibilities.

He feels each booklet offers a combination of spiritual wisdom and practical insight that makes the Benedictine way of life relevant for readers today. The authors include monks of Saint Meinrad, Benedictine oblates, men and women from other Benedictine communities, and well-known authors.

Five titles released

The initial five titles to be released in August are: The Wisdom of Benedict: Seeking God in the Rhythms of Life, by Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB; Living Simply: Embracing the Gift of Peace by Dr. Jane Tomaine; Making Our Work Holy: Reconnecting with God the Creator by Kathleen Norris; Pursuing God with Passion: Daily Desire, Drive, and Devotion by Fr. Guerric DeBona, OSB; and Invitation to Prayer: Time and Being with God by Br. Francis.

At the end of each booklet is a section called "Listening with the Ear of the Heart" that poses questions for

reflection, inviting readers to interact with what they've read.

"'Notes from a Monastery' stresses that God's presence is everywhere and in everyone, that we are all called to seek the extraordinary in the ordinary and that this journey to everlasting life is a process," adds Br. Francis.

Four more titles will be released in November: *Detachment: Letting Go of What Possesses Us* by Janis Dopp; *How to Live Together in Harmony* by Br. Benet Tvedten, OSB; *Receiving God's Embrace in Lectio Divina* by Fr. Christian Raab, OSB; and *Conversion: How We're Called to Change Every Day* by Sr. Laura Swan, OSB.

The new booklets will be available at the Scholar Shop, Saint Meinrad Archabbey Gift Shop, and the Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center, plus online via the Abbey Press Web site: www.abbeypress.com. The booklets sell for \$1.95 each or get 30% off an order of 30 or more. Call (800) 325-2511 for more information.



The new booklet series brings wisdom from St. Benedict to everyday life.

Graduation, from page 1

Paul McGrath, Carmel, IN; Benjamin Murphy, Paris, KY; and Eric Theodore, Zephyrhills, FL.

Receiving Master of Theological Studies degrees:

Mike Braun and Wesley Jones, Indianapolis, IN; Aaron Brunner, OSB, Abbey of Einsiedeln; Christopher Hess, Laurel, MS; Dennis Makokha, Cromwell, KY; John O'Neill, Tulsa, OK; David Raper and John Zorn, Louisville, KY; Barry Schoedel, Anacortes, WA; and Nicole Lang Wieber, Big Lake, MN.





Graduates John O'Neill and Michael Judkins, Diocese of Tulsa, are congratulated by a classmate Jorge Gomez.



Bishop George Lucas, Diocese of Springfield, IL, delivers the convocation address.



Jeremy Gries, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, shakes hands with President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, and receives his diploma from Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB.



Faculty member Sr. Clare Smith, RSM, congratulates Jegan Peter of the Diocese of Palayamkottai, India.



The 41 graduates enter St. Bede Hall, where they received their diplomas from Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB.

More photos at www.saint-meinrad.smugmug.com.

Final campaign building projects proposed.

Saint Meinrad is considering a proposal to combine the final two building projects that are to be funded from the capital campaign, which concluded in 2006.

The final projects are the renovation of Newman Hall and the addition of a new wellness center. Combining the projects would keep the overall costs down and stretch the buying power of the campaign funds.

In recent months, Marcia Hodde, associate director of lay degree programs in the School of Theology, has been chairing a committee to discuss the project, at the request of President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB.

"The committee has been soliciting ideas from the staff, faculty, students and others who use the facilities," says Hodde. "For example, the increase in seminarian and lay student enrollment means Saint Meinrad needs some larger classrooms."

Among the committee's initial recommendations is to outfit the Newman Hall ground floor as a wellness center. Moving the wellness facilities into Newman Hall would locate an important aspect of human formation into the heart of the school and allow appropriate security measures to be put in place.

The ground floor could be configured to house fitness equipment, changing rooms and showers, restrooms, wellness offices and classrooms, and locker rooms. The elliptical machines, stationary bikes and other workout equipment now located on the upper floor of Marty Gym would be moved to Newman Hall, in this proposal.

Access to the wellness center could be obtained by using a key card that allows entrance only to authorized users. For guests, a limited-time card, similar to a hotel key card, could allow them to use the facilities while on campus.

Kleber Gym would continue to house the basketball court and become the new home for the UnStable campus pub, moving it from the basement of Marty Gym.



An architectural rendering shows one view of the proposed teaching kitchen for the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates, on the fourth floor of Newman Hall. Rendering courtesy of Tim Schoenbachler, Interior Consultants, Louisville, KY.

