

ON THE HILL

SPRING 2014 • VOL. 53:2

Br. Luke makes solemn vows

**Alumni Reunion
plans ready**

**Student Ministry:
Getting outside the classroom**

Cover: Seminarians enjoy a yoga fit class during January Interterm.



Saint Meinrad



ON THE HILL

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Br. Luke Waugh professes solemn vows as a Benedictine monk.

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Monks' Personals

Father Bede Cisco was elected to a two-year term for the Board of Trustees for the Seminary and School of Theology on January 8.

Father Patrick Cooney was elected as an alternate to the General Chapter of the Swiss-American Congregation to be held in June at Prince of Peace Abbey. **Father Prior Kurt Stasiak** was also elected as a delegate.

Father Edward Linton will complete his assignment at St. James Parish in Chicago on June 5 and will return to the monastery to take on work in the Seminary and School of Theology.

Father Jeremy King led a Day of Prayer on February 13 for 49 priests from the Diocese of Evansville.

Archabbot Justin DuVall attended the Abbot's Workshop at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL, on February 21-25.

Father Prior Kurt Stasiak attended and was one of the keynote presenters at the annual convention of the National Organization for the Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy (NOCERCC), held in Baltimore, February 23-27.

Father Mark O'Keefe has been assigned as chaplain to the sisters of the Carmelite Monastery in Terre Haute, IN. The appointment is effective August 1, for a term of three years. He will continue his teaching responsibilities in the school.

Father Anthony Vinson gave a parish mission retreat at Holy Trinity Parish in Webster County, IA, on March 15-18. He spoke on "Realizing Our Baptismal Call – What is It and How to Live It?"

Archabbot Lambert Reilly has relinquished the major retreat work he has been doing. He will take on occasional short-term pastoral assistance assignments and help with driving monks to appointments.

Father Gregory Chamberlin has returned to the monastery. He is residing in the infirmary regaining his strength and continuing some treatments. ✚

Monastery News

Saint Meinrad Archabbey receives Friend of Conservation Award

The Archabbey was honored at the 2014 annual conference of Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts on January 7, in Indianapolis.

Saint Meinrad received the Friend of Conservation Award in the nonprofit category for its outstanding contribution to soil and water conservation in Indiana. Fr. Guy Mansini, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad and the Archabbey forester, accepted the award on behalf of the monastery.

The Spencer County Soil and Water Conservation District nominated the monastery for the award. The county agency then honored Saint Meinrad at its annual meeting on January 27.

Since 2006, the Archabbey has developed 184 new acres of woodlands, with the help of American Electric Power Co., and 384 acres of wetlands with the Wetland Reserve Program of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The land had formerly been used for farming and livestock. ✚

Br. Luke Waugh professes solemn vows as a Benedictine monk

Br. Luke Waugh, OSB, professed solemn vows as a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey on January 25, in the Archabbey Church.

Br. Luke, 49, was born in Weston, WV, where he attended Lewis County High School. He was a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Salem, VA. He graduated from Radford University in Radford, VA, and worked in information technology for a company in Roanoke, VA.

He joined the monastery in 2009 and made his first profession of vows in January 2010. Br. Luke is studying for the priesthood at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. He is an assistant to the oblate director for Saint Meinrad's Benedictine oblate program.

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



▲ Br. Luke Waugh, OSB, kneels during the profession of vows ceremony.



The Vocations Office at Saint Meinrad Archabbey has introduced a new publication, *Monk Life*, featuring articles on various aspects of the monastic life, written by monks of Saint Meinrad.

The publication reaches out to young men discerning a possible religious vocation by sharing stories about how living under the guidance of the *Rule of St. Benedict* brings one closer to Christ.

Vocations Director Fr. John Mark Falkenhain, OSB, says, "Our hope is that others might gain a better insight into what it means to be a monk, how we live the monastic life here at Saint Meinrad, and perhaps even stir within them the desire to take on this way of life as their own."

Monk Life can be read online at: www.issuu.com/SaintMeinradArchabbey.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Pastoral Formation:

Connecting real-world and classroom learning

Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology calls its program of pastoral formation Workers into the Harvest. In simple terms, the idea is to prepare priesthood students to take their academic knowledge into the real world of parishes, food pantries and prisons and experience actual ministry.

Two students, one in his second year of philosophy and one is his last year of theology, talked recently about their experiences.

Jonathan Matthes is from the Diocese of Lafayette and this is his second year at Saint Meinrad. Last year, his class did shadowing at diocesan offices and parishes. "I was at Good Shepherd Parish in Evansville and the Diocese of Evansville," he said.

This year he and his classmates are teaching faith formation classes to middle and high school students at a nearby parish. During the fall semester, he was the coordinator for the sessions.

Other students are responsible for greeting students, leading prayer, overseeing technology and teaching the lessons. At

each session, two seminarians present a teaching from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Seminarians then lead theology reflection group discussions about the lessons.

About once a month, the students do hands-on ministry at a local food pantry, visit senior members of the parish at their homes or one of five other ministries.

"We get the faith aspect of it in our classroom setting and then we get to see the works aspect of the faith by going out and doing something, whether it's visiting the elderly or cleaning up the community So you can see how faith and works work together," Jonathan explained.

He enjoys the ministry and finds it has helped him use his public speaking skills and better connect with youth. "There were several moments when I would be up there in front of the kids, or just afterwards, where I would walk away thinking, 'Wow, now that's what it's like to be a priest. That's what it's like to be in ministry.'"

He admits it can be challenging, especially in the first sessions when the

seminarians are trying to engage the students or get a reticent student to become involved. At times like these, Jonathan recalls what Fr. Anthony Vinson, OSB, director of Saint Meinrad's pastoral formation program, told them. "Whenever it seems like you're having a hard time trying to reach a group, you need to turn the mirror around and look at: What am I doing? How can I better present the information? How can I present myself better so that we can have this connection?"

"Most of the skills that this ministry is having us work on are those relational skills," explained Jonathan. "You can't be the 'high and mighty' priest, and here's the lowly people. You have to be able to relate to them, be able to talk to them."

Deacon Tim Wyciskalla is at the other end of the spectrum. In his final year of seminary study, he'll be ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in June.

He's been through four years of ministry assignments and is finishing up his final assignment as a deacon in two rural parishes, St. Meinrad near campus and St. Boniface in Fulda.

"I've enjoyed it a lot," he said. "They're very different parishes than the one I grew up in (St. Barnabas, a large suburban parish on the south side of Indianapolis)."

He continued, "It's taught me a lot about preaching in the parish, as opposed to preaching here in the seminary It's a much different audience." Deacons take turns preaching at the school's daily Mass.

◀ *Seminarian Jonathan Matthes (center) leads a discussion with students during a faith formation session.*





▲ Deacon Tim Wyciskalla preaches at Mass at St. Boniface Parish in Fulda.

“I learned a good deal about the technique of preaching as far as ... being comfortable giving homilies and the technique of engaging a parish – separating that from giving a lecture, instead of giving a homily.”

Last year, he taught faith formation for fifth graders, which helped him learn about teaching and interacting with a younger age group. “I don’t find it difficult to be around kids, but as far as teaching things on their level and engaging them on their level, it’s helped a lot with that,” he said.

One of his most significant lessons came from watching the parishes’ pastor, Fr. Anthony Vinson. “I’ve learned, just from shadowing Fr. Anthony, the importance of the presence of the priest in the community.” Tagging along with the pastor, Deacon Tim has seen how Fr. Anthony engages people in their homes, at church, in the parking lot and around the community.

He discovered it for himself when he led a prayer service the day before a funeral. “I realize how much it means to people for us, as the minister, just to be there, to be with them. Not what we say or what we do, just our presence,” he explained.

His other ministry experiences have included working with kids at a Boys and Girls Club, campus ministry, chaplain ministry at two hospitals, and serving as a deacon last summer at a suburban parish.

“I found that a lot of the stuff I learned in the academics has helped me in the pastoral setting, but the pastoral setting has also helped me put the academic stuff in perspective. So they really feed off each other in a good way,” he said.

“Throughout the four years here at Saint Meinrad, I’ve gotten a great base of experiences. I feel very well rounded on that aspect,” Deacon Tim said. “The school does a good job of exposing you to different aspects of ministry.” ✝

Workers into the Harvest

Saint Meinrad’s Program of Pastoral Formation

The program’s goal is to enable seminarians to integrate the four pillars of formation (academic, pastoral, spiritual and human), preparing them to be priests and work effectively with permanent deacons, lay ecclesial ministers and others in the Church. The program introduces the seminarian to practical ministry, especially in parishes, but also in other areas such as hospitals and social outreach programs.

In each year of seminary, the focus is on a specific topic:

Philosophy – 1st year: Exploring Catholic Cultures. Students visit local diocesan offices to see how they operate.

Philosophy – 2nd year: Ecumenism and Catechesis. Students teach faith formation classes at local parishes and learn about other Christian churches.

Theology – 1st year: Church and Multiculturalism. Students are assigned to social ministry sites, such as a homeless shelter or food pantry.

Theology – 2nd year: Pastoral Care of Presence. Assignments are in college campus or hospital ministry.

Theology – 3rd year: Catechetical and Formation Ministries. Seminarians are assigned to a parish and teach faith formation classes to youth or adults.

Theology – 4th year: Preaching and Pastoring. Students, now deacons, return to the parish for a second year and gain experience in preaching and other ministry.

During one summer, seminarians take part in a 10-week chaplaincy program at a hospital or similar setting. The summer before their final year of formation, they do an internship at a parish in their diocese.

Some students also take a year off from their studies to intern in a parish; this is called a pastoral year.

The director of the program is Fr. Anthony Vinson, OSB. The associate director is Sr. Kateri Visocky, FSE. Angie Schmidt is administrative coordinator.

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. Or, send an email to news@saintmeinrad.edu

[Meet the Student]

Deacon Daniel Bedel

Residence: Enochsburg, Indiana
Diocese: Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Q. *What attracted you to the priesthood?*

It's hard to put it into words. I suppose it was their total dedication to God and His Church. I remember being a high school student and wanting nothing less than to commit my life to some great cause, to some great purpose. Looking back, it seems truly providential that this deep desire found fulfillment in prayer, serving at Mass and reading about the Catholic faith. And then, at the end of my junior year, it hit me: Priests dedicate their lives to a great cause and purpose. Priests are men of prayer and sacrifice and service. And that's when I knew I was called to be a priest.

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

I was blessed with two amazing priests who strongly impacted my desire to join seminary. The first was Fr. Pat Commons, an elderly priest who helped out at my home parish of St. John's in Enochsburg. He was extremely bright, but also extremely humble, and he helped me discern a possible vocation to the priesthood, both through his advice and his holy example. Here was a man who had truly dedicated his entire life to the purpose of spreading the Gospel message and living an authentic, holy life. He remained interested in my progress through seminary up until his death a few years ago. It is impossible to explain the depth of influence he had upon my life.

The other was Fr. John Nestor, a priest on loan to us from the Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia. How an Australian priest ever ended up in little Enochsburg,

Indiana, is still a mystery to me, but I just chalk it up to providence. Fr. Nestor was a "man's man" kind of priest, and that was something I was glad to see. He attended every event, every function, every sport the parish or the school or the community was involved with. He was incredibly pastoral and incredibly active, and I learned a lot from him.

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

Just high school. After graduation, I signed up for college seminary and attended Bishop Bruté Seminary in the fall.