Other possible changes to Newman Hall would include:

- Infrastructure issues would be addressed, such as plumbing, heating and air conditioning.
- First floor: Move The Scholar Shop from the ground floor to the area across from Newman Dining Room.
- Second floor: Relocate the Informational and Instructional Technology (IIT) department from the east-west wing to the north-south wing of Newman. Also on this floor would be the Mader Learning Center, language lab and offices. New classrooms would be added in the east-west wing, where the IIT department is now.
- Third floor: Add two new large classrooms and update the Student Counseling Center. The new

classrooms would be in place of unused dormitory bathrooms.

• Fourth floor: The proposal includes adding a large flexible conference room (Newman Conference Center would no longer be on the ground floor), reconfiguring the current theater space and flexible conference room, and expanding facilities for the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates to include a gathering space and teaching kitchen. The extra space would come from the unused dormitory bathrooms on this floor.

As the plans are refined, final drawings will be sought and building costs estimated. "For now, we're excited to be moving ahead on the campaign's final building projects," says Hodde. "The School of Theology will get a lot of new use from the old spaces."



Recognized for their service to Saint Meinrad were these co-workers: sitting, Mary Jo Waninger (25 years), Linda Altmann (25 years) and Sonia Bryant (25 years). Standing, John Wilson, business manager, Renus Waninger (50 years), Archabbot Justin DuVall, OSB, Jack Gogel (25 years) and Linus Mundy (25 years). The service recognition banquet was held April 15.

Gift shop gets new name.

This summer, the former Abbey Press Gift Shop became the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Gift Shop. According to shop manager Kathy Hedinger, the new name reflects the fact that the gift shop offers more than Abbey Press products and wants a closer connection to the monks whose mission it supports.

Besides selling items available in the Abbey Press catalog, the shop also sells inspirational books, music and gifts with a Catholic theme; offers sandwiches, soup and pies in its café; and is the home of the Abbey Press Outlet Store.

However, in recent months, the gift shop has been putting a spotlight on the various monastic products available —from Saint Meinrad and other monasteries. Handmade soap and pottery, hand-knitted scarves and artwork are popular items, as are the jams, jellies, honey, fudge and caramels.

A new addition this spring is Abbey Hills whole bean coffee, a custom blend created especially for Saint Meinrad. It sells for \$15.99 per pound.

The shop was also spruced up with some paint and a photo display about Benedictine life at Saint Meinrad. "Sometimes we're the only place of the Archabbey that people see," says Hedinger. "We want to give people a sense of what Saint Meinrad really is."

In addition, year-round discounts have been extended to two groups with an affinity to Saint Meinrad: alumni and Benedictine oblates. In the past, alumni and oblates could get a discount only while attending an annual reunion or retreat.

Now, the discount is available anytime they visit the gift shop or call in an order. Alumni and oblates receive a 10% discount on books and music, 20% discount on general merchandise and 30% discount on Abbey Press items.

The gift shop is located on the Archabbey grounds, along State Road 545 on the south end of campus. __

Web site offers new ways to stay connected to Saint Meinrad.

A new Web page, "Connect Saint Meinrad," offers numerous ways to stay in touch with Saint Meinrad through social and digital media. The page pulls together links to our YouTube channel, Twitter, Facebook, various blogs by Saint Meinrad monks and seminarians, a PDF version of our print newsletter *On the Hill*, and a new feature—iTunes U.

At our iTunes U page, you can download free content from Saint Meinrad, such as special lectures, chant and retreats, and listen to it on your MP3 player or your computer.

Other features include slideshows, e-newsletters, and free screensavers and ring tones. The free content is a great way to keep up to date with happenings on the Hill and to interact with other friends and alumni of Saint Meinrad.

The link to the "Connect Saint Meinrad" page can be found on the Saint Meinrad homepage, www.saintmeinrad.edu, in the bottom right-hand corner.

Welcome video

A new video about the prayer, work and community life at Saint Meinrad Archabbey is now ready for viewing.

The 14-minute video tells about the Benedictine witness of prayer, the primary works of the monastery, and the beauty and hospitality found at this 155-year-old monastery.

The video is told through the words of seven Saint Meinrad monks: Archabbot Justin DuVall, Fr. Vincent Tobin, Fr. Meinrad Brune, Fr. Denis Robinson, Fr. Godfrey Mullen, Br. John Mark Falkenhain and Fr. Christian Raab.

You can view the video on the Saint Meinrad Web site, www.saintmeinrad.edu, by selecting the Archabbey button or the Monastery Overview page from the dropdown menu. The video will also be added to the welcome screen in the Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center lobby.



Saint Meinrad Archabbey Gift Shop employee Betty Tretter arranges bars of Abbey Hills soap in the Monastery Blessings section.

Monks named to new positions in School.

Several appointments in Saint Meinrad School of Theology were announced in May by President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB.

Fr. Guerric DeBona, OSB, associate professor of homiletics, will assume additional responsibilities as director of Hispanic ministry formation. He also serves as subprior (third in leadership) in the monastery.