Q. *Favorite saint and why?*

St. Joseph. He's a silent, working-class man whom God chose to be the head of the Holy Family. His example of humility, work ethic and fatherhood is inspiration for my own future role as a spiritual Father.

Q. *Favorite Scripture verse and why?*

John 1:5. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." In a world that seems to be constantly shrouded in tragedy, sickness, sin and death, it's encouraging to know that no matter how dark things appear, the light of Christ is always shining through. No matter what, our God stands beside us and we are never alone. And to top it all off, I like to think of this light as akin to the North Star, guiding us through the murky waters of this life toward the distant shores of our heavenly homeland.



Q. *Hobbies?*

Music (I love to play the guitar, the mandolin and the fiddle; and I also enjoy composing a few songs as well), sports (watching and playing basketball and football), literature (both reading and writing novels and poetry), hunting, watching movies, playing video games, hanging out with friends, and spending time with the family.

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

Fraternity. The bonds of friendship that exist within the seminary are incredibly strong and deep and life-giving. We do everything together. We pray together, eat together, study together, work together, play together, watch movies together, laugh together and cry together. And here's the amazing part: that fraternity that we share may be the greatest catalyst for formation we experience in seminary. You learn about yourself from this community: the good, the bad and the ugly. And you learn to grow from that. You learn about how to deal with people from this community. And most importantly, you learn about God from this community. For myself, I know I wouldn't be the man I am today if it hadn't have been for my brother seminarians. I am better for it, and for that I am most grateful.

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

Fraternity! Yeah, just like any other family, it can be difficult to live with your brothers sometimes. Like I said, we do everything together, and sometimes that wears on your nerves. But it is from challenging situations that we learn to grow. Fraternity wouldn't be rewarding if it wasn't also challenging.

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

Be open to formation. And it's true! Seminary is really a unique and rather rare opportunity in life. I mean, we're in an environment that fosters four pillars of formation that constitute the human person: academic, pastoral, spiritual and human. We are surrounded by monks, priests, sisters and professors who are dedicating their lives to helping us grow. We reside on a hill that has been dedicated to following God's will. And all we have to do is invest ourselves in all this! The more we are willing to invest, the more we will become the man God wants us to be, whether that be as a priest of the Roman Catholic Church or as a husband and father in a good Catholic family. And after almost eight years of seminary, I can tell you that being open to formation works.

▼ *Students make an annual pilgrimage to the Monte Cassino Shrine in thanksgiving for Our Lady's intercession during a smallpox outbreak in 1871.*

Q. *Other comments?*

Thank you, Saint Meinrad. No amount of words can begin to describe my gratitude. As excited as I am to be ordained a priest and begin active ministry at the parish, I am also very much aware of my own reluctance to leave this place. It has become synonymous with home for me, and it will be difficult to say goodbye. So, thank you, Saint Meinrad. I am proud to be one of your many sons. ✚

▼ *Greg Adams talked about the history of the banjo during the Black History Lecture.*



EVENTS ON THE HILL

May

Rosary pilgrimage at Monte Cassino Shrine each Sunday.

May 1-4

Guest House Retreat: "Little Things Mean a Lot" by Fr. Jeremy King, OSB.

May 10

Graduation for Seminary and School of Theology.

May 20-22

Guest House Retreat: "Praying the Bible: Lectio Divina" by Br. Zachary Wilberding, OSB.

May 26-June 1

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.

June 2-6

Guest House Retreat: "Reading the Word of God in the Liturgy" by Fr. Vincent Tobin, OSB.

June 8

Einsiedeln Society Dinner.

June 16-20, June 28-July 2, July 7-11

"One Bread, One Cup" youth liturgical leadership conferences.

June 24-26

Guest House Retreat: "St. Benedict on Humility" by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB.

July 4-6

Guest House Retreat: "Marvelous Mozart (Newly Revised)" by Fr. Noël Mueller, OSB.

July 7-11

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

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



86th Annual Alumni Reunion

Welcome back to The Hill!

On July 28 and 29, the 86th Alumni Reunion will be held on campus, with events such as a day of recollection, golf scramble, several workshops, time for prayer and Mass, socializing, and the awarding of the Distinguished Alumnus Award to two deserving alumni.

“I am very excited about the Alumni Reunion this summer,” says Tim Hermann, director of alumni relations. “We have a unique lineup of presenters and topics this summer ranging from themes from Pope Francis’ papacy, Hispanic ministry, balancing the busyness of life and an overview of some service opportunities for alumni and by alumni.

“I highly encourage all our seminary, lay and permanent deacon alumni to consider attending. There is something here for everyone – regardless of how you studied here. Our alumni association is a diverse representation of the Catholic Church, and our Alumni Reunion is geared toward all facets of our Alumni Association.”

Monday’s Events

The Reunion begins Monday, July 28, with a golf scramble at 10 a.m. at nearby Christmas Lake Golf Course. Interested golfers can pay the \$32 green fees at the course.

At the same time, Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, will present a day of recollection on “The Science of the Cross.”

Fr. Denis, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, is the 14th president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

Fr. Denis is a member of the American Academy of Religion, American Catholic Historical Association, Blessed John Henry Newman Association, Catholic Theological Society of America and the American Benedictine Academy.

He holds doctorates in both philosophy and sacred theology from the Catholic University of Leuven. He has authored numerous articles and has contributed to several theological texts.

The day of recollection will continue following lunch on Monday afternoon.

At 3 p.m., members of the Alumni Board will discuss the Saint Meinrad Alumni Day of Service events in Chicago and Evansville, which took place in March 2014. The goal is to inspire alumni to get involved in this global event and to consider being the lead in their geographic locations.

The Alumni Board will give an overview of the Chicago and Evansville events, provide some insight in what worked and how to improve, and seek feedback from those present at the presentation.

Following the presentation, Stephanie Kornexl and Ed Huff T’01 will present “Water with Blessings.”

Kornexl, a current student in the Lay Degree Program, and Huff, a graduate of the program, have been positively influenced by Water with Blessings.

One of the program’s founders is Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, T’97. Water with Blessings empowers Water Women in impoverished communities around the world to teach members from their communities how to properly filter water with a unique water filtration system. The presenters will share their experiences with Water with Blessings and encourage other alumni to get involved.

Following Vespers in the Archabbey Church, a reception and dinner will be held to honor alumni from the high school, college and ordination/theology classes of 1964, 1974, 1984, 1989 and 2004.

Tuesday’s Events

The Most Rev. Charles C. Thompson, DD, JCL, T’87, bishop of the Diocese of Evansville, will give a presentation on “Captivated by Pope Francis” at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, July 29.

Pope Francis has intrigued the world by his words and actions that model Christ-like love. Bishop Thompson will explore some themes from Pope Francis’ papacy to encourage alumni and guests in their journey with Christ.

Bishop Thompson attended Bellarmine College and graduated with a Bachelor of

◀ *Alumni and guests listen to a talk on the New Evangelization given by Very Rev. Denis Robinson, OSB.*



Arts degree in accounting. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at Saint Meinrad School of Theology and a licentiate in canon law at St. Paul University. He was ordained a priest in 1987 for the Archdiocese of Louisville. Pope Benedict XVI appointed Bishop Thompson as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Evansville on April 26, 2011.

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association will be held at 11 a.m.

Alumni can choose from two presentations in the afternoon. At 1 p.m., Dr. Robert Alvis will offer “Hispanic Ministry: Challenges and Opportunities.”

In light of the growing demographic weight of the Hispanic Catholic community, the Church can no longer afford to view Hispanic ministry as the exclusive preserve of specialists. All Catholics should be encouraged to recognize the contributions they can make to this essential endeavor. A broader and better-informed engagement in the work of Hispanic ministry has the potential to better serve the needs of Hispanic Catholics and to enrich the American Catholic Church as a whole.

Dr. Alvis serves as academic dean and associate professor of Church history at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. His courses range across the spectrum of Church history, including one devoted to the history and culture of the Church in the Americas.

▼ *Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB, gives a Day of Reflection on “The Year of Faith: Experiences of Faith in the Life and Ministry of Jesus.”*



▲ *Fr. Joseph Mills (O'52), Diocese of Owensboro, prays during the Alumni Reunion Mass.*

The second presentation, “Crazy Busy or Better at Balance?” will be given by Jerry Aull O’78.

He will lead an interactive workshop focusing on concrete ways to strengthen one’s faith while temptations to become “crazy busy” abound in our culture. Take some time for growth and reflection by attending this personal development session.

He is an alumnus of the Saint Meinrad College with degrees in theology from the universities of St. Louis and Notre Dame. He and his wife have six children and eight grandchildren.

He currently teaches catechetics for Christ the Teacher College and for the diaconate

program in Atlanta. He has taught in Catholic parishes, secondary and university education, and spent 25 years as a keynote speaker and workshop leader for Stephen Covey (author of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*). He is also a professional and liturgical musician.

The Reunion Mass will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Archabbey Church, with Bishop Peter Libasci O’77, of the Diocese of Manchester, NH, as principal celebrant. The evening’s reception and banquet will honor alumni Msgr. Michael Hohenbrink O’74 and Mr. John Buche O’61, as the recipients of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. (See related story on Page 16.)

After dinner both evenings, the Alumni Commons and the UnStable will be open for socializing.

In this issue, alumni will find a registration form for the reunion. Or, visit the website to register online: <http://alumni.saintmeinrad.edu>. ✚



Like us on Facebook

Share stories and pictures from past reunions or let your classmates know you are attending on the alumni Facebook page www.facebook.com/SaintMeinradAlumni



Fr. Wilfred (Sonny) Day



Gregory Ernstberger



William McGuire



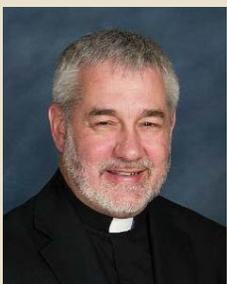
Martin Stout



Darren Stroufe



Edward E. Long



Fr. Michael Williams

Candidates for the board are elected as a slate for approval. Alumni can submit their approval or disapproval by email to 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, 2014.

Alumni Board Slate

Six alumni seeking approval

Six alumni seek approval as members of the Saint Meinrad Alumni Association Board of Directors and one alumnus was appointed to fill a vacancy. Instructions to approve the slate are located below the photos.

PRE-1983

Fr. Wilfred (Sonny) Day O'67 ('61-67) is a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and serves as pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in Floyds Knobs, IN. He has also served as pastor of Holy Family Church in New Albany, IN, and St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg, IN.

He was honored with the 2010 Community Service Award given by the Providence High School Alumni Association. He is a member of the Board of Trustees for Our Lady of Providence Junior & Senior High School and he is the dean of the New Albany Deanery.

Fr. Day is seeking approval for his second term on the Alumni Board.

Gregory Ernstberger C'75 ('71-75) is a retired senior business manager with the neuroscience division at Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.

He holds a master's degree in biology from Ball State University and a bachelor's degree in biology from Saint Meinrad College. He is a member of St. Mary of the Knobs Church. He has previously served as sacristan, lector, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and liturgy committee chairman at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in New Albany, IN, and St. Malachy Church.

Ernstberger previously served on the Alumni Board from 1991-1997 and 2011-2014. He resides in Floyds Knobs, IN, with his wife Jan. They have four children and three grandchildren.

He is seeking another term on the Alumni Board.

William McGuire O'64 ('52-58) worked in various management positions for Ameritech for nearly 30 years before retiring. He then worked at Hancock Telecom, where he was director of settlements and special projects before he retired in 2009. He was honored with the Indiana Telecommunications Association's Distinguished Service Award in 2005.