Fr. Jonathan Fassero, OSB, will move from his position as director of enrollment to assume the duties of a new position, director of diocesan relations. In this capacity, he will work with dioceses in forging and reinforcing relationships with alumni, vocation directors and bishops.

He will also take up part-time duties as a spiritual director for Bishop Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis. He will continue his responsibilities as a spiritual director in the School of Theology.

Fr. Brendan Moss, OSB, will assume the responsibilities of director of enrollment. He will continue his work as director of pastoral formation, but will no longer be working as the director of new donor initiatives in the Development Office.

Fr. Julian Peters, OSB, has been named the director of permanent deacon formation. He will also be working with the English as a Second Language program of the seminary. He recently completed an assignment as the interim director of liturgy for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and rector of the Cathedral.

Fr. Timothy Sweeney, OSB, will be teaching philosophy in the master's degree program and working as a spiritual director. On August 1, he completes an assignment as pastor of St. Paul Parish in Tell City, IN.

Saint Meinrad Prayer Book in fourth printing.

The Saint Meinrad Prayer Book continues to be popular among friends and alumni. Originally published in 1995, 20,000 copies have been distributed.

This fourth edition includes a new examination of conscience section and the addition of the luminous mysteries of the rosary. The 200-page black hardcover is a collection of psalms, prayers, hymns and historical information.

Colorful art and calligraphy in the prayer book reflect the spirit of Saint Meinrad as do the story of St. Meinrad, Latin prayers and the Liturgy of the Hours.

The Saint Meinrad Prayer Book is available for purchase from the Scholar Shop, (812) 357-6571, and the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Gift Shop, (812) 357-8290, for \$12.99 plus shipping and handling. Order online at: www.saintmeinrad.edu/shop. __

Please join us in our work.

- **♦** Pray for vocations
- ◆ Remember Saint Meinrad in your will
- Request information on life income gifts

Mrs. Barbara Balka
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Events On Hill

September 18-20

Guest House Retreat: "Prayer Distractions" by Br. Thomas Gricoski, OSB.

September 25-27

Guest House Retreat: "Praying the Psalms" by Fr. Harry Hagan, OSB.

October 6-8

Guest House Retreat:
"Pray Your Way to
Happiness" by
Br. Maurus Zoeller, OSB.

October 8-11

Hispanic Ministry Conference for Seminarians.

October 6-7

Endowed Marten Homiletics Workshop and Lecture.

October 17

Abbot Martin Marty Guild Day of Recollection.

October 23-25

Guest House Retreat: "Forgive Us as We Forgive" by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB.

December 18-20

Guest House Retreat: "The Lord Is with You: The First and Best Christmas Gift" by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB.

For more information, contact Mary Jeanne Schumacher at (812) 357-6501 or visit our Web site www.saintmeinrad.edu.



The bells of Saint Meinrad.

By Kyle Kramer

One of the most prominent visual features of Saint Meinrad is the Archabbey Church and its two massive bell towers, visible from anywhere on campus and even on Saint Meinrad's logo itself. From those towers, the bells punctuate the otherwise quiet stillness of the monastery, ringing every quarter hour, announcing the daily offices, ringing in the monks when they make vows to the community and solemnly ringing them out at their deaths. They give shape and rhythm to the days, the liturgical seasons, and the lives and life of the monastic community.

Many visitors to Saint Meinrad have been startled awake at 5:15 a.m., when the bells begin their solid 15-minute toll, calling the monks to Morning Prayer. Some get used to the bells, and others find themselves surprised again and again by their insistent tones.

Aside from marking the passage of time and the events of the monastery, I have come to believe that the bells also serve another important spiritual function. The heart of the spiritual path, whether for monks living together in community or for men and women living various vocations out in the world, is the recollection of a few simple, essential truths: that we live in a world shot through with the love of God in Christ through the Holy Spirit, that we ourselves belong inextricably to our divine source, and that every moment offers an invitation to discover and embrace that belonging.

In the everyday world, however, such recollection does not come easy, or often; forgetfulness is the general rule of humankind. When the bells ring, their interruption provides an opportunity to be awakened from busyness and distraction, and to see that moment—this moment—as the

moment in which the still, soft voice may be heard; the bush may burn; the tomb may open; the blind may see and the lame walk.

And when the bells cease, their silence recalls the quiet that underlies the noisy thrum of our lives, a stillness as close as a deep, slow breath.

Beyond the grounds of the monastery, there are other ringing reminders of God's grace. Perhaps they are the wailing siren of an ambulance, police car or firetruck. Perhaps they are the unexpected (or even dreaded) phone call, perhaps the undeniable need of a stranger or loved one or colleague. Perhaps they are the infernal barking of a neighbor's dogs or the thump of a teenager's stereo.