McGuire earned a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Evansville. He is an active participant at St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, IN, where he has served in many ministries and was the extraordinary minister of the Eucharist coordinator for many years. He also served on the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Catholic Committee on Scouting for several years.

McGuire resides in Indianapolis with his wife Margaret.

He is seeking approval for his second term on the Alumni Board.

1984-1998

Martin Stout C'88 ('84-88) is the director of operations for Wright and Lerch Attorneys at Law. He earned a master's degree in health administration from Indiana University and a master's degree in business administration from the Indiana Institute of Technology.

He is a member of the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys, the Fort Wayne Track Club and Saints Alive at Bishop Dwenger High School.

Stout resides in Fort Wayne, IN, with his wife Beverly and their two children.

He is seeking approval for his second term on the Alumni Board, and he is currently serving as vice president.

Participants in the Saint Meinrad Alumni Day of Service cleaned the pews at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville, IN, on March 15. ➤

Darren Sroufe, PhD, DD, C'91 ('86-90), T'01 ('97-01) earned a bachelor's degree in natural science from Saint Meinrad College and a Master of Theological Studies from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He has a Doctorate of Divinity from Ashwood University and a PhD in law enforcement administration from Madison University.

A former police chief for Dupont, OH, Sroufe has 20 years of service on the Evansville (IN) Police Department. He serves as chaplain and holds the rank of sergeant. He is the current commander of the Professional Standards Unit, accreditation manager and a crisis negotiation team professional.

He is a member of St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville. He and his wife Jan reside in Boonville, IN, and have three children. He previously served on the Alumni Board from 1995-2001 and 2009-2011 (partial term to fill vacancy).

Sroufe is seeking his second term on the Alumni Board, and he is currently serving as president.

1999-PRESENT

Edward E. Long C'79 ('77-'79), O'83 ('79-80) and T'00 ('99-00) is a retired educator, having taught for more than 20 years at Bishop McGuinness High School and Omniplex Science Museum in Oklahoma City, OK, as well as Creative Discovery Museum in Chattanooga, TN.

Long has been active in youth ministry and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program for the Diocese of Tulsa and the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Long holds a bachelor's degree in biology and a Master of Theological Studies from Saint Meinrad School of Theology. In addition, he served as dean of students for the Summer Session at Saint Meinrad for several years.

He also studied at Oklahoma State University, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary and Sacred Heart School of Theology.

After retirement, Long has been active in Meals on Wheels and Habitat for Humanity.

He is seeking approval for his first term on the Alumni Board.

Fr. Michael Williams T'97 ('90-97, '01) was appointed to the board to fill a vacancy. He currently serves as chaplain at the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Campus Center at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY.

He has studied at the University of Louisville, Brescia University and Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

He has served at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville, St. Edward Parish in Fulton, Sacred Heart Parish in Hickman, St. Jude Parish in Clinton and St. Leo Parish in Murray.

Fr. Williams has worked with the Christian Leadership program, Campus Life, Teens Encounter Christ and is currently part-time chaplain at the Gasper River Youth Camp and Retreat Center. †

2014 Phonathon

another successful year

"Everything is formation," Saint Meinrad President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB, has said, regarding the various activities in which the seminarians are engaged throughout the year. "Everything," would include the annual Alumni Phonathon, held each spring on the Hill.

Fr. Gary Kaiser O'06 ('01-06) couldn't agree with Fr. Denis more. He's pastor at St. Mary Parish, Ireland, and Precious Blood Parish, Jasper, and regularly hosts a Saint Meinrad Sunday appeal.

He spoke of how highly he values his experience as a Phonathon caller while in the seminary. "It has helped me tremendously in my present pastoral ministry to have had the experience of talking with people about financial support. I realize now, more than ever, that participating in the Phonathon as a student has given me more confidence and a better appreciation of encouraging others to support their parish and other worthy causes."

This year, the Phonathon was held on seven evenings in February and March. By contacting alumni and other Saint Meinrad donors, the seminarians have an opportunity to thank them for their past support, tell their personal story, and ask for their continued support of the Seminary and School of Theology.

"The 2014 Phonathon was a great success," explained John Huether, O'78 ('71-74), associate director of annual giving, who organizes the event. "Our students spoke with approximately 1,355 alumni and friends of Saint Meinrad and received gifts and pledges totaling \$27,701."

Gifts to the Phonathon make possible classroom instruction, spiritual formation, ministry opportunities, library resources, and upkeep of the buildings and grounds. Alumni can make gifts to the 2013-2014 Alumni Annual Giving Program until June 30.

To give online, visit donate.saintmeinrad.edu. †





Alumni Column

Betsy Dunman LD'01 ('94-95; '00-02)
Member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors

The first time I walked into a Catholic Church, I was about 10 years old. I snuck in the always-open neighborhood church out of curiosity and adventure. I had to sneak, not in fear of any priests or nuns, but in fear of my very Protestant parents who would not have approved my encounter with anything “papist.”

I couldn't tell you if the time was pre-Vatican II or post-Vatican II. All I knew was that the environment was otherworldly. Statues, candles and a breathtaking scent that was beautiful. It was a place of peace and was well suited for prayer. I snuck in there often to pray because I felt God was present.

In 1990, I joined the Church. It had been over 20 years since my first clandestine encounter with Catholicism. I believe it was my curiosity and sense of adventure that put me on the Hill some four years later, with a huge dose of encouragement from now-Bishop Charles Thompson. I will be eternally grateful.

I had never seen a real live monk or been to a monastery. I had never heard of Saint

Meinrad and had no idea where it was, but I found myself stepping into the Archabbey Church the first day of the fall semester in 1994.

My sense of otherworldly returned. The *Rule of St. Benedict* was so stridently lived by the monks – welcoming the stranger as if they were welcoming Christ – that I didn't graduate until May 2001.

Seriously, I was on the extended “Mommy track” program. I went to classes with the seminarians two days a week while my children were in school. During my last year, I combined weekday and weekend classes to complete my degree. What a blessing to study with both seminarians and lay students from all over the world.

My fondness for school and the Hill led me to continue with my education there beyond my Master of Theological Studies degree. Saint Meinrad is the ideal environment for spiritual development with the many guided and private retreat programs offered each year.

Recently, I discovered a hidden gem at Saint Meinrad – the annual Alumni Reunion.

Most of us, whether lay student or seminarian, whether we graduated one year ago or 50 years ago, have vivid memories of the Hill. We had profoundly life-changing classes, forged friendships, worshipped together and ate terrible Friday night meals together.

All of us had favorite classes and classes where we sat in the second or third row, slumped down so as not to be noticed (Christology and Biblical Greek for me; you can guess which one was which). We forged friendships with people from all over the universal Church.

The Alumni Reunion provides an opportunity to revisit these experiences now, not sometime in the future. I don't want to wait to get to heaven to sit around talking with my former classmates from Phoenix or Memphis or Toledo (in the U.S.) or Knoxville. Besides, I think we will be quite busy worshipping God.

But the Alumni Reunion is not just about a trip down memory lane. It is also a time to connect with others to learn from their ministry. It is a time for fresh ideas and old friendships. It is a time to attend seminars (who can resist another Fr. Denis presentation?) and learn about current perspectives in the Church.

This year's reunion is July 28-30. I urge you to get on the alumni website to check it out. Or better yet, contact me directly at bdunman@hspirit.org and ask me about my experience at last year's reunion. ✝

◀ *Participants in the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates' World Priests Program celebrate Mass in the St. Bede Chapel.*



Distinguished Alumnus Award... cont. from page 16



Mr. John Buche

John Buche O'61
(’49-55, ’95)

During John Buche’s 45-year career as a diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service, his work has spanned the globe.

In West Africa, he headed a crisis response team that brought food and medicines to thousands of nomads and their flocks who were trapped in the Sahara Desert during a drought.

While posted in Switzerland, he helped with the resettlement of more than 95,000 East European and Soviet refugees to the United States.

In Central America, he was responsible for assuring safe refuge for Salvadorans and Nicaraguans fleeing armed conflicts in their home countries.

But before those and other challenges, he came to Saint Meinrad for six years, beginning in 1949 as a high school freshman from Richmond, IN.

“I cannot imagine any better educational and disciplinary preparation for my eventual career as a diplomat in the United States Foreign Service than what I experienced at Saint Meinrad,” he says. “The monks and the prefects persisted in their tasks to instruct us in the proper way to eat, dress and behave in public and, in general, how to conduct ourselves as gentlemen.”

John immediately felt at home at Saint Meinrad. “The institutional discipline of the daily schedule and the development of the spiritual life appealed to me,” he recalls. “Those six formative years were a happy and significant period in my life.”

Fourth Theology students Robert Cigainero, Ben Syberg, Tim Wyciskalla, Danny Bedel and Zach Greenwell reenact the Beatles’ Abbey Road picture during the Europe trip in January.

Among his memories of seminary life are playing first base on the softball team, singing in the chancel choir and enjoying the Shakespeare plays that came to campus each year.

“The monks taught us well, both inside and beyond the classroom,” John says. “In the classroom, they caringly drilled us in the basics of the liberal arts, with an emphasis on English, classical and modern languages, history and public speaking.”

He completed his college work at Purdue University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1957. It was while he was a junior at Purdue that he learned that a recruiter from the State Department was on campus. Intrigued, he decided to take the entry exam.

“Up to then, I had my mind set on becoming a university professor,” he says. “When I passed the written and oral exams and was offered a position, I dropped the idea of an academic career and signed on with the Department of State. It turned out to be a great decision.”

His work took him to Canada, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger, Zambia, Switzerland, Germany, Austria and the Philippines. In one notable assignment, he was part of the team that coordinated the U.S. government’s response to the accidental shoot-down of an Iran Air civilian airliner by the U.S. Navy destroyer Vincennes. He was awarded the Superior Honor Award by the State Department for his work.

John retired twice from the State Department, the first time in 1992. He then taught at Saint Meinrad College for two years. In 1996, he was asked to return to the State Department, where he worked for 12 more years.

He and his wife, Anike, now live in Washington, D.C., where they had lived between foreign assignments. They have two children, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild. ✚

▼ *Auxiliary Bishop Christopher Coyne, of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, installs seminarians Braden Maher (left) and John Lijana as acolytes on February 13.*



ALUMNI ETERNAL

Fr. Alfred Dettmer O'56 ('44-56), a priest of the Diocese of Gary, IN, died on December 24, 2013.

Mr. Robert A. Dick O'56 ('44-46), of Evansville, IN, died on February 1, 2014.

Fr. David Douglas O'66 ('60-62), a priest of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, died on November 24, 2013.

Mr. Anthony A. Dyer O'73 ('61-66), of Garrison, MN, died on January 21, 2014.

Fr. Jay M. Flaherty C'83 ('79-81), a priest of the Diocese of Knoxville, TN, died on October 5, 2013.

Dr. Gary Goodpaster O'63 ('51-53), of Davis, CA, died on November 1, 2012.

Mr. Donald E. Greenwell SPH ('64-65), of Evansville, IN, died on December 2, 2013.

Mr. Alvin H. Guenther Jr. O'78 ('74-76; '79; '82), of Louisville, KY, died on December 11, 2013.

Mr. Gerard J. Hall O'80 ('72-78), of San Diego, CA, died on January 27, 2014.

Msgr. Jerome D. Hartlein O'58 ('52-58), a priest of the Diocese of Belleville, IL, died on December 1, 2013.