Whether the interruptions are pleasant or maddening is actually beside the point. For the point is interruption itself, being jarred from inattentiveness, awakening to the sacrament of the present moment and an awareness of the larger, divine framework of our lives.

The bells of Saint Meinrad help to remind us that bells are anywhere and everywhere, far beyond the Hill, sanctifying our often-difficult days, ringing out invitations to the love, forgiveness, joy and peace that only God can provide.

Mr. Kramer is the director of Lay Degree Programs at Saint Meinrad School of Theology and a regular contributor to America magazine.



Bell number six cracked and was replaced in 1997 during the Archabbey Church renovation.



Fr. Mike Hohenbrink, Toledo, OH; Joseph Steurer, Jasper, IN; and Charles Gardner, Indianapolis, IN, were honored April 24 for their years of service on the School of Theology's Board of Overseers.

Membership in online community has benefits.

In May, Saint Meinrad's online alumni community marked a new milestone when it surpassed 1,000 active members. As members of the online community at http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu, alumni can keep in touch with each other and Saint Meinrad.

"Our registered members are the first to receive notice of events and important news from the Hill, including information when a classmate dies," says Joseph Cook T'94, director of alumni relations. "It's a great way to keep in the loop not only for events on the Hill, but also events in the lives of fellow classmates."

Another benefit to registered members is the use of Saint Meinrad's online theology journals, which have been very popular with alumni already registered for the site. As registered members, alumni enjoy free access to ATLASerials, an online collection of more than 100 major religion and theology journals.

Registered members also become part of Saint Meinrad's online directory of alumni. The Alumni Association Board of Directors recently recommended replacing the print directory with the online version. "Updated information will continue to be made available to alumni," says Mr. Cook. "Those who don't have Internet access can contact the Alumni Office for directory information."

Additional benefits include access to slideshows, information about upcoming reunions, collections of homilies, a career center and more.

To find out more about joining the community, visit the Web site or contact the Alumni Office at (812) 357-6501 or alumni@saintmeinrad.edu. ___

Sroufe named to Alumni Board vacancy.



C'91, T'01, of Evansville, IN, has been appointed to fill out the term of Deacon Ron Stier, O'63, PDP'08, who died in August last year. Sroufe's appointment is until August 31,

Darren Sroufe,

DARREN SROUFE

2011, at which time he would be eligible for two additional terms.

Sroufe earned a bachelor's degree in natural science and a Master of Theological Studies degree from Saint Meinrad. He earned a doctorate in divinity from Ashwood University and a PhD in law enforcement administration from Madison University.

A former police chief for DuPont, OH, Sroufe has 15 years of service on the Evansville Police Department, serving as chaplain and holding the rank of sergeant. He is the current commander of the Records Section and a crisis negotiation team professional.

He received the Wilber A. Cunningham Award in 1998 for Excellence in Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. In 1999, he was the Evansville Police Department Officer of the Year and received the Leadership Evansville Award and the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence Officer of the Year Award. He was honored with the American Legion Citation of Exemplary Service in 2000.

He holds membership in the International Conference of Police Chaplains, the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John. As a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, he has been honored with the President's Award in 1994, the R. Pat Stark Dedication to the Order Award in 1999 and the Chris Anton Leadership Award in 2008.

Sroufe is a member of St. Benedict Cathedral Parish. He and his wife Jan are parents to three children. He previously served on the Alumni Board from 1995 to 2001. __

Fr. Theodore, from page 16

leadership). He was a founding member of the American Benedictine Academy, serving as its first president from 1947-1957.

At the age of 70, he began 17 years of pastoral service as vicar of St. John Chrysostom Parish, New Boston, IN. During these years, he continued to teach on the college faculty. When he retired, he was named emeritus professor of the college and pastor emeritus of St. John Chrysostom Parish.

In 1992, Fr. Theodore became the second recipient of Saint Meinrad's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He was significantly involved in the initiation and growth of the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association, Saint Meinrad's Board of Overseers and the development program at Saint Meinrad.

Fr. Theodore remained quite active until just a few months before his death. When his ability to get around decreased, he was the first in the monastery to make use of an electric cart. In his latter years, he frequently was among the first to volunteer for any odd jobs that needed to be done. He also kept up a rather rigorous reading program that covered quite a range of interests, allowing him to choose from a broad spectrum of topics for conversation.

The funeral Mass was held on May 2, with burial in the Archabbey Cemetery.

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 that will arrive every few weeks. The e-newsletter supplements *On the Hill* with news and photos from Saint Meinrad in a more timely manner.

To sign up, go to the link on the front page of the Web site: www.saintmeinrad.edu. Or, send an e-mail to news@saintmeinrad.edu. ___

Alumni can support work of School of Theology.

As the Alumni Annual Giving Program kicks off this summer, Saint Meinrad is counting on the generosity of its alumni to provide support for the School's unrestricted annual fund.

"While we were extremely pleased with the response to the recent campaign, most of those dollars were earmarked for specific building projects and endowments," says Duane Schaefer, director of development.

"We count on our alumni, through the Alumni Annual Giving Program, to help provide the unrestricted dollars necessary to maintain the quality of our formation programs so that we can continue to prepare the very best priests, permanent deacons and lay ministers."

Recently, Saint Meinrad, like everyone else, has felt the effects of the downturn in the economy. "During times like these, every gift is important, no matter what the size," says Schaefer. "Our promise to alumni

is that, as always, Saint Meinrad remains dedicated to using those resources wisely."

Through unrestricted annual gifts, alumni make possible classroom instruction, hands-on ministry opportunities, spiritual formation, upkeep of buildings and grounds, guest lectures, vocations promotion and recruitment, and many other day-to-day operations in the School.

Slideshows included with premium

Alumni whose gifts qualify will receive this year's premium, a 512 MB compact USB flash drive imprinted with the Saint Meinrad logo. The flash drive comes preloaded with two slideshows of images from Saint Meinrad, which can be kept on the drive or downloaded to a computer.

Alumni can qualify for the flash drive by making a gift of \$200 or more to the 2009-10 Alumni Annual Giving Program or by making a first-time gift of \$100 or more.

"Alumni should enjoy these collections of images set to music," says Schaefer. "There's a good mix of current images and historical photos from around the Hill and the School."



The flash drive includes two slideshows of Saint Meinrad photos.

Hundreds attend youth conference.



Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB, preaches during one of the "One Bread, One Cup" Masses.



College intern Haley Todd, Findlay, OH, leads a group through theological reflection.



Matt DeLapp, Ada, MI, plays the cello during one of the liturgies.

More photos at www.saint-meinrad.smugmug.com.

Fall '09 Alumni Gathering Dates.

Diocese of Toledo Tuesday, August 25 All Saints Parish Rossford, OH

Diocese of Belleville & Archdiocese of St. Louis Tuesday, September 15 Our Lady of the Snows Belleville, IL

Check Web site for details: alumni.saintmeinrad.edu

Alumnus Bishop Bradley appointed to Kalamazoo.



BISHOP BRADLEY

On April 6, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI appointed Auxiliary Bishop Paul J. Bradley, 63, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, as the fourth Bishop of Kalamazoo. He succeeds Bishop James A. Murray,

who has led the diocese since January 27, 1998.

As required by Church law, Bishop Murray submitted his resignation to the Holy Father when he turned 75, in July of 2007.

The son of John and Cecilia Bradley, Bishop Bradley was born on October 18, 1945, in Glassport, PA. He completed his high school, college and graduate theology studies at Saint Meinrad. He also earned a master's in social work from the University of Pittsburgh.

Ordained a priest in the Diocese of Pittsburgh on May 1, 1971, Bishop Bradley served for the next 12 years as a parochial vicar. From 1983 until 1994, he held a number of diocesan positions including director of the Office for Family Life and secretary for human services. He returned to his home parish, St. Sebastian, in 1994 and remained as pastor until 2001, when he was named rector and pastor of St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh.

In 2003, Bishop Bradley was named general secretary and vicar for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, responsible for the overall direction of the operations, programs and activities of the central administration of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He was appointed auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh on December 16, 2004, and was ordained on February 2, 2005. When Bishop Donald Wuerl was installed as the archbishop of Washington, DC, in June 2006, Bishop Bradley was elected administrator of

the Diocese of Pittsburgh by the diocesan College of Consultors. He oversaw the day-to-day operations of the diocese until Bishop David Zubik's installation on September 28, 2007.

Installation of Bishop Bradley was on June 5, at St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo. __



May they Rest in Peace.

Mr. Herman M. Bennett O Feb'45 ('33-34), of Petersburg, IN, died March 26.

Mr. John W. Black O'59 ('47-49), of Cheyenne, WY, died January 27.

Mr. Lawrence M. Cassidy O'44 ('40-42), of Louisville, KY, died February 1.

Mr. Alexander Darbutt 0'35 ('24-26), of Terre Haute, IN, died April 1, 1973.

Mr. Charles F. Dearing Sr. 0'55 ('51-55), of Louisville, KY, died February 23.

Sr. Mary Cecile Deken, OSB SS '80 (**'77-80, '99**), of Our Lady of Grace Monastery, Beech Grove, IN, died February 1.

Mr. Joseph F. Dippel SPH '39 ('37-39), of Columbia, CT, died September 4, 2006.

Mr. Michael A. Dubruiel C'83 (**'80-83**), of Birmingham, AL, died February 3.

Mr. Julius H. Dusch SPH ('34), of Evansville, IN, died August 12, 2007.