Fr. Lawrence A. Kramer O'60 ('54-60), a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN, died on January 23, 2014, in Florida.

Mr. John R. Kreuz O'78 ('74-75), of Columbus, OH, died on December 21, 2013.

Fr. John L. McCullen O'44 ('38-40), died on November 24, 2013, in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He was originally a priest of the Diocese of Toledo, OH.

Mr. Charles A. McGowan O'55 ('43-48), of San Antonio, TX, died on October 30, 2013.

Mr. James F. O'Connell O'47 ('38-44), of Jasper, IN, died on February 1, 2014.

Fr. Francis A. O'Kruta Jr. C'75 ('71-75), a priest of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV, died on November 13, 2013.

Mr. Lawrence Orth O'68 ('59-60), of Evansville, IN, died on January 1, 2014.

Msgr. Frederick E. Potthoff O'44 ('38-44; '73), a priest of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, died on November 15, 2013.

Mr. David L. Schuchard O'77 ('70-73), of Louisville, KY, died on February 2, 2014.

Mr. George R. Smith O'49 ('38-42), of Lewistown, MT, died on July 15, 2013.

Mr. James L. Steffe SPH ('53-57), of Celestine, IN, died on November 8, 2013.

Mr. Raymond C. Strange O'55 ('44-55), of Pasadena, CA, died on November 5, 2013.

Mr. William J. Tabor O'75 ('63-65), of Terre Haute, IN, died on November 9, 2013.

Mr. John D. Walker O'62 ('56-62), of Schererville, IN, died on June 25, 2013.

Fr. Robert Wheatley O'75 ('73-75), a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, died on October 7, 2013.

Fr. J. Michael Wrigley T'03 ('98-03), a priest of the Diocese of Birmingham, AL, died on December 17, 2013. ✚

Dr. Lete Ansera LD'98 ('97-98) is the founder of Women in Circle, a nonprofit organization in Louisville, KY, that offers services to homeless women trying to rebuild their lives.

Fr. Thomas Bailey, OSB T'04 ('96-04), of Marmion Abbey, Aurora, IL, participated in an interview about Byzantine Catholicism with Dr. John Purk for the radio program "Communio," which aired on the Catholic Radio Network in October.

Fr. Julio Barrera T'13 ('08-13), a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, was the guest speaker at the 2013 Marian Congress held in Bowling Green, KY, on October 27. His talk was on "Our Lady of Guadalupe: A Bridge of Hope."

Msgr. John Bendik O'67 ('59-67; '72; '95), pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish Community of Pittston, PA,

ALUMNI NEWS

received The Sam Milazzo Volunteer of the Year Award, given by the Greater Pittston YMCA on November 21. On November 15, he delivered the invocation at the inauguration of Dr. Thomas Botzman as president of Misericordia University in Dallas, PA.

Fr. Mark Boyer O'76 ('72-76) is serving as master of ceremonies for special celebrations for **Bishop Vann Johnston T'90 ('85-90)** of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, while continuing his work as diocesan director for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He also teaches religious studies courses at Missouri State University.

Fr. Nicholas Brown T'13 ('09-13), ordained in May 2013 for the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, was given a chalice and paten recently donated to

the archdiocese by the family of Fr. Thomas Filiatreau. Fr. Filiatreau was ordained 50 years earlier in 1963, but died 10 days later in a car accident.

Mr. John Cannaday T'84 ('72-76; '80-82) is executive director of The Hermitage in Indianapolis, IN.

Mr. Devin Carpenter C'97 ('94-97) is the corporate office manager at St. Joseph Parish in Dale, IN.

Br. Bernard Cissell, OSA T'05 ('00-02) professed his first vows in the Augustinian order in Chicago on August 11. He is currently studying for a Master of Divinity degree at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Fr. Mark Davis T'96 ('91-96), pastor of St. Aloysius Parish in Bowling Green, OH, gave a talk on Pope Francis at a Theology on Tap event in Bowling Green last October.

Mr. Christopher De Espinosa C'89 ('85-89) is a network analyst for Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.

Fr. Richard Doerr T'93 ('88-93) and **Fr. John Kiefer O'70 ('62-70)**, priests of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, both went on pilgrimages along the Way of St. James, also known as El Camino de Santiago, during 2013.

Mr. Brian Doyle C'95 ('92-95) of Jupiter, FL, and his wife, Donna, are the parents of a new daughter, Kateri Anne, born on November 12, 2013.

Deacon Steve Durkee O'75 ('63-65), of Erlanger, KY, is an outpatient therapist at St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Wilder, KY.

Mr. James Eder O'67 ('56-59), volunteer director of the soup kitchen at St. Thomas of Canterbury Parish in Chicago for more than 35 years, has received the Bishop Quarter Award. Named after the first bishop of Chicago, the lay service award was conferred by Cardinal Francis George on November 3.

Fr. John Gephart O'46 ('43-46), at age 92 the oldest diocesan priest in the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY, was among those nominated last fall for the University of Louisville's 2013 Gold Standard Award for Optimal Aging.

Fr. Jim Gretz T'93 ('89-91) is administrator of All Saints Parish in Etna, PA, while retaining his responsibilities in the Department of Worship for the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Fr. Kevin Hurley T'13 ('09-13), associate pastor of St. Lawrence Parish in Lafayette, IN, blessed pets owned by parishioners in celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi in October.

Fr. Joshua Janko LD ('05), a priest of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, serves part time as a military chaplain in the Indiana Air National Guard.

Fr. Gary Kastl T'07 ('03-07), most recently director of ministry development for the Catholic Leadership Institute in Wayne, PA, returned to the Diocese of Tulsa, OK, and is the pastor of St. Anne Parish and chaplain of All Saints School in Broken Arrow.