Mr. Charles H. Enners SPH ('35), of Macomb, MI, died December 20, 2001.

Fr. Patrick F. Foster O'56 ('44-56), of the Diocese of Evansville, IN, died April 10.

Mr. Herman Freihaut O'35 ('24-25), of Evansville, IN, died August 1, 1975.

Mr. Raymond Fulkerson O'74 ('62-63), of Henderson, KY, died April 5.

Mr. Louis G. Hempfling II C'88 (**'85-87**), of Sunman, IN, died August 16, 2008.

Mr. Glen Hoffman O'69 ('57-59), of Huntingburg, IN, died March 2.

Mr. N. Clifton Howard O'57 ('45-51), of Frankfort, KY, died March 7.

Mr. Paul J. Hunckler O Feb'45 ('33-34), of Huntington, IN, died January 26.

Mr. David E. Jones O'65 ('53-54), of Indianapolis, IN, died September 3, 2008.

Mr. John L. Kultgen O'35 ('24-31), of Great Bend, KS, died June 1, 1980.

Fr. Richard G. Miller O'50 ('42-46), of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, died March 30.

Fr. Donald L. Schmidlin O'57 ('44-50, '01), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, died February 5.

Mr. Leo P. Stark O'53 ('45), of Euclid, OH, died November 7, 2007.

Fr. Ludwig F. Stiller, SJ 0'54 ('42-49), of Katmandu, Nepal, died March 10.

Mr. Daniel P. Sullivan O'64 ('60-61), of Springfield, MA, died August 26, 2008.

Rev. R. Steven Taylor O'80 ('74-76), of Arlington, VA, died February 23.

Mr. Maurice E. Toschlog O'59 ('47-52), of Sun City, AZ, died October 8, 2005.

Fr. Andrew J. Wahmhoff, OSB 0'58 ('46-52), of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, died April 10.

Fr. James Walsh O'54 ('42-50), of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, died February 8.

Rev. James S. Zmyslo O'78 ('70-74), of State College, PA, died March 25.

An updated list of obituaries available at alumni.saintmeinrad.edu.



Deacon Arthur Alunday PDP '08 (**'04-08**), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, serves St. Mary Parish, Greensburg. Since he is also a medical doctor, he finds great compatibility in these professions, according to a story in the January issue of the archdiocesan paper, *The Criterion*.

Dr. Nicholas A. Barron T'96 ('94-95), of Newburgh, IN, is the recipient of the University of Southern Indiana Foundation's 2008-09 Award for Outstanding Teaching by Adjunct Faculty.

Mr. Joseph E. Bickett O'82 ('74-78), of Midlothian, VA, retired from Philip Morris USA on February 11.

Fr. Thomas J. Boyer O'68 ('60-68), of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, OK, pastor of St. Mark Evangelist Parish, Norman, OK, conducted a mission March 15-17 for five parishes in the Highlands area of Louisville, KY. The theme was "Capital Sins: Seven Obstacles to Love and Living Life Abundantly."

Fr. John Brahill, OSB O'81 ('76-81), of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, returned on January 13 from Marmion's Guatemala mission, where he had served as prior since January 1992.

Fr. Ronald Camarda T'89 ('84-85), of the Diocese of Orlando, FL, has published a book on his experiences as a Catholic chaplain in Iraq: *Tear in the Desert*, 2006.

Mr. John W. Cannaday II T'84 ('72-76, '80-82), of Indianapolis, IN, has recorded an instrumental version of "The Bread We Share." It is free to download from his Web site: www.JohnCannaday.com.

Mr. Daniel Conway O'75 ('67-75), Louisville KY, spoke at an Advent morning of reflection on December 6, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Carmel, IN. His talk was "Stewardship: A Way of Life for Individuals, Families and Our Parish Community."

Fr. Andrew Corona C'90 ('86-89), of the Diocese of Gary, IN, and pastor of St. Joan of Arc, Merrillville, was interviewed for an article on gluttony in the *Northwest Indiana Catholic* for March 22.

Ms. Lisa Covington T'07 ('04-07) is pastoral associate at St. Anthony Church, Evansville, IN. She has established a grieving ministry by creating glass ornaments filled with dried flowers saved from the funeral and distributing them to family members.

Mr. Mark Donovan C'85 ('81-84), of Newport, RI, is regional coordinator for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Federal Fisheries Observer Program for seven ports in Massachusetts.

Msgr. Donald W. Eichenseer SS ('69), of the Diocese of Belleville, IL, pastor of St. Damian Parish in Damiansville, in cooperation with the Office of Hispanic Ministry, has agreed, if needed, the church would be opened for Latinos to gather and seek help when an immigration action to search for undocumented workers occurs.