Mr. R. Joseph Knapp C'85 ('81-85); LD'01 ('95-01) works in the pastoral care department at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL.

Fr. Steve Lintzenich O'74 ('62-70) retired as pastor in December. He had been pastor of St. Mary Parish in Evansville, IN, for 30 years and recently was honored for his service by having the parish ministry center named for him.

Fr. Chrispin Oneko Adongo T'12 (08-12), a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, recently visited his home country of Kenya to help distribute water filters for clean drinking water to 50 families in the village of Kadenge. The money for the filters was raised by St. Columba and Immaculate Conception parishes in the Owensboro Diocese.

Fr. Gerald Schweitzer O'71 ('67-70) spoke at the annual gathering of parish directors of religious education, held on December 5 at Merrillville, IN, in the Diocese of Gary.

Mrs. Kay Scoville LDC ('09-14), as director of youth ministry for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, led the archdiocesan efforts to host the National Catholic Youth Conference in November.

Mr. Ken Sicard O'78 ('70-71), of Ferdinand, IN, was presented with the Sagamore of the Wabash, Indiana's highest civil honor, by Indiana Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann on November 6, 2013. He currently serves as president of the Ferdinand Town Council.

Fr. J. Mark Spalding C'87 ('83-87), pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Louisville, KY, blessed a Habitat for Humanity house on October 19. The building project was a joint effort of that parish and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

Fr. Richard Sparks, CSP O'76 ('65-72; '95) is associate professor of Catholic moral theology at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN.

Fr. Keith Stripe T'96 ('90-96), pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Maumee, OH, visited the Philippines twice following the November 2013 typhoon. He assisted a medical team and distributed rosaries, scapulars, toys and food.

Fr. Kenneth Taylor O'77 ('69-73), pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, IN, was elected for a two-year term as president of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus.

Mr. Gregory W. Tucker C'84 ('80-84), of Baltimore, MD, has been named senior vice president – Americas corporate communications at Transamerica.

Mrs. Ann Tully LD'03 ('96-03), of Indianapolis, IN, spent several weeks in France and Spain during August 2013 walking along the Way of St. James, also known as El Camino de Santiago.

Fr. Hubert Wendl, CMM T'90 ('86-87) was elected superior of the Marianhill Mission House in Maria Veen, Germany. His three-year term began February 2.

Fr. Daniel Whelan T'04 ('93-96; '02-03), pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne, IN, was photographed for the diocesan newspaper *Today's Catholic* as the winner of a "kiss the pig" contest between him and the school principal for selling the most tickets at the parish's fall festival.

Fr. Paul Wienhoff O'78 ('74-78) was recognized by the Diocese of Belleville, IL, for 30 years of service working in the tribunal for the diocese. He has served in a variety of positions, currently as defender of the bond.

Deacon Don Yochum PDP'05 ('01-05) was honored at a retirement party last fall for his diaconal service at St. Theresa Parish in Evansville, IN.

Sr. Jean Anne Zappa, OSU SS'84 ('80; '82-84) is development coordinator for Shively Area Ministries in Louisville, KY, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2013. Shively Area Ministries provides food, emergency financial aid and counseling to people in need. ✚



Saint Meinrad

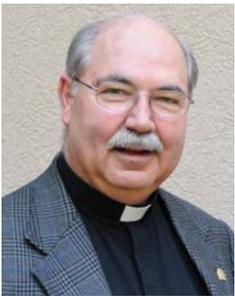
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Distinguished Alumnus Award

recipients are Rev. Msgr. Michael Hohenbrink and Mr. John Buche



Msgr. Mike Hohenbrink

Rev. Msgr. Michael Hohenbrink O'74 ('62-74) describes himself as a three-time alumnus of Saint Meinrad. He graduated from the high school

in 1966, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the college in 1970 and a Master of Divinity from the School of Theology in 1974. He also studied at Indiana University and earned a master's in human development from St. Mary University, Winona, MN.

Over the last 40 years as a priest, Msgr. Hohenbrink has had only four assignments, but he has impacted the lives of many people.

“As a pastor, he has been extremely successful in motivating people to live out their faith, inspiring them to heights that perhaps they never thought they could achieve,” says one person who nominated him for the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

After his ordination on May 25, 1974, Msgr. Hohenbrink spent four years teaching and as an associate pastor in Fremont, OH. He was assigned as vocations director for the Diocese of Toledo in 1978 and held that position for 15 years.

“Mike is a shepherd to his flock,” explains one nominator. “During his long tenure as vocations director, he guided countless men and women through their discernment and formation.”

Starting in 1993, Msgr. Hohenbrink was the pastor at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Toledo, OH, until being assigned to St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Findlay, OH, in 2000. He has held that position for 14 years.

He has served on many boards and committees in his community and beyond. He served on the Board of Overseers for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology for 19 years. He was chair of the board from 2000-2002 and has been an emeritus member since 2010.

“His example helped me fall in love with priesthood and Saint Meinrad,” states one nomination letter. “His wisdom has

helped guide Saint Meinrad to continue to serve the Church in new and different ways, and his compassion and selflessness for those he serves in parish ministry made me want to be a better priest.”

Msgr. Hohenbrink has been involved with Teens Encounter Christ retreats in the Diocese of Toledo for nearly 40 years. He serves as dean for the St. Francis of Assisi Deanery in the Diocese of Toledo, on the Ethics Committee at the Blanchard Valley Health System and as chairman of the Ecumenical Ministerial Association in Findlay.

“I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for Saint Meinrad,” states Msgr. Hohenbrink.

He believes the monks of Saint Meinrad who served as his teachers and ecclesial ministers deserve all the credit and recognition. The monks were always there to help and guide the students.

They created a “healthy and wholesome environment that would give strength to people,” Msgr. Hohenbrink states. “That would make them good priests, good businessmen and good family men.”

Continued on page 13