Fr. Jeffrey H. Godecker O'69 ('57-69), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, as the Catholic chaplain on the campus of Butler University, Indianapolis, is part of the renewed archdiocesan effort to connect with college students. "The God-reminder on campus" was the title of an article about his work in *The Criterion*, November 28, 2008.

Deacon Roy A. Harley Sr. 0'73 ('65-66), of Springfield, IL, was ordained deacon for the Diocese of Springfield on June 24, 2007.

Fr. Robert P. Herald T'89 ('85-89), of the Diocese of Austin, TX, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hearne, hosted the premiere showing of the movie *American Violet* in March. In the movie, a woman, in real life Regina Kelley, a parishioner, is unfairly targeted in a misguided drug raid. The event had evoked racial tensions in the area.

Fr. Stephen T. Jarrell O'73 ('61-73), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in

Greencastle, in February was honored by the Knights of Columbus Council #6989 as an honorary life member.

Mr. Timothy Kiernon C'94 ('90-92), of Nashville, TN, is director of development, major gifts officer for the American Cancer Society in Tennessee.

Mr. Robert A. Kleeman 0'65 ('53-57), of Houston TX, is chairperson of the Galveston/Houston Archdiocesan Mission Council.

Mr. Michael L. Koebel O'79 ('71-73), of Bradenton, FL, has joined MetLife Bank, NA, headquartered in Bridgewater, NJ. He is a reverse mortgage consultant for five counties in Florida.

Fr. Philip J. Kreilein O'74 ('62-70), of the Diocese of Evansville, IN, pastor of Resurrection Church in Evansville, has been the team chaplain for the University of Southern Indiana basketball team since the 2005 season.

Mr. Steven Kremer T'89 ('83-86) has been the executive director of residential life at the University of Connecticut since January 18.

Mr. Allen G. Maes C'98 ('94-98), of La Puente, CA, and his wife, Alicia, have a new baby boy, Luke Angel, born January 13.

Fr. Douglas A. Martis T'89 ('83-85, '87), of the Diocese of Joliet, IL, is the director of the Pontifical Liturgical Institute of St. Mary Seminary, Mundelein, IL. As part of a sabbatical, he recently spent two months at Marmion Abbey helping to arrange and organize on computer the books used for community prayer.

Fr. Douglas J. Mayer C'80 ('76-78), of the Diocese of Gary, IN, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows, Valparaiso, was featured in the March 15 issue of *Northwest Indiana Catholic*, the diocesan newspaper. He was interviewed about wrath, as a part of a Lenten series on the capital sins.

Fr. Rick (Eric P.) Nagel T'07 ('02-07), associate vocations director for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, organized the second annual Race for Vocations on May 2, sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-

Indiana and the Young Adults of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Mr. Stephen J. Noone O'68 ('60-61), of Carmel, IN, has been appointed by the board of Lumen Christi Catholic School in Indianapolis as interim chief administrator for the 2009-10 academic year.

Mr. Michael Perigo LDC ('05-08), of Indianapolis, IN, is the development director for Hemophilia of Indiana.

Deacon Otto Preske O'67 ('55-56), Scouting chaplain for the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, was presented a stole for his many years of service at the annual recognition event on February 7.

Fr. David A. Reinhart T'98 ('92-98), of the Diocese of Toledo, OH, at a meeting at Cardinal Stritch High School on December 2, 2008, laid out a comprehensive plan for the Catholic school system in the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Deanery that would create one central campus for a kindergarten through 12th-grade school where four schools now exist.

Fr. Paul A. Scaglione O'73 ('69-73, '92), of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, director of the Office of Pastoral Care, led a discussion on the sacrament of Reconciliation on March 11 at the South Louisville Religious Education Center.

Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel Jr. 0'82 ('78-82), vicar general of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, took part in the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Indianapolis on March 17.

Fr. Francis Schenk, GHM O'41 ('29-31), after his final assignment in Plunkettville, OK, returned to Glenmary's Cincinnati residence in 2005 at the age of 90. Until last year, he planted and cared for his own garden. He has had a full missionary life, including work in Colombia. He is the oldest Glenmarian.

Fr. Gerald H. Schweitzer O'71 ('67-70), of the Diocese of Gary, IN, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Wanatah, gave talks on conversion in a 2009 Lenten series conducted in various parishes of the diocese.

Mr. Daniel F. Shanahan C'90 ('87-91), of Oakland, CA, has begun a new company, New Leaf Data, to help businesses, schools and non-profits organize information through database and Web site development. The Web site is www.newleafdata.com.

Fr. Brent A. Shelton T'01 ('97-01), of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, gave a Lenten series of presentations on "A History of the Roman Mass," at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Alcoa.

Msgr. Paul E. Showalter O'66 ('60-66, '69), of the Diocese of Peoria, IL, is vicar general of the diocese, rector of St. Mary Cathedral and pastor of St. Bernard Parish in Peoria. Pope Benedict XVI promoted him to the rank of Protonotary Apostolic, the highest honor that can be given to a diocesan priest. The investiture ceremony was held in the Cathedral April 23.

Mr. Paul C. Stokell C'95 ('92-95), of Edmond, OK, and his wife, Kim, had a daughter, Emma, on March 17.

Mr. John F. Straeter C'82 (**'78-79**), of Carlyle, IL, received the Silver Beaver Award for his work with Boy Scouts. His wife, Yvonne, received the District Award of Merit for her work with Cub Scouts.

Bishop Anthony B. Taylor DD 0'80 (**'74-76)**, of the Diocese of Little Rock, AR, is believed to be the first U.S. Catholic bishop to join the Web site Facebook. He uses it especially as a way to be present to the younger people of the diocese.

Msgr. Gerald T. Ward O'79 ('73-79), of the Diocese of Peoria, IL, is pastor of St. Patrick's Church of Merna in Bloomington and St. Mary's Parish in Downs. He was invested as a monsignor at St. Mary Cathedral by Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, CSC, on April 23.

Fr. Daniel W. Whelan T'04 ('93-96, '02-03), of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, pastor of Holy Spirit Church, spoke at Triple Crown Academy, March 7. His topic was "Embracing the Adventure of Family Life: Looking at the Different Roles of Husband and Wife."

Mr. Shawn J. Wilkins T'08 ('03-05), of Millbury, OH, married Desireé Villarreal on August 23, 2008.

Fr. James R. Wilmoth O'65 (**'61-65**), of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, IN, has been pastor of St. Roch Parish since 1997 and chaplain of Roncalli High School in Indianapolis since 2006. His 43 years of service to the Church were highlighted in the January 9 issue of *The Criterion*, the archdiocesan weekly.



Sr. Juliann Babcock, OSB

Sr. Juliann Babcock, OSB SS ('87) was elected prioress of her community, Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, IN, on March 7. The installation ceremony took place June 7.

She is the seventh prioress of the community, succeeding Sr. Carol Faulkner, OSB, who had been prior for eight years. Sr. Juliann will lead the community of 71 members for six years.

She made her first profession of vows in 1968 and her perpetual profession in 1973. She earned bachelor's (University of Indianapolis) and master's (Ball State University) degrees in education, as well as a master's degree in spirituality from Holy Name College. Sr. Juliann attended summer session at Saint Meinrad during 1987.

Besides serving in her field of education, Sr. Juliann has been a staff member at the Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, vocation director for her community, subprioress and, most recently, formation director for Our Lady of Grace Monastery. __





200 Hill Drive St. Meinrad, IN 47577

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fr. Theodore Heck, oldest Benedictine monk, dies.

Fr. Theodore Heck, OSB, a monk and priest of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, died at the monastery infirmary on April 29. He was 108 and held the distinction of being the world's oldest Benedictine monk.

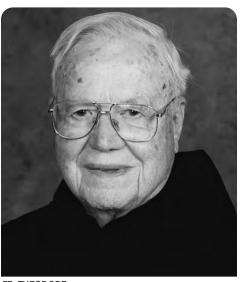
Fr. Theodore was a jubilarian in profession and priesthood, the senior member of the Swiss-American Congregation in profession, priesthood and age, and the senior in age of the entire confederation of Benedictine monks throughout the world. He was also a participant in the Rush Religious Study on Aging and Alzheimer's.

Fr. Theodore was born in Chariton, IA, on January 16, 1901, to Henry Heck Sr. and Margaret (Steinbach) Heck. He received the name Henry John at baptism. After attending elementary school in Missouri, and three years of high school in West Terre Haute, IN, Fr. Theodore enrolled in the minor seminary at Saint Meinrad in 1918. He entered the novitiate in 1922, professed

his simple vows on September 8, 1923, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 1929. He would have celebrated his 80th anniversary as a priest this year.

After his ordination, Fr. Theodore taught in the minor seminary. In 1932, he began graduate studies at The Catholic University of America, earning a PhD in education in 1935. He returned to Saint Meinrad and, for over 50 years, taught in the minor and major seminaries, and held a variety of administrative positions in the Saint Meinrad schools.

He served as director of studies from 1936-1966. For 10 years, from 1956-1966, he was rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology, also serving as rector of Saint Meinrad College for three of those years. In addition, Fr. Theodore taught during the summers at St. Benedict College, Ferdinand, IN, from 1936-1943, and at the Dubuque, IA, branch of The Catholic University from 1944-1958.



FR. THEODORE

During his academic career, Fr.
Theodore was responsible for gaining accreditation for all of Saint Meinrad's schools at that time—the high school, college and school of theology.
For 17 years, he served as subprior (third in leadership) in the monastery and, for three years, as prior (second